

TRU Convocate

THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

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Bachelor of Business graduate Vernie Clement Jr. sings and drums a traditional First Nations celebration song.

Nothing ordinary about TRU grads

Story & photos – Bart Cummins

The marks are tallied, the ceremonies scheduled, and the guests invited. But even though the procedures appear to be routine, there's nothing ordinary about the approximately 1,500 graduates Thompson Rivers University is boasting at four convocation ceremonies this spring.

Vernie Clement – Bachelor of Business, Major in Human Resources

If his time at TRU is an indication of where he may be headed, Vernie Clement Jr. is on the road to becoming a great leader. And that is a good thing for Clement, who is leaving TRU with a Bachelor of Business and a Major in Human Resources.

During his time of five years on the executive of the TRU First Nations Association (TRUFNS) — three as president and two as vice-president — Clement was an instrumental player in helping the group move several key initiatives forward from the idea phase to implementation. Among the initiatives: First Nations Awareness Week and regular socials. Clement and the TRUFNS was also in on various high-level meetings with TRU leaders and other matters dealing with First Nations inclusion.

"To be a leader, you have to know how to follow," says Clement, who illustrates his point by seamlessly switching to one of his favourite pastimes — native drumming. "When you drum in a circle, there are 12 people and they all have to be in rhythm. It's hard to do, but when it comes together, the sound is like one voice."

Further indication of his leadership abilities is Clement's role with TRUFNS. Rather than take the credit for helping transform the group from one with ideas to one of action, he says he simply acted as coach and matched members' interests with their strengths.

"I had a good council and we had good teamwork," Clement says. "It (getting things done) didn't require a lot of effort because of the volunteers and others involved — they got things done."

Clement hails from a community about 200 kilometres west of Quesnel and is a member of the Lhoosk'uz People, also known as Dakelh. In English, he is a member of the Carrier Nation.

Clement says his leadership talents spring largely from two wells. One is his grandmother, who always encouraged him to finish high school, to go to university, and to always push to be his best. The other is native drumming and singing. In his continuous journey to push himself beyond what's comfortable, Clement reveals he had thoughts during high school of becoming a paramedic. But further reflection persuaded him to chart a different course.

"I wanted to help people and I thought a medical career might have been a way to do that. When I looked into that, I thought back to a teaching I had from my grandparents and other teachers I had back home. They told me to always work at things you're not good at. A lot of people work on things they're good at, but you have to be an all-rounded person, that's what I was told."

Aunts introduced him to drumming and singing a number of years ago and he has been hooked ever since.

"For me it's good medicine. I just get a good feeling from drumming. I would rather hang out with people who are clean and sober than hang out with people who are drinking and doing drugs."

Aly Couch – Journalism

Ask Aly Couch what her biggest takeaway from her time at TRU and she pauses for only the briefest of moments.

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Chancellor's Welcome

Congratulations graduates, and a warm welcome to esteemed guests, families and friends.

As Chancellor of this university, I am honoured and privileged to be here to celebrate Convocation with you.

Thompson Rivers University is committed to comprehensiveness and to every form of knowledge and learning that prepares students for life and a career.

Your education is not only a significant personal achievement, it is also highly valued by our society and our country. The knowledge and skills you gained to earn your certificate, diploma or degree will help you build a better future for yourselves, and for us all.

As successful graduates ready to enter a career or further your education, your expertise and ideas will reflect the level of education that you received here, and your credentials will be well recognized because of TRU's reputation as an innovative university that is known for a high standard of excellence.

I wish you all the best as you move forward, and ask you to stay in touch with your alma mater, Thompson Rivers University.

Once again, congratulations graduates. You have worked hard, and this day is yours to savour and enjoy.

Sincerely,

Nancy Greene Raine

Nancy Greene Raine
Chancellor
Thompson Rivers University



President and Vice-Chancellor's Welcome

Welcome graduates, families and friends gathered here to celebrate a landmark occasion in the lives of our 2009 Thompson Rivers University certificate, diploma, baccalaureate and master degree graduates.

Graduates you have worked hard to achieve what will be recognized today. My sincere congratulations.

And thank you. Thank you because while each of you has been receiving a first-class education, you have also contributed so much to the community and culture of this university. You have brought diversity, passion and a level of enthusiasm that has contributed to a comprehensiveness at TRU that is unmatched by any other university in Canada.

I am confident that you can now successfully pursue your career and life goals.

I would also extend my thanks to those who are here in Kamloops to help celebrate this important occasion: our honorary degree recipients, platform guests, the many faculty and staff present, and the families and friends of our graduating students.

Thank you as well to everyone who supported their students through years of study and hard work. We all share your pride in the accomplishments of our graduates.

After the ceremony, I invite you all to a reception in the Horticulture Gardens. I hope to see you all there.

Again, congratulations, graduates.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Scherf

Kathleen Scherf, Ph.D.
President and Vice-Chancellor
Thompson Rivers University



Ceremonial Mace

Daniel Tom, a member of the St'at'imc Nation of Interior Salish First Nations carves the Thompson Rivers University's mace. The mace symbolizes Kamloops, the traditional meeting place of the First Nations People. To represent TRU as a community, meeting and sharing cultural uniqueness and creative and academic pursuits, Daniel Tom incorporated two pieces of spruce, one as base the other as mace, together the pieces meet, and embody the characteristics of an abstract wolf.

The medicine wheel carved on the mace is adorned with four small wildlife figures. Positioned in the north is a white buffalo carved from alabaster and symbolizes the cold winds of winter. A field mouse carved from jade sits in the south symbolizing the warmth of the summer winds. In the east sits a golden eagle, representing the cool autumn winds. A black bear is carved from black chlorite and sits in the west symbolizing spring winds.

The ceremonial mace is chief among the elements of Convocation. Historically the mace symbolizes rank and was used to protect people of authority. The ceremonial mace is now a symbol of the university itself.

Aly's takeaway

> Continued from Page 1

"People with stories, that's a huge thing that I've taken away from my schooling," said Couch, who is graduating with a Bachelor of Journalism, with a Major in Public Relations. "I enjoy going out and meeting people and hearing their stories, whatever they may be. People and their stories always intrigue me."

Couch transferred to TRU two years ago after completing a diploma in applied communications at Camosun College in Victoria. She lists interviewing a bear whisperer, a person with schizophrenia, and alpine skiing Paralympian Lisa Franks as three memorable stories she had the privilege to hear.

Couch's exposure to people and their stories would normally have been largely through her journalism classes and assignments, but was enhanced when she won The River 97.5 FM Public Relations Internship scholarship. As winner, her chief responsibility was to complete assigned and self-generated stories for TRU's Marketing and Communications department. During the internship, Couch also revealed her skills and talents behind the video camera as well as her abilities to edit the footage into a cohesive and sensible story of between three and 10 minutes long. Going a step further, like adding candy sprinkles to cupcakes to enhance their appeal, Couch added on-screen graphics and royalty-free music to make the productions all the more appealing.

These mini movies so impressed the Marketing and Communications department that money was found to pay Couch an honorarium so she could create and produce 10 videos of 10 different TRU programs. Computing Science, Retail Meat and Home Support Resident Care were among the programs. These movies have since been posted to Youtube and in various locations within TRU's website.

A workload like that would have even the most organized of people throwing up their hands and questioning, "Is this really worth the extra aggravation?" The thought had crossed Couch's mind, but when framed by the big picture, the answer was easy enough to answer.

"Sometimes you feel like you can't get it done, but you just buckle down because you made a commitment to do it. I had some late nights." Couch pauses and laughs before resuming. "But that's another part of being a university student: everybody has late nights and pulls all-nighters — it's just an expectation."



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> Publisher: Christopher Séguin

> Editor: Diana Skoglund

> Contributors: Diana Skoglund, Bart Cummins, Elise Desjardine, Josh Keller, Larry Read

> Designer: Shirley McCaffrey

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Editorial ideas and submissions welcome, please email to insidetru@tru.ca

Valedictorians



Ashley Relling

*For the Faculty of Arts
and Faculty of Student Development*

June 4, 10 am

Ashley grew up in Vernon BC, graduating from WL Seaton Secondary in 2005 where she earned a President's Entrance Scholarship to Thompson Rivers University. During her years at TRU, she spent three semesters as a Residence Advisor, a semester studying abroad at the University of Western Australia and has been involved in every aspect of theatre production with the TRU Actors Workshop while she pursued her Bachelor of Arts Degree, with a Major in Theatre. Ashley has made the list of top academic achievers on the Dean's List each semester during her years of study. She is returning to TRU this fall to pursue a Bachelor of Education Degree, working towards her career goal of becoming a high school principal.



Bob Stanley

*For the Faculty of Science
and School of Nursing*

June 4, 2 pm

Bob Stanley arrived at Thompson Rivers University in 2004 from his home in Singapore. In addition to his academic studies this Bachelor of Science Environmental Chemistry graduate has been active as the treasurer of the bio-chemistry club and playing doubles badminton for the TRU WolfPack. He credits his academic success to the friendly and helpful faculty with whose guidance has led to his having three papers being reviewed for publication. He was named co-op student of the year in 2007 for the three terms spent at his dream Canadian co-op position with Columbia Brewery. This summer, before heading to graduate school, he will be continuing his research at TRU with Dr. Kingsley Donkor on a new type of antibiotic that has shown some effectiveness against a viral superbug.



Nicole Link-Loeher

*For the School of Advanced Technologies
& Mathematics; School of Business
& Economics; and School of Trades
& Technology*

June 5, 10 am

A varied career path that included a stint as an electrical trades apprentice led Nicole Link-Loeher to the Engineering Design and Drafting Technology program at Thompson Rivers University. The last three years have been busy for Nicole. In addition to her studies, she served on the program advisory committee and spoke on behalf of the co-op program. Off-campus Nicole volunteered as a run club coach, at Overlander Extended Care Hospital and with her church. Within days of completing her program, Nicole had four job offers. She has chosen to launch her career as a Civil Technician with Urban Systems, the local firm where she completed two successful co-op terms.

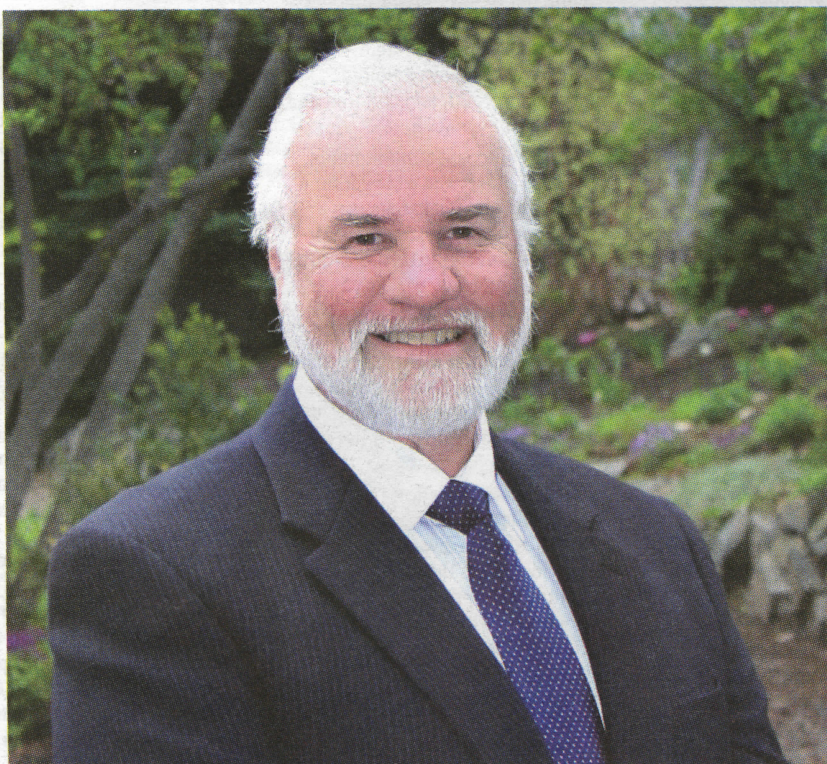
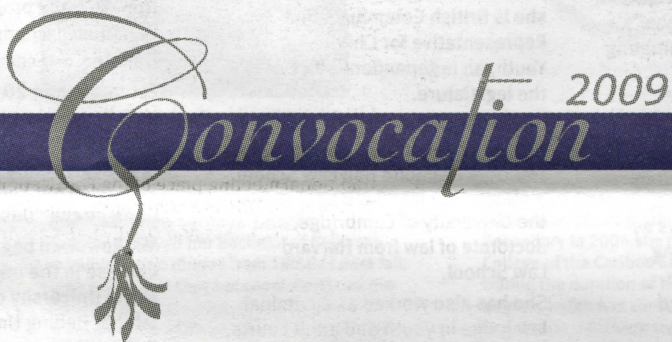


Holly McLean

*For the School of Education; School
of Social Work & Human Service; and
School of Tourism*

June 5, 2 pm

Holly McLean is the first graduate from the Early Childhood Education program to be named valedictorian at Thompson Rivers University. In 2001, this member of the Long Plains First Nation of Manitoba, graduated from Columneetza Secondary in Williams Lake. Her choice to pursue a career in early childhood education was an easy one as Holly has been inspired by her mother's work with young children in childcare settings and as a foster parent. During Holly's practicum experiences she worked closely with parents and children at First Steps Daycare. She marvels at the opportunity she had there to help young families. Holly is confident she made the right choice in her credential and looks forward to seeing what doors will open and what places she can go in this new and rewarding career.



Educator Emeritus

Philip Schettini
School of Tourism

Phillip is credited with starting the School of Tourism at TRU 20 years ago and has certainly been instrumental in opening up international opportunities for TRU tourism students around the world. He has consulted with the government of Nepal to establish a standard for their tourism industry. He worked with the UN in Palestine to develop tourism programs in the Gaza Strip. He also lectured at the University of Economics in Hanoi. Philip continues to teach wine courses in the community and make pilgrimages to vineyards throughout the world.

Professor Emerita

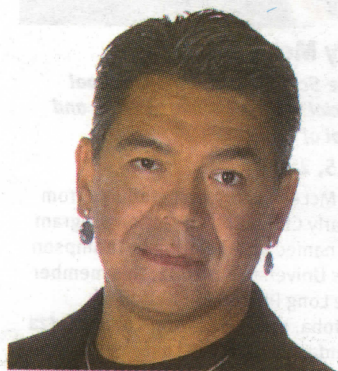
Sharon Simpson
School of Nursing

Sharon was one of the first four nursing faculty hired in 1973 to begin to develop and teach the new diploma Nursing Program at Cariboo College. She was instrumental in the development of the collaborative degree program in Nursing. She has chaired innumerable committees, has been active in a variety of cross-campus and community activities and external nursing organizations, and is a respected mentor for new faculty. She received a Teaching Excellence award in 2000, and was honored with an Excellence in Nursing Education Award in April, 2008, by the provincial College of Registered Nurses of BC.



Convocation 2009

Honorary Doctorates



Mr. Lorne Cardinal
Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*

Mr. Lorne Cardinal is perhaps best known for his starring role as Officer Davis Quinton in the popular television comedy series *Corner Gas*. One of Canada's most successful actors and directors, Mr. Cardinal earned his first theatre credits at Cariboo College in 1987/88 in courses taught by Dr. David Edwards, who is retiring this year after 25 years of service to TRU. Besides taking Introduction to Acting, Lorne appeared in one of this institution's earliest staged productions at the Pavilion Theatre with the Cariboo College Actors' Workshop Theatre. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Alberta, and has been acting in film, television and the stage throughout Canada and the United States over the last decade.

Over the course of his career, Mr. Cardinal has maintained a focus on Aboriginal issues in much of his work, reflecting his Cree heritage and his personal commitment to social education and the promotion of Canada's Aboriginal culture through art.

Mr. Cardinal has appeared in many movies, television series and stage plays. His performance in the *MOW Tecumseh: The Last Warrior* earned him a First Americans in the Arts nomination for Best Supporting Actor. He has won a Gemini Award for Best Ensemble Performance in a Comedy Program or Series for *Corner Gas* in 2007. Additionally, Mr. Cardinal has been nominated for numerous theatre awards throughout his stage career.

In recognizing Mr. Cardinal, Thompson Rivers University is recognizing the importance of theatre as a vehicle of social change, and in particular, the cultural importance of Aboriginal artists and art.



Mr. Mark Madryga
Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*

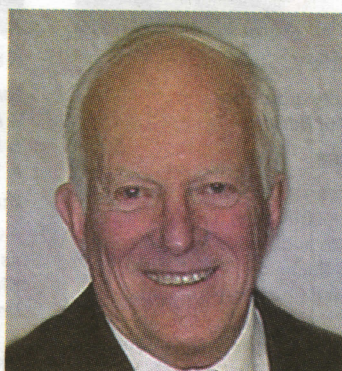
Raised in Kamloops, Mark Madryga graduated from Norkam Secondary in 1981, completing three years of university transfer courses at Cariboo College before going on to UBC, where he completed a Bachelor of Science Degree in Physical Geography in 1986.

In May 1987, not long after completing his fifth year of study, Mark began a career spanning over two decades as a meteorologist for Environment Canada. Then, in 1994, he became the BCTV Noon News Forecaster, adding Weekend Mornings and the News Hour in 1997. He has been the Weekday Morning News Forecaster with Global since 2006. Concurrently he has been the Weekday Morning Meteorologist on several major radio networks.

Today, Mark Madryga is perhaps best recognized as the Global TV weather personality who never hesitates to direct a ray of sunlight toward his hometown of Kamloops. But Mr. Madryga should be recognized also for his tireless efforts as a volunteer media spokesperson for hundreds of community events.

He has been media spokesperson and host for various charities and organizations, including the Vancouver Aquarium, Port of Vancouver, Lower Mainland Food Banks, BC Hydro, Tourism Kamloops and most recently the Kamloops SPCA. He also makes time to visit at least 15 Grade Four classes to teach children about weather and science.

Mr. Madryga represents the importance of our alumni to the public legacy of Thompson Rivers University. Mr. Madryga's pride in his alma mater and his hometown, and his dedication to all the communities of British Columbia that he serves, parallels Thompson Rivers University's commitment to the communities that we serve.



Mr. Christopher Rose
Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*

Christopher Rose is a passionate educator and a Canadian leader in autism therapies and advocacy. Mr. Rose pioneered positive interventions and support for autistic children long before autism was understood to be a significant issue by health authorities and government.

Christopher Rose's teaching career began in 1958 in Zimbabwe. While teaching in the regular school system, he began to work with the school's hearing impaired students, initiating his life-long commitment to special education.

Arriving in Canada in 1964, he continued his work with hearing impaired and challenged children. He moved to Kamloops in 1972, spending over his twenty years as a teacher and principal, gaining a reputation as a leader in the integration of alternately-abled students into the schools and classrooms of the Kamloops-Thompson School District.

Shortly after retiring, he was recruited by a group of parents and others connected with the Giant Steps Program to help re-build the struggling organization that eventually the parents voted to rename after him. The Chris Rose Therapy Centre, now nationally recognized for the quality of its programs.

Chris Rose promoted the well-being of all children across the public school system. He was elected to three terms as a school trustee, helping to found the Action for Healthy Communities Society, a group that helped ensure that healthy food choices were made available in school vending machines and, more recently, that Provincial Legislation was changed to require daily physical activity in schools.

Mr. Rose epitomizes Thompson Rivers University's commitment to open access to education for all members of society and also to a healthy and sustainable campus.



Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond
Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*

Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, noted lawyer and legal scholar, broke new ground for Aboriginal women in this country: when she accepted a position at Dalhousie Law School, she became the first tenured law professor of Aboriginal heritage in Canada. She was also the first Aboriginal woman to serve as a provincial court judge in Saskatchewan. Currently, she is British Columbia's first Representative for Children and Youth, an independent office of the legislature.

Dr. Turpel-Lafond holds a bachelor's degree from Carleton University, an LLB from Osgoode Hall Law School, a Master's in international law from the University of Cambridge, and doctorate of law from Harvard Law School.

She has also worked as a criminal law judge in youth and adult courts, leading her to develop partnerships to better serve the needs of young people in the justice system, particularly sexually exploited children and youth and children and youth with disabilities.

Prior to her judicial appointments, Dr Turpel-Lafond was a lawyer in Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan and a tenured professor of law at Dalhousie University. She also taught law at the University of Toronto, the University of Notre Dame and other universities, and held the position of Aboriginal Scholar at the University of Saskatchewan. She has been a visiting professor at the University of British Columbia and the University of Victoria law schools.

Dr. Turpel-Lafond's efforts to advance the principles of equity, diversity and justice in the law exemplify Thompson Rivers University's commitment to providing rural communities with better access to justice and legal advocacy through our School of Social Work and emerging Faculty of Law.



> China
Mr. Mark H. Rowswell – "Dashan"
Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*

Approximately 150 TRU Bachelor of Business Administration Degree students will graduate June 26 in China where Mr. Mark Rowswell will receive his honorary doctorate. The program is delivered jointly by Tianjin University of Technology and TRU faculty and is now in its fourth year. Along with Chinese students from TUT, the program also enrolls Canadian exchange students visiting from the TRU campus in Canada.

For more than 20 years, Mr. Mark H. Rowswell has been a cultural ambassador in China. Indeed, it is difficult to find anyone in China who does not know of the man the Chinese call "Dashan."

Mr. Rowswell began studying Chinese in the mid 1980s, initially at the University of Toronto and later at Beijing University. While in Beijing, he became interested in Chinese performing arts, particularly xiangsheng, a popular form of verbal jousting that requires the strict training of a martial art and results in dialogues similar to Abbot and Costello's "Who's on First?" Mr. Rowswell has performed for hundreds of millions of viewers on national television in China, gradually turning "Dashan" into a household name across China.

Dashan became a member of the Order of Canada in 2007. For the 2008 Olympic Games he was the official torch-bearer and served as Canadian Team Attaché. That same year, he received the White Magnolia Award for Best Supporting Actor, the first time a foreign national has received one of China's top three dramatic arts awards. In 2009 he became the only foreigner to have appeared three times on China's premier annual television event, the CCTV Spring Festival Gala. Most recently he was appointed as Canada's Commissioner General for Expo 2010, which will take place in Shanghai, China, from May to October 2010.

Dashan has fostered understanding and goodwill between Canada and China through his work with globally respected charity organizations. He has promoted healthy lifestyles for Chinese and Canadian citizens, receiving a Special Recognition Award from the Canadian Cancer Society.

Mr. Rowswell epitomizes Thompson Rivers University's efforts to build global connections between cultures and economies through international education.



Medal Winners 2009



› Governor General's Collegiate Bronze Medal
Chris Williams
– Computer Systems: Operations and Management Diploma (CSOM)

From Kamloops, Chris Williams spent eight years in retail management before coming to TRU for an opportunity at a career with job security, better pay and better hours. His consistently high grades ensured his permanent place on the Dean's List for all four semesters of his diploma. He also won the Rob Horne Memorial CSOM Prize, CSOM Alumni Award and a TRU Foundation Scholarship. Chris had two co-op work terms with TRU and one with the Provincial Airtanker Center. Since completing his CSOM Diploma he has started work with BC Lottery Corporation in their Corporate Systems Group. When not at work, Chris keeps busy with sons Andrew and Maguire. He plans to return to TRU and ladder his diploma into a Bachelor of Computing Science Degree, advance at BCLC, and start his own web-development company. For Chris, the best thing about getting his diploma at TRU was being able to return to school in the place where his sons resided, giving him a constant reminder of why he was working so hard.



› Governor General's Academic Silver Medal
Taya Walsh
– Bachelor of Education

Taya grew up in Kamloops and graduated from Westsyde Secondary School in 2000, achieving District Honours. She made the Dean's List consistently during the BEd program and was the recipient of the University Women's Club of Kamloops Endowment Scholarship and a TRU Foundation Scholarship. During her studies, Taya was a research assistant for Dr. Patrick Walton, in a study involving the use of songs and movement to teach reading to Aboriginal Students. She also worked as a childcare worker at a local foster home. Taya was an active volunteer at local elementary schools, with the Heritage Fair and a basketball coach at Westsyde Secondary. Prior to enrolling in the BEd program she taught ESL in Taiwan, travelling extensively there and in Australia, Europe, and Taiwan. She is looking forward to having a full-time teaching position and making a significant contribution to her community. The best thing about getting her degree from TRU was the quality of instruction and support from the remarkable individuals within the Education department.



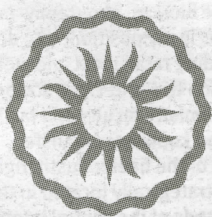
› University Medal in Computer Science
Devon Beanish
– Bachelor of Computing Science

Hailing from Ottawa, Ontario, Devon graduated from St. Matthew's High School. While pursuing his degree at TRU, Devon had several achievements of note: consistent standing on the Dean's List and successfully repairing a local bookkeeping firm's server and while attending classes, worked as a Network Specialist for TELUS. His future goals include continuing in the IT field, perhaps starting his own company someday. In the meantime, he'll be trying out new things like flying Radio Control airplanes and continuing with recreational soccer. For Devon, the best thing about TRU was the scenery. He had never before seen wild cacti, tumbleweed, and giant mountains for skiing in the same place. Devon also enjoyed the computer science professors' application of artificial intelligence in their courses.



› University Medal in Business Administration
Sabrina Lloyd
– Bachelor of Business Administration

Sabrina grew up in Kamloops and graduated from Valleyview Secondary in 2003. Sabrina received her Bachelor of Business Administration degree from TRU this past fall, with a GPA that kept her consistently on the Dean's List. Since graduating, Sabrina has purchased the Cliffside Climbing Gym and has thoroughly enjoyed the challenge and lifestyle of operating her own business and using the range of the skills she obtained at TRU. Her future goals include getting married this summer and maybe enrolling in the Digital Art and Design Diploma program at TRU. Sabrina is convinced the best thing about TRU is its small class sizes, which allowed her to develop valuable relationships with the teachers and fellow classmates.



› University Medal in Arts
Judith Zwickel
– Bachelor of Arts

Judith is an Art History major who grew up in Clearwater, BC. At graduation from Clearwater Secondary in 2004 she received a University College of the Cariboo Entrance Scholarship. During the duration of her undergraduate degree, Judith has consistently been on the Dean's List, receiving the History Majors' Award in 2007-08 and won first place for Oral Presentation at the 2009 TRU Undergraduate Conference. During the summers she works as a Wildland Firefighter with the BC Forest Service, Ministry of Forests Protection Branch. Her future goals include travelling and grad school. For Judith, the best thing about getting her degree from TRU was the opportunity to present at the Undergraduate Conferences and receiving instruction from and building relationships with some of the talented instructors in the Faculty of Arts.



› University Medal in Education
Nadine Van Caesele
– Bachelor of Elementary Education

Nadine grew up in Prince George, BC where she attended D.P. Todd Secondary School. She graduated on the Principal's List in 2003, earning the Prince George Teacher's Association Scholarship. In 2008 she earned the Dean and Mary Martin Academic Scholarship at TRU. When Nadine is not teacher-on-call at School District # 57 she shares her passion for dance, teaching students ballet, jazz, tap, hip-hop, and Broadway at a private studio. Recently she has enjoyed trips to the Honduras, Mexico and New York City. Nadine loved TRU's small and personal class sizes as well as the inspiring teachers who showed genuine interest and appreciation for her artistic, kinesthetic educational style.



› University Medal in Journalism
Leah Miller
– Bachelor of Journalism

Leah graduated from Dr. E.P. Scarlett High School in her hometown of Calgary, Alberta. Besides being on the Dean's List, she was awarded the 2009 British Columbia-Yukon Community Newspaper Association University Scholarship. As a student at TRU, she worked as layout editor and then copy editor for The Omega campus newspaper from 2008 to 2009. Later this month she will begin work at The Kamloops Daily News, where she will hone her skills and gain insight towards her aspirations of publishing her own newspaper. The ability to package her classes around her interests is among the highlights and the fact instructors care about their students and get to know them. The lifelong friendships she has formed with her fellow students will be cherished long after she leaves TRU.



› University Medal in Natural Resource Science
Rhiannon McFarland
– Bachelor of Natural Resource Science

Rhiannon grew up in Nanaimo, but spent High School in Salmon Arm, graduating from Salmon Arm Senior Secondary School. For the duration of her degree Rhiannon has maintained a grade point average high enough to ensure her a place on the Dean's List each semester. For her top 4th Year Academic Standing she was awarded a 1993 World Fly Fishing Championships Scholarship. During the summers Rhiannon worked in silviculture for Adams Lake Lumber. She has volunteered locally with the Burrowing Owl Conservation Society, for both fall burrow digging and spring soft release. She plans to pursue a degree in environmental law, specializing in the creation of natural resource policy. Rhiannon says the amazing professors are the best thing about an undergrad degree at TRU. She found her NRS faculty to be enthusiastic and passionate about their fields, and even more importantly, they genuinely cared about their students.



› University Medal in Nursing
Michelle Hopkins
– Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Michelle grew up in Surrey BC, graduating from LA Matheson Secondary. Besides maintaining high enough grades to ensure her standing on the Dean's List, Michelle earned a Certificate in Perinatal Nursing. It hasn't been all study though. Michelle was involved in starting the first TRU WolfPack cheerleading team as assistant coach while also being a member of the squad. She is currently working at Abbotsford Regional Hospital and Cancer Centre in maternity, her future goals include a Master's of Nursing degree and to become a Board-Certified Lactation Consultant. Michelle says the best thing about getting her degree at TRU was the people: the friends she made in her program and the faculty and staff in the nursing department.



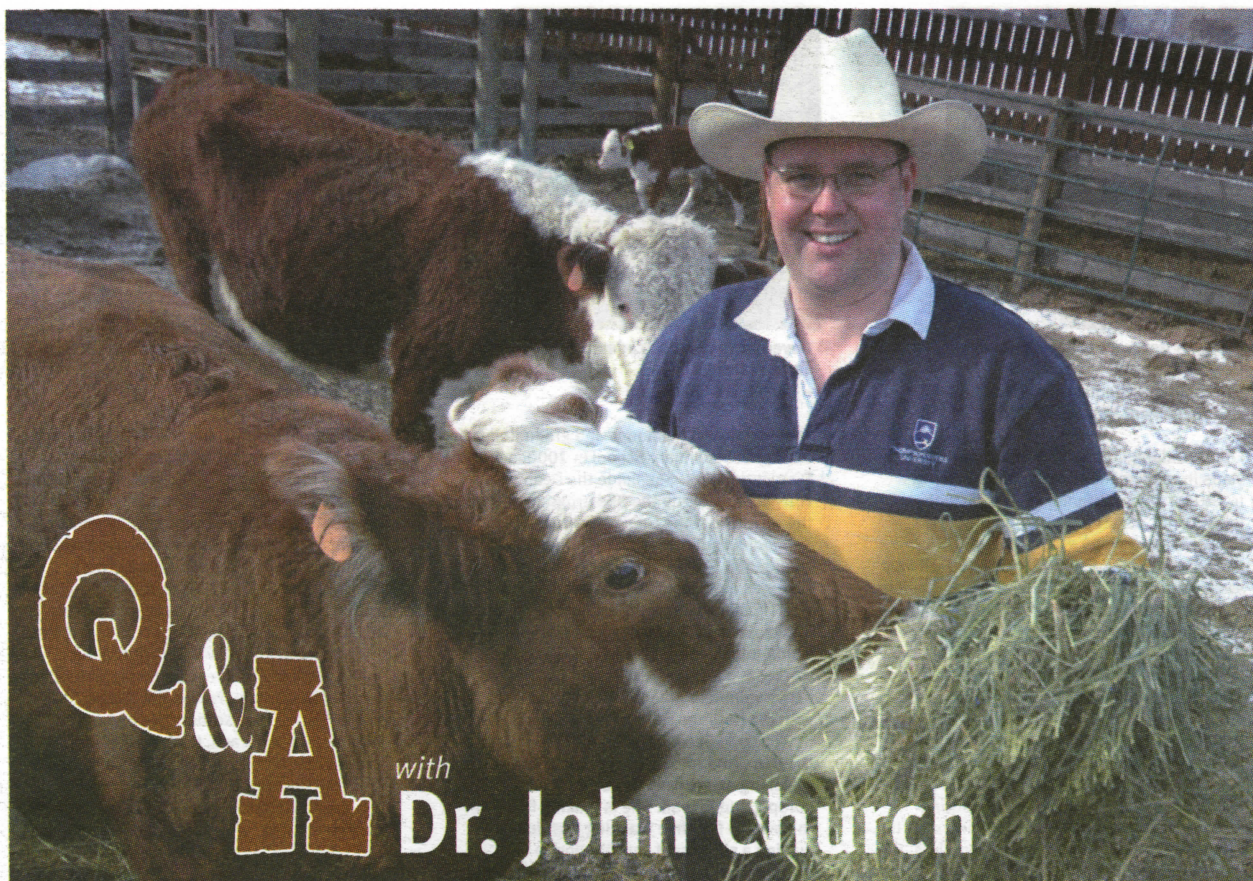
› University Medal in Science
Aaron Podoriesz
– B.Sc. Hons. Major: Chemical Biology

Aaron is a NorKam 2005 graduate who grew up in Kamloops. His GPA kept him on the Dean's List at TRU, and earned him several scholarships, including CUEF Research Scholarship, TRU Chemical Biology Prize and TRU Foundation Entrance Scholarship. At the Western Canadian Undergraduate Chemistry Conference (WCUCC), he won the NSERC Award for Best Overall Oral Presentation. As a student researcher examining Antimicrobial Peptides, he has also been active as a Science Camp instructor with EUREKA!, volunteered at the New Life Mission, and as a member of the TRU Chemistry and Biochemistry Club. Planning to become a dentist, Aaron says the best thing about TRU is the amount of lab experience and excellent research opportunities through his Honours supervisor, Dr. Heidi Huttunen-Hennelly.



› University Medal in Social Work
Susanne Pytela
– Bachelor of Social Work

A graduate with honours from David Thompson Secondary, Susanne grew up in Vancouver and Invermere. She earned a Social Services Certificate from TRU in 2005, ladder her credential to her degree. She has maintained a stellar academic standing and received several scholarships, including the Millennium Scholarship Fund and the BC Health Care Bursary. She was very involved the 12 Stones Chapel's urban missionary work and served as a mentor to youth and to other students on the TRU campus. Through her Practica she has worked with the House of Ruth, the Society of St Vincent de Paul, the Youth Safehouse, and the Boys and Girls Club of Kamloops. Future goals include working with adolescent parents and their children and to be a mother. For Susanne, the best thing about her TRU degree was gaining Spiritual education at the same time as academic credentials.



Dr. John Church has been appointed BC Regional Innovation Chair in Cattle Industry Sustainability at Thompson Rivers University. His job will be to develop new techniques and technologies to help make BC's cattle industry sustainable — both economically and environmentally.

Q: Where and when did your interest in cattle get started?

A: My great grandfather was a rancher, so I guess you can say I am the fourth generation in my family to be directly involved in the cattle industry. I grew up as a kid on a mixed veterinary practice in Southern Alberta. While we did not have cattle during those years ourselves, I traveled "on veterinary call" with my father who handled most of the bovine calls for the clinic. Upon graduating from university, I started a vertically integrated ranching operation for a company named Canadian Rocky Mountain Resorts just south of Calgary. I was directly providing the meat that would be used in the white tablecloth restaurants. I learned really fast the value in producing tender, high-quality and value-added meat products.

Q: So what attracted you to TRU, and when did you arrive in Kamloops?

A: This industry needs to blend expertise in the traditional basic and applied research sciences with complementary strengths in such areas as ecology, wildlife biology, geography and resource management. TRU is perfectly positioned to do just that. By maintaining its outstanding retail meat and culinary arts training programs, in addition to world-class ecological, economic and environmental chemistry faculty and facilities, I am able to conduct research and knowledge transfer here incorporating all segments of the beef industry right immediately. This university is strategically located in the middle of the impressive grasslands of the central interior—we are in midst of a living laboratory, I know of no other university in Canada where this work could be accomplished.

Q: Could you define "sustainability" in the context of the cattle industry?

A: Sustainability in my mind is defined by the capacity of a system to endure over time. Sustainable Cattle Ranching involves domestic animal grazing practices that maintain or enhance the economic and social viability of a cattle operation, while upholding the ecological integrity of the grassland landscape on which these operations depend. Agriculture in general involves the systematic management of organisms (in this case cattle) to continue to produce food for humans. Not only must new innovations contribute to the efficiency and profitability of the cattle ranching community but they must also minimize long term, irreversible effects on our natural resource base nor impinge on non-agricultural land use in the region.

In order to maintain the ecological integrity of British Columbia's rangelands, it is imperative that working ranches maintain profitability. Poor beef production economics often results in reduced stewardship, and negatively impacts other factors such as animal welfare. The challenges currently facing the industry create an urgency for conducting multifaceted research and development into innovations that will help the ranchers, producers and suppliers to adopt new practices and technologies that can create a vibrant and sustainable industry for future generations.

Q: What is the main focus of your research in 2009 and of your work in general?

A: The main focus of my research in 2009 will be to seek new cost effective ways to improve the nutritional composition of beef, while at the same time reducing green house gas contribution, without sacrificing meat quality attributes in order to do that. TRU has recently acquired some of the best analytical equipment in the world to undertake this task, and my colleagues and I have dedicated tremendous effort in recent months to setting up and learning to operate this equipment.

Furthermore, we will investigate what the market opportunity is for more local, naturally raised and/or organic beef, and the consumers' willingness to pay, if that product is raised right here in BC.

Q: Can our cattle industry compete internationally?

A: We can compete internationally, but I am not always sure we should. We can produce and will continue to produce some of the best grain-fed beef in the world for international markets that can compete with anyone.

However, in the past we have probably focused a little too much on that international market at the expense of our best customer, the consumer in our own backyard. True, there are some foreign countries that are blessed with much longer growing seasons, but fortunately for the beef producers in this province, they tend to be a long way away. The high transportation/fuel costs inherent in shipping that beef here makes their product far less sustainable. If we switch more of our focus to our own domestic market we will need to capitalize even more on the natural advantages already inherent in this province: our tremendous rangelands, our forages, and build on our excellent livestock genetic base. While the push in the 1970s and 1980s was to promote specialized operations, the push in the future will be for adaptive generalists. Such generalists will require more in-depth knowledge of forage, crop and livestock production practices than the more specialized producer of the past.

TRU NEWS > 2009 > CASE STUDIES



TRU leads tourism in times of change

TRU School of Tourism degree students, consisting of Anthony Brown, Janet Hink, Sean Jeon, and Jennifer Pallett, along with faculty sponsor Robin Reid received congratulations from Bill Bennett (BC Minister of Tourism, Arts & Culture) for placing first in the 2009 Tourism Hospitality BC Student Case Competition in Vancouver.

Their presentation, Provincial Leadership: Change Management in Challenging Times addressed the theme established by this year's BC's tourism/hospitality industry panel: Tourism in Times of Change: Forging New Directions.

Other teams competing at the Degree-Level at the February competition were: BCIT, Capilano University, Royal Roads University, and Vancouver Island University. Each group prepared a 15 minute presentation to answer tough questions facing the industry today. Following each presentation, teams answered questions from a panel of industry judges, who selected a first place winner in each category. First place teams received \$1000.

The team's award winning presentation can be viewed at: <http://linkbc.ca/main/?en&StudentCaseCompetition>



ACE*TRU moves up the ranks at nationals

The Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship team from Thompson Rivers University (ACE*TRU) returned from the National Competition in Toronto. The ACE*TRU team is made up of a team of 35 active student leaders enrolled in the business program.

At this year's competition, ACE*TRU achieved one of its most successful showings to date. Among the toughest competition in the world, it confidently earned a place in the semi-final round among the brightest 20 student teams in the country. They were Matthew Muzzillo, President 07-09; Ashley Ricalton; Shaurya Chhikara; Andrea Rampackova; Dr. Murray Young, Dean, School of Business and Economics; Jasmine Kooner; Justin Terwiel; Dr. Shahriar Hasan, Faculty Advisor; Bryan Mcfarlane; Amie Pettyjohn; Melissa Hamer-Jackson; Brad Robinson; Natalie Chaben; Brendan Shaw; Scott Montagiani; Amy Berard and Adam Strath.

TRU Law School takes the University to the next level

– Josh Keller

The mid-February announcement by government that a Law School will be established at Thompson Rivers University might be the most important development for the institution since the announcement of university-college status 20 years ago.

In March of 1989, the declaration of a new direction for this small, unknown Kamloops community college was the start of many changes that have had profound impacts on the institution and the community. From the hundreds of millions of dollars worth of construction to new career opportunities that are attracting people from around the world to Kamloops, the past two decades have been a progression of one achievement leading to the next.

The March 2004 announcement of provincial university status, which came about as the direct result of strong community lobbying and support, validated the fact that the institution had become a university in everything but name. The transition to Thompson Rivers University, which included the addition of the new dimension of distance and online learning, created the first truly comprehensive undergraduate university in Canada.

Some traditionalists sneered at this new concept, suggesting TRU couldn't be considered comprehensive without a professional or doctoral program, but comprehensive speaks to the breadth of program options, from Bachelor and Master degrees, diplomas and certificate to trades, apprenticeships and university preparation.

The Demand for Law Graduates by the numbers

- 316 law students admitted each year to BC's law schools (108 UVic, 208 UBC)
- 1,683 applicants for UBC School of Law first year seats
- 1,038 applicants UVic had for its first year seat
- 2900 lawyers in BC will reach the age of 65 between 2011 and 2021
- 85,000 the expected growth in BC's population by 2021

However, after four years of maturing as a provincial university, the sudden creation of new 'instant' universities making similar claims raised the question of where TRU should go from here. The university has a mandate clearly different from these newcomers, and TRU has seen graduate degrees and new research opportunities flourish under this mandate, but if anyone was thinking that the next step was a professional program they weren't saying it out loud.

As it turns out, some folks were doing more than just thinking about a professional school, and the implications of their efforts are huge within provincial, national and international post-secondary realms. As a highly flexible institution, TRU has never aspired to being a traditional degree-only university, but there is no denying the prestige associated with having a professional Law School. It will put TRU at the next level in terms of reputation, and once again set the institution apart from those around it.

The agreement to establish the Law School in partnership with the University of Calgary is equally important in the new level of reputation, respect and regard it brings to TRU, and to Kamloops as a community. This cross-border collaboration is a milestone in the spirit of the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) between the two western provinces, and it will also make Canadian legal history.

It's also logical, as the U of C's Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law (NREEL) specialization is a perfect fit with TRU's focus on environment. The first-ever degree created outside of the big three traditional universities in BC was the Bachelor of Natural Resource Science degree at TRU, and across the university there's more interest than ever in environmental issues.

The most recent addition, a minor in Environmental Economics and Sustainability, will be available to students in Arts, Science, Business and Tourism, while at the graduate level there's already a Canada Research Chair and a Master of Science degree in Environmental Science.

Now the really hard work of turning this new professional school opportunity into reality begins. With a target date of Fall 2011 in mind, the academic and administrative planning is likely to consume much time and energy in the months ahead, but the rewards are well known and understood.



Melissa Schuurman a second-year BBA student from 100 Mile House looks forward to the opportunity to study law at Thompson Rivers University in 2011.

New Masters on the way

Planning is well underway for the proposed September 2010 launch of a new Master of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. It would be the fifth graduate degree to be offered at TRU, and the first in the Faculty of Arts.

The degree builds on the new Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies degree that launches at TRU this fall. The Masters degree in Interdisciplinary Studies will provide an exciting opportunity for students to combine their career goals and

studies in an interdisciplinary model. Students will create their own personalized curriculum based on their future aspirations, offering a wide array of educational and employment outcomes. Career options for students who complete this degree depend on each student's curriculum, but can include continuing on to a doctoral program, or careers in a broad range of public and private sector fields, including the public service, Foreign Service, public relations, consultant, municipal government, research and policy

analysts, media relations, management, positions with cultural and artistic organizations. Students will be able to complete the program in a minimum of twelve months on a full time basis, and a part time option is also available.

For more information contact Dr. Kelly-Anne Maddox (kmaddox@tru.ca)

McLeod: brand expert



Cyndi McLeod, AVP of TRU World, the international education arm of Thompson Rivers University, was invited by the Canadian Embassy in Berlin, Germany to be the Canadian expert in a highly-regarded and influential seminar, the International Dialogue on Education.

The invitation came on the recommendation of the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE), recognizing McLeod for

her expertise and wide range of hands-on experience in meeting the challenges of branding and positioning TRU in the context of ever-increasing competition in globalised higher education.

Held at the Canadian Embassy in Berlin, on April 30, the conference 'Exploring Difference - Positioning Your Institution - Marketing and Branding' focused on identifying institutional strengths and developing an institutional strategy to raise a university's attractiveness through policies and strategies, and the managerial challenges in doing so.

The event was a joint initiative of the British Council Germany, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the German-American Fulbright Commission, the Australian Group of Eight, and the Canadian Embassy in Berlin, with the support of the CBIE.

It was the fourth conference in a series that opened in October 2007 and focused on the topic Excellence in Teaching. This successful launch was followed up in April 2008 by a seminar on the topic of Undergraduate Education and in October 2008 with the topic of Graduate Education.

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Battling for a Place in the Employment World

By Lisa Coriale

Overcoming obstacles

Tearing down walls

Removing barriers

Feeling frustrated and angry at times

Changing peoples' perceptions

Seeing past the disabilities

I want to show the world who I am and what I have to offer

The many hidden treasures I have within me

I am determined to show what I am capable of

I need opportunities with no more barriers

Awaken

By Lisa Coriale

Awaken lovers

Awaken dreamers

Awaken warriors

Awaken me

Awaken compassion

Awaken passion

Awaken fire

Awaken me

Awaken desire

Awaken creativity

Awaken vulnerability

Awaken me



Lisa Coriale BSW 07 has published *Transparent*, a collection of poems. Lisa's writings offer an inspiring view of the faith of a young woman, born with cerebral palsy who has overcome many obstacles as she has pursued her degree and launched a writing career.

Going Places

TRU OL degree helps student journey to India and achieve her academic goals

– Elise Desjardin

With four years of post-secondary education under her belt and a “yearning for Eastern Philosophy,” urging her onward, Jessica Black left her Psychology and Philosophy studies behind, in search of enlightenment in India and Nepal.

What Black, a recent graduate of Open Learning’s Bachelor of General Studies degree program, found was a passion for Tibetan Buddhism and a path to a new post-graduate goal that included an interlude with Open Learning (OL) and a layover in the small towns of Bir and Dharmshala, India.

“Tibetan Buddhism has been an area of great interest for me throughout the past seven years and after my first visit to India in January of 2002,” Black said, explaining that prior to her travels, her academic interests had varied greatly from an initial concentration in Business Management, to Psychology and Philosophy studies. However, these academic streams did not captivate Black the way her growing passion for Eastern Philosophy did.

Upon returning from her travels in India, Black had a clear goal to gain a degree through OL and thus facilitate her pursuit of entrance into the graduate program in religious studies at McGill University.

“I joined up with TRU, Open Learning in 2007 in order to complete my university degree,” Black said. “Thankfully, TRU not only accepted my previous university credits but they also gave me recognition for courses from my college years.”

Open Learning allowed Black to transfer credits, which she had previously earned from other post-secondary institutions, towards her degree. This meant she was able to spend less money and time on the completion of her degree.

“These were huge incentives for my joining TRU-OL because it allowed me to finish the entire degree in a year-and-a-half instead of having to do the full four years,” Black said. She went on to explain that OL’s flexibility also allowed her to continue working 30-hour weeks as the assistant manager of a local toy store which meant she could maintain an income throughout her studies and thus, was able to afford her post-graduate travel plans in addition to her education.

“TRU, Open Learning was the most affordable and time-saving option for me to acquire that degree and still be able to travel long term in India and its surrounding countries,” Black said.

And so, Black fulfilled her goal to graduate with a TRU OL degree and travel to India where, with lulls of Lama dancing and sips of Chai tea over sunsets, she continued her studies and completed an intense month-long Tibetan language class and a two-month meditation retreat in Dharmshala, India. From there her studies, and her travels, continued with excursions to the Library of Tibetan Works and Archives as well as to select monasteries in the north where renowned Buddhist artwork resides. Her journey will then resume in Canada where she hopes to begin her graduate studies at McGill.

“I’m excited to continue my studies at the next level, particularly because at the graduate level I can finally focus on my key areas of interest,” Black said. “I would not be able to do so if it hadn’t been for the opportunity of joining Open Learning and acquiring a Bachelor’s degree.”



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www.tru.ca



Winning design for a sustainable future

Jody Martens, who has successfully completed her first year of the Architectural and Engineering Technology Program, School of Advanced Technology and Mathematics, proudly shows off her winning design in the Equilibrium House Design Competition sponsored by Canada Mortgage and Housing. Martens was one of 38 AERT students who were tasked with designing a home for the Kamloops YM/YWCA 2010 Dream Home lottery that not only had dream-home features, but also met net-zero energy requirements of producing as much energy as the home consumes. As winner of the competition, Martens received a cheque for \$5,000. Martens believes helping her father renovate homes for about the past five years played a part in her winning design. Being a mature student was another asset because she was able to draw on her life experiences. “It (the contest) was really

fascinating and it was definitely a challenge. The project was really time consuming, but I learned so much. It was worth it because this is what I want to do,” says Martens, who is from Kelowna and prior to doing home renovations, spent about seven years in the medical field as an ultrasound and X-ray technician. Solar panels, 16-inch insulated walls and extended window overhangs over windows that would receive extreme sun, were among the energy-saving features Martens included in her design. Since winning the competition, Martens has been working with builders and architects as she tweaks her design to fit the building codes at Sun Rivers and to help reduce construction and material costs. The competition was one of two such projects awarded in BC this year.

UPCOMING CAMPUS
EVENTS > 2009

June

- 12 Sport Task Force Golf Tournament.....(Shotgun Start) 12:30pm
www.tru.ca/athletics/events/golf.....Rivershore Estates & Golf Links

July

- 4 IndoCan Links Golf Tournament.....(Shotgun Start) 12pm
www.indocanlinks.caRivershore Estates & Golf Links
(Proceeds to the House of Learning)

August

- 9 Pack Attack Pro-Am – TRU Golf TourneyThe Dunes
28 Foundation Golf Tournament(Shotgun Start) 12:30pm
www.tru.ca/foundationRivershore Estates & Golf Links

September

- 5 & 6 Soccer vs Langara College.....Hillside Stadium
12pm (w) and 2pm (m)
8 Student OrientationOld Main, TRU Campus all day
11 Welcome Back BBQ.....Campus Commons 11am–3pm
19 Soccer vs Douglas College.....Hillside Stadium
12pm (w) and 2pm (m)
20 Soccer vs Kwantlen PolytechnicHillside Stadium
12pm (w) and 2pm (m)
25 & 26 Alumni Homecoming – Roast the Birds & Fire in the Sky
25 > Men’s Volleyball vs UBC.....TCC.....7pm
26 > Chapter Meetings & Campus ToursTRU CAC
26 > Mainstage EntertainmentCampus Commons
26 > Family BBQ Chicken & Corn Roast.....Campus Commons
26 > FireworksCampus Commons

Stay tuned for more info at www.tru.ca/alumni

Staff Achievements

> Terry Lake

Animal Health

Terry Lake was elected as the BC Liberal Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) for Kamloops-North Thompson on May 12. Dr. Lake, a veterinarian, moved to Kamloops in 1997 to teach Animal Health Technology. He served one term as City Councillor before being elected Mayor of Kamloops in 2003.

> David Diviney

Visual and Performing Arts

Solo exhibitions

'Drift' at Kelowna Art Gallery, on view from January 24 through July 26, 2009. 'Drift' is part of a thematic series of temporary, site-specific sculpture commissions in the outdoor Rotary Courtyard space curated by Liz Wylie.

'The Near Beyond' at Galerie Verticale Art Contemporain (Montreal), curated by Martin Champagne, was on view from March 8 through April 18, 2009.

Publications

'The Do-It Yourself Deconstructions of David Diviney', feature article in Galleries West, Volume 8, Number 1, Spring 2009. <http://www.gallerieswest.ca/Features/Articles/6-107855.html> Artwork/imagery included in 'ECOPOIESIS: Imagining the Earth: The Arts, Ecotherapy, Media and the Environment', the forthcoming issue of POIESIS, an academic journal of the arts & communication published by EGS Press (Toronto). www.egspress.com/catalogue/_poiesis/

Co-curator

'Nine Miles South of Eight Mile: 2009 Windsor Biennial' at Art Gallery of Windsor (Windsor, ON), on view from April 17 through July 5, 2009, www.agw.ca

> Donald Lawrence

Visual and Performing Arts

Publication

"Dwelling, Display and Vernacular Practice in the Personal Museum: Study and Play in Eisinga's Planetarium, Hille van Dieren's Wrakken Museum and Sir John Soane's Museum", in the International Journal of the Inclusive Museum, Volume 1, Issue 4, pp.163-174.

> Ashok Mathur

CRC Cultural and Artistic Inquiry

Ashok has received a \$25,000 Canada Council grant toward the research/creation of his fourth novel, *The First White Black Man*, based on the life and times of John Fremont Smith John (who arrived in Kamloops in 1884 as one of the first Black pioneers to settle in BC's interior). Smith wore multiple hats in and around this small interior town: a cobbler, a prospector, a miner, a surveyor, a rancher, a juror, a journalist, an entrepreneur, a postmaster -- and, his two most fascinating roles, as a repeatedly-elected city councillor (only the second Black politician to hold public office in Canada) and an Indian Agent. The Vancouver International Writers' Festival has invited Ashok Mathur to its fall lineup in recognition of his new novel, *A Little Distillery* in Nowgong, published in hardcover this August from Arsenal Pulp Press. Mathur also had a major exhibition based on the novel, at Centre-A in Vancouver in January and at the Ottawa City Hall Gallery in March (where it will remain open for the first part of Congress). His book will be launched in Vancouver, Toronto, Halifax, and Kamloops in the autumn season as well.

> Elaine Sedgman and friends

Visual and Performing Arts

Reading Kamloops, a project imagined and organized by Elaine Sedgman BFA, 04, with a \$4,500.00 BC Arts Council Grant, a matching grant from the City and a grant from the Community Arts Council. The artist and writer collaborations in public places began at Arnica Artist Run Centre March 20.

> Ron Smith

Visual and Performing Arts

Publications

The Canadians (1961): "No Singing Please" in *Nebula: A Journal of Multi disciplinary Scholarship*, Spring 2009.

"Mistaken Images in Serge/Cecil B. DeMille's Northwest Mounted Police" in *49TH Parallel: An Interdisciplinary Studies* (University of Birmingham).

> Heather Friesen

Institutional Planning and Analysis

This Cariboo College alumna (university transfer 1990), successfully defended her doctoral dissertation entitled "Post-secondary persistence and participation: Does neighbourhood matter?" at Simon Fraser University in April 2009. Heather has worked at TRU since graduating from UBC in 1993.

> Kingsley Donkor

Chemistry

Dr. Kingsley Donkor had his paper "Determination of thermodynamic pKa values of benzimidazole and benzimidazole derivatives by capillary electrophoresis" published in *The Journal of Separation Science*, Vol 32, 1087 (2009). The paper has also been selected to be a feature article in the "Research Roundup" section of an upcoming issue of a new international digital publication "Separation Science". Dr. Donkor was also invited in April to present a seminar at the University of Alberta on his research in Lantibiotics. The title of the seminar was "Capillary Electrophoresis of Lantibiotics".

> Kim Christiansen

Institutional Planning and Analysis

Kim Christiansen received her Chartered Accountant designation in May 2009. Kim completed a post-baccalaureate in Accounting from TRU and articulated at KPMG. She joined Institutional Planning and Analysis in 2007 and is currently responsible for internal enrolment-related reporting.

> Ginny Ratsoy

English and Modern Languages

Ginny Ratsoy's article, "The Small City as Classroom: Academic Service Learning Students Reflect" was published in the peer-reviewed *Transformative Dialogues Teaching and Learning Journal* 2:2 (November 2008). Her article "Collaboration and Adaptation: Bridging the Space between Classroom and Open Learning" has been accepted for publication in the peer-reviewed publication of the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, *Collected Essays on Learning and Teaching*.

> Peter J. Murphy

English & Modern Languages

P J Murphy's Beckett's *Debalus: Dialogical Engagements with Joyce in Beckett's Fiction* was published by University of Toronto Press, January 2009.

> Kim Clow

TRU Print Shop

Kim was a member of the Old Stockers Men's Broomball Club. His team was inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame at the annual banquet, held on Saturday April 18.

Student Achievements

> Brittany Dever

3rd year Chemical Biology

Brittany Dever (Supervisor: Kingsley Donkor) won 1st place for "Award for Best Research Visual Presentation" for her research poster "Large volume sample stacking for nisin using capillary electrophoresis" at the Undergraduate Student Research and Innovation Conference held at TRU in April 2009.

> Daniel Hall

Electronics Technician Diploma

TRU student Daniel Hall competed in the 15th Canadian Skills Competition to be held at Charlottetown, PEI from May 20 to May 23, 2009 (results unavailable at press time).



TRU shows community spirit

The Thompson Nicola Cariboo United Way's Melodie Grabner presented TRU's United Way committee of Larry Phillips, Dr. Kathleen Scherf, Diana Skoglund and Debbie Blackwell with the Community Spirit Large Organization award. The award is in honour of an organization that encourages staff to learn about and contribute to their community through United Way involvement.



Master Teacher Award 2009

Joanne Jones

School of Nursing

Joanne Jones has a reputation as the "patho queen" among nursing students and faculty. She presents the difficult and often dry subject of pathophysiology in a dynamic, engaging, innovative and creative way that has students declaring their love of patho as they exit the class.

Joanne's teaching style fosters a respectful

environment in classroom and practice settings. She is willing to help students learn and spends time both inside and outside the classroom working with students to find strategies to best support their learning.

As well as being an excellent classroom teacher, Joanne is an excellent clinical instructor. She is competent and confident in the clinical area, earning tremendous respect from her students. The staff at Royal Inland Hospital also hold Joanne in high regard, seeking her out to provide workshops and as an expert.

During her 28-year career as a nurse educator, she has demonstrated tremendous leadership in the areas of scholarship of teaching and learning as mentor for faculty.

She has been recognized with a TRU Teaching Excellence Award in 2005. Joanne has a deep and comprehensive knowledge of nursing as a discipline and has contributed to the CRNBC National RN Examinations process for six years.

She has initiated a nursing department mentorship program, and served as a mentor to new faculty. Joanne demonstrates her leadership in scholarship of teaching and learning and enhancement of teaching with her active participation in the annual Teaching Practices Colloquium.

Distinguished Service Awards 2009

Dr. Mairi MacKay Biological Sciences Faculty

Mairi MacKay enriches life at TRU simply by being who she is. Her dedication to TRU students and her willingness to take on responsibility inspires. Her practical, open minded approach makes meetings productive and efficient, and her ready sense of humour and positive attitude enhance the quality of daily life and work, for Mairi's peers in the Department of Biological Sciences. Her organization efforts have sustained the highly successful undergraduate research conference. What started as a small display of honour students' posters has become a campus-wide event engaging students across many disciplines and attracting participants from other universities, bringing significant recognition and prestige to TRU. She is also credited as being key to the development and implementation of the university's first honours program, and in 2004 initiating a new major in Cellular, Molecular and Microbial Biology.

Since starting at the university in 1990, Mairi has served on and chaired many committees ranging from Science Faculty Council, Research Ethics-Animal Subjects, Planning and Curriculum Development, radiation safety and the Faculty Association Executive. She has supervised student research, acted as Faculty liaison for the Biology Undergraduate Student club, sat as a director for the Cariboo Childcare Society and has been an active leader with Girl Guides and the University Women's Club. And a true lifelong learner, Mairi recently took an education leave, completing the Electrical - Foundation Program. An experience she says that not only taught her how to rewire her kitchen, but gave her renewed appreciation of learning from the student's perspective.

Evelyne Penny Disability Services Tutor Support Staff

Evelyne has received strong commendation for this award from her peers and supervisor, perhaps the group best able to attest to her tireless efforts on the behalf of students with disabilities, particularly those with Learning Disabilities, ADHD, mental health disorders and brain injuries.

During her 10 years as a Disability Services Tutor, Evelyne has become extremely good at building rapport and trust with students and will often get emails or telephone messages from students telling her how they did on an exam or paper.

In the last year she has expanded her traditional role to include providing services to students at a distance, creating a system using phone, fax and email that is evidently meeting the needs of the students who say their distance sessions with Evelyne have been a lifesaver!

At times Evelyne has also taught fitness classes on campus and continues to teach classes in the community. Her knowledge and awareness of fitness as it applies to physical and emotional well-being is a distinct advantage to her role assisting students and being a great motivation to her co-workers.



Distinguished Award Winners
L-R: Evelyn Penny, Jane Bryson and Dr. Mairi MacKay

Jane Bryson Administration

Jane Bryson's nominators credit her with single-handedly keeping the TRU Satellite Centre in Lillooet open and profitable. Since 1989 Jane has been able to organize a significant amount of contract and employability training, upgrading and certificate programs, ensuring TRU remains viable in this remote region.

Through Jane's efforts, students can earn credits for first- and second-year university, or earn Aboriginal Tourism or Residential Construction Credentials in their own small community of 2,300 people.

To provide this level of service, Jane does reception, course planning, exam invigilation, hires instructors, advises students, acts as purchasing and finance departments and liaises with the external community. This range of responsibilities is difficult to imagine for those of us who work on a campus surrounded by support-service infrastructure.

Jane has worked tirelessly over the years, through some very difficult times, to make sure TRU courses are delivered to Lillooet. She seems to know everyone in the community and never stops promoting or advocating on behalf of the university.

TRU Tutor Excellence Awards 2009

John Marasigan OL Tutor

John knows he can have a tremendous impact in his students' lives and it's a truth that has guided him since he entered the teaching profession in the 1960s as a secondary school teacher.

"The teacher is a catalyst for change, for growth, for appreciation of what is positive and beautiful both inside and outside of a person," says John. He adds, "This is how I regard each of my students — a person with dignity, promise, uniqueness."

It is principles like these that have allowed John to view his chosen profession as more than a job with a salary, but rather a "way of life; it is living itself."

But perhaps true indicators of John's passion for teaching are from his students themselves. His students are people of a variety of ages, experiences, and working through the various challenges of furthering their educational goals. Many appreciate how John has not forgotten what it is like to be a student. He is patient and tries to understand the question from the students' point of view.

"He answered emails very quickly and was always happy to hear from me on the telephone," writes one nominator, who adds John's "grading process was extremely fair," and "he would always give valid reasoning behind a grade or mark. He was also more than willing to discuss how the mark could be improved. I found I was challenged to get good grades, which improved my scholastic techniques for other classes as well."

John was honoured by TRU OL as the first recipient of the Tutor Outstanding Service Award.

Ann Pollock OL Tutor

Ann may have the official role of tutor, but she isn't too proud to play the part of student and see things from their viewpoint. Her willingness to approach learning from both perspectives allows Ann to not only be an effective tutor, but to make classes interesting, fresh and relevant.

"I tend to approach my teaching from the perspective that teacher and students are all learners on a journey that will continue throughout our lives," says Anne. "We are simply individuals who are at different stages of this journey and who have come together as a group for a certain period of time."

Ann's student-centred approach gives her the ability to understand the multitude of challenges that some of her students bring to the virtual classroom. Some of her students are balancing work or family commitments — or even both — while trying to reintegrate back into school life. It is this understanding that has trained Ann to be clear and kind when offering feedback and to whenever possible, provide practical examples of how improvements can be made.

One of Ann's former students acknowledges that Ann's feedback has led not only to improved coursework, but also to a better standing at work. In an email, the student writes: "I am already doing another presentation for work this week because they felt that I had done such a wonderful job the first time. Thanks to this course, I am already improving at work."

Believing every student has useful information to contribute, Ann strongly encourages her students to be active participants during their time together. And while contributions can sometime delve into controversial territory, Ann doesn't mind making that journey as long as the ground rules are followed.

"... I am much more interested in seeing the active sharing of thoughts, ideas, and reflections. I make it clear that it is acceptable to discuss different opinions in a class, but this must always be done respectfully."

Ann also is an art curator, broadcaster, and writer.



Excellence in Scholarship 2009

Dr. Don Noakes School of Advanced Technologies and Mathematics



Don Noakes is an engineer who has devoted his career to understanding and protecting Canada's natural resources. Beginning his career as a research scientist with the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans, he eventually became the director of the aquaculture division. He joined Thompson Rivers University in 2003 as the Dean of the School of Advanced Technologies & Mathematics.

Dr. Donald Noakes has received three national awards recognizing his research and his leadership roles in a variety of scientific endeavors: the Faculty of Engineering Alumni Achievement Medal, the Government of Canada's Science Award to Leaders in Sustainable Development, and the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal. He was one of the pioneers studying the effects of climate change on fish and fisheries and his work was a key component of the scientific advice presented in the 2001 Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change report. He has published a number of scientific papers dealing with climate change and fisheries and he is recognized as one of the leading scientists in this field.

Dr. Nelaine Mora-Diez Department of Chemistry

Dr. Nelaine Mora-Diez joined the faculty of the Department of Chemistry at TRU in 2003. Since the summer of 2006 she has been an adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Victoria.

Dr. Mora Diez has co-authored 13 peer-reviewed publications, six of which were initiated or finalized at TRU. The other publications are from her PhD work at Dalhousie and from her postdoctoral work at Steacie Institute for Molecular Sciences of the National Research Council. These articles have been cited 188 times and most of them appear in the top journals in her field.

Since 2003 Nelaine has received \$159,400 from NSERC, been invited to deliver 21 presentations at academic or research institutions, nine inside and 12 outside Canada, one most recently at the University of Cambridge. In addition she has co-authored 34 conference presentations since 2000.

Since the summer of 2004, Nelaine has been involved in the supervision (or co-supervision) of nine undergraduate students, five graduate students and three post-doctoral fellows. They have presented their work at 11 conferences or institutional research events for a total of 17 poster presentations. These students have co-authored five other presentations with her. In addition, three of these students (two from TRU) have co-authored four publications with Nelaine. Furthermore, two of the undergraduate students she supervised are currently doing graduate work at Canadian universities.



Construction crews hollow out the earth for the House of Learning. The International Building stands behind it to the left. Photo – Bart Cummins

TRU LEEDs the way

– Bart Cummins

The House of Learning (HOL) will simply be unlike any other structure on the TRU campus or in Kamloops for that matter.

The doors to the \$32-million building aren't scheduled to open until the Fall of 2010, and already the buzz around the building is growing by the day. Not only will HOL be the new home to a range of campus user groups, HOL will be the first on-campus facility built to the strict green Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program. In Canada, the Green Building Council of Canada oversees LEED certification. Building to LEED Gold is in line with the Province of BC's mandate that all new public post secondary buildings achieve the Gold standard. HOL will be TRU's first such structure and the third in Kamloops. The Hillside Psychiatric Facility and the City of Kamloops's water treatment plant are the others.

As well as awarding points for energy efficiency, the LEED scorecard addresses a range of areas, including the percentage of recycled materials used during the building and the proximity to public transit.

TRU's Aboriginal services and The Gathering Place, a lounge for Aboriginal students, will have a new home in HOL as will TRU's library. Other groups are thrilled HOL will address an on-campus shortage of classroom, office, study, and large lecture space.

All told, there will be 63,000 square feet of space plus 13,000 square feet of an unfinished basement. Among the unique features will be a four-storey atrium and a four-storey wall covered in plants and aptly named The Living Wall. The plants, which are still to be determined, will help act as year-round filters, cleaning the air of dust. During the hotter months, the plants will work to cool the temperature by humidifying the air and therefore, reducing the amount of air conditioning.

Of the estimated \$32 million cost, the Province of BC has committed \$18 million and TRU has agreed to \$5 million. The remaining \$9 million will come from fundraising efforts. Those with deep pockets can purchase the building naming rights for \$3 million or, for \$1 million, have their name attached to the 300-seat assembly hall. The assembly hall is designed with First Nations themes in mind as well as being modeled after a theatre-in-the-round idea of 360-degree seating.

The Toronto-based architectural firm Diamond Schmidt won the design contract largely because of a resume that includes international projects, several green libraries, and a track record of projects for colleges and universities, healthcare, and research facilities.

"In my opinion, I think this is going to be the premier piece of architecture in Kamloops," says Dale Parkes, a lecturer in TRU's Architectural & Engineering Technology program and a recognized

architect in his own right. Parkes sat on the committee that recommended Diamond and Schmidt. "I think you'll have people coming to town wanting just to see this building."

HOL, located adjacent and to the southeast of the Campus Activity Centre, will be curve shaped like a rainbow and bump up to the walkway that helps make up the Campus Commons. The decision to build up four levels means HOL will have a smaller footprint than if it was two levels spread out. Furthermore, building upwards frees up land for future expansion, something that can be difficult and costly if structures later need to be modified or torn down.

The House of Learning won't have the outrageous appearance that some art galleries and museums have pursued in recent years. The Frank Gehry-designed Experience Music Project in Seattle being one example. While drawing on First Nations themes of pit houses, weaving and natural elements, the architects have incorporated wood, glass and concrete into the overall design so as to give the building a natural look and feel that doesn't detract from the other buildings on campus.

"It's not meant to be wild and crazy," says Parkes of the exterior. "It's a timeless design that isn't going to go out of style in the next 20 or 30 years. It's a rather simple shape, but a rather interesting shape."

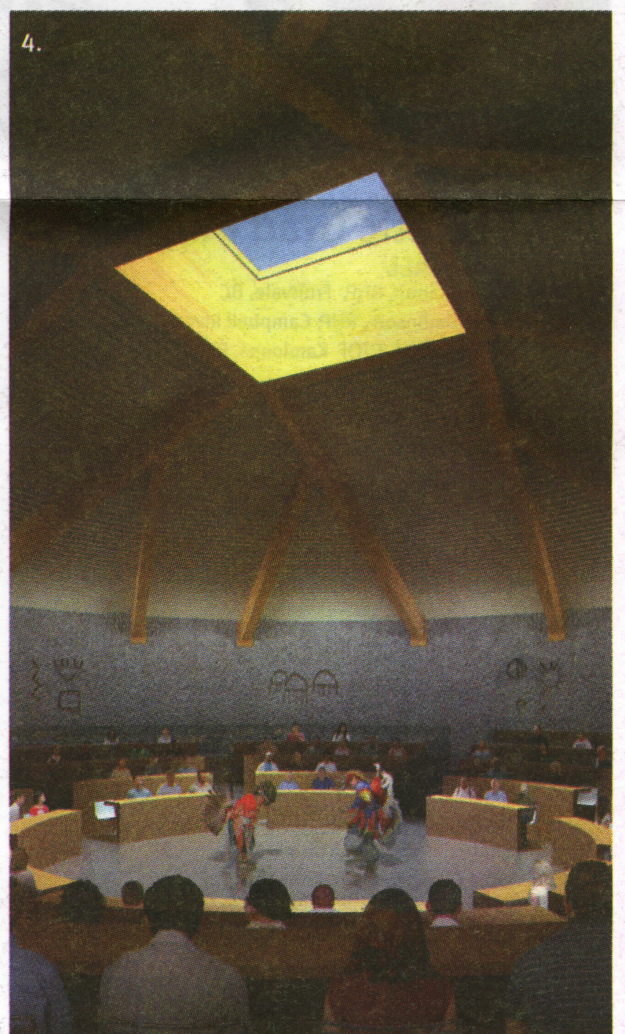
"I don't think it's an overly showy building. To me the design is a quality building and you can see that by just looking at it. They haven't made a big display of the green features, but they are certainly there. There are things like sun shading on the south side and the big green, four-storey vegetated wall."

While the LEED rating wasn't an option, it's a substantial step in the right direction as TRU builds on its desire to be a leader in environmental and sustainable practices.

"It helps to put our money where our mouth is," says Parkes. "We are promoting ourselves as being the university of choice for sustainability, we have to build these sorts of buildings and promote that. Before this (HOL), it was a bit of a tough sell to say we are a green university and not have any green buildings."

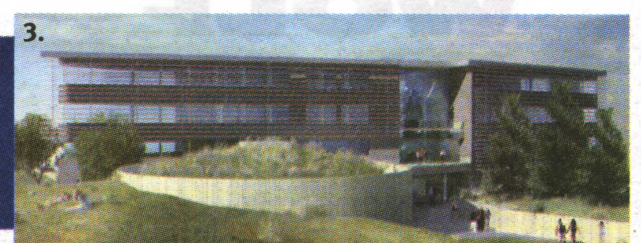
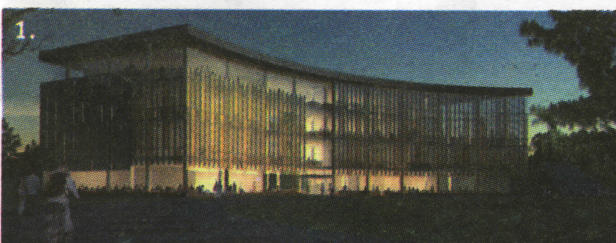
Tom Owen, TRU's Director, Environment and Sustainability, says many factors make HOL a great environmental and sustainable project. Among them is having all the parties involved in the planning, building and completion — mechanical engineers, structural engineers, architects, glaziers, and a host of others for example — all having a seat at the table from start to finish.

"It's a much more complicated process," says Owen, "because everyone is in the room and contributing, but it leads to a better-functioning building. It wasn't done in a sequential fashion, but rather in a collaborative fashion."



Artist's renderings of House of Learning

1. Front exterior of the House of Learning during evening hours.
2. Common space with open-air study space and staircase leading to an upper floor.
3. Back exterior of the House of Learning during daylight hours.
4. Lecture theatre with 360-degree seating and with First Nations design influences.





WolfPack Golf Team
2008 CCAA National Champs

Kamloops Sports Council Team of the Year WolfPack's first golf team scores hole-in-one

A national championship and second in the provincial tournament led to the WolfPack golf team winning two prestigious awards from the Kamloops sporting community.

The Kamloops Sports Council named TRU's golf team 2008 Team of the Year and also recognized Bill Bilton as Coach of the Year. Both honors were handed out at a gala in April.

"This was truly a surprise," said Bilton who, like the four representatives of his team — Shawn Vanderwal, Kevin Ricalton, Geoff Fahlman and Brett Martin — couldn't wipe the grins off their faces. "If you wanted to write a book on how to put together a winning team, you could base it on what happened to us."

Martin was equally pleased with what the team had accomplished in such a short time. "When you look at how far we've come in the last two years — from nothing to a National Championship — it's pretty amazing," said Martin.

Bilton had coached the golf team at TRU (known as the University College of the Cariboo at the time) in 1996. Last August he returned to Kamloops with the dream of resurrecting the program and with the help of some community sponsors and his dad's course (The Dunes of Kamloops), Bilton held tryouts and an 11-man team came out of that.

"We were such a tight group, both on and off the course," explained Martin. "Shawn, Kevin and Riley (Balson) had all played together at South Kam (South Kamloops Secondary School). That cohesiveness helped lead the way."

"I think we got better and better every week," said Vanderwal, who won the CCAA Top Golfer honor at the National Championship held in PEI last October.

"I've played on a number of sports teams," said Fahlman, and "I have to give the credit to Bill. He put countless hours into helping us and it truly paid off."

In winning Team of the Year, the TRU golfers outdistanced a pair of WolfPack squads — women's soccer and men's volleyball.

Bilton, too, edged a fellow WolfPack coach in Pat Hennelly (men's volleyball). Also finishing runner-up was Sean Wandler of the Kamloops Midget Riverdogs baseball team.

For Ricalton, proving that TRU deserved its 2008 success is all the motivation he needs to put together another dream season in the fall of 2009. "We need to prove that we were no flash in the pan. I want to prove that we'll be a powerhouse for years to come."

Athletic Grad Players

BASEBALL

Bryan Mahon, RHP, Fruitvale, BC
Mike Tomlinson, RHP, Campbell River, BC
Ben Bradford, C/OF, Kamloops, BC

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Richelle Walton, Outside Hitter, Langley, BC
Laura Plouffe, Libero, Sherwood Park, Alta

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Andy Haley, Outside Hitter, Stony Plain, Alta

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Sarah Cameron, Guard, Langley, BC

BADMINTON

Andy Chu, Taiwan

MEN'S SOCCER

James Byra, Defender, Chilliwack, BC
Oliver Schwuchow, Midfield, Smithers, BC
Jason Burrows, Defender, Kamloops, BC

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Shantelle Cooper, Midfield, Nanaimo, BC
Katie Clark, Forward, Kamloops, BC
Kelsi Butner, Midfield, Kamloops, BC
Shannon Kelly, Goal, Kamloops, BC



THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY
KAMLOOPS, BC



'Pack gives back

> Richelle Walton (left) of the women's soccer team gives a thumb-up and a wink to the camera during the annual Wendy's Dreamlift Day. The fundraiser raises money to help fulfill dreams for children with severe physical disabilities or life-threatening illness in the BC Interior.

> Below: Varsity athletes dress up in pink in support of the CIBC Run For The Cure fundraiser for breast cancer research.

