

# TRENT

Published by the Trent University Alumni Association

Dr. James Orbinski '80

One of Trent's most celebrated  
alumni discusses global citizenship

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James Orbinski

Photo:

Michael Cullen '82

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EDITOR'S NOTES

# Social Justice at Trent: The Souls of the Sandal

DONALD FRASER '91

Trent has a certain reputation on the Canadian university scene.

In the late 80s, when I was first contemplating which university to attend, I was intrigued, and then very much attracted by the fact that it was known as a “hippie” school.

Once enrolled, I was constantly faced with good-natured ribbing about how I was going to become a granola eater—a fairly likely scenario, seeing how I already wore patched jeans and had long hair. Truth be told, I gravitated more toward oatmeal than granola, but I always accepted the jibes as compliment. And when I joined the Trent community, I relished the fact that we were known as “Birkenstock U” by other students across the nation. So much so that I wore my woolly sock and sandal look with pride. Actually, I still do.

Trent's reputation, you see, is well earned. I saw that back then, and I see it now. It is based on a seemingly organic set of values that sees great worth in making the world a better place—be it through environmental stewardship and activism or through the championing of human rights and global equality.

Not a bad thing to be known for, if you ask me.

It just so happens that many of the people who hold these values dear have a tendency toward hacky-sack use and patchouli. At least while they're students.

And while many of us grow out of the peace-sign and incense stage, the values that accompany it usually remain. They remain a part of the attitude and ethics of a good many Trent graduates. They shape our passions, our careers, our lives.

I'm proud to help showcase a few of the alumni who have taken these values and used them to make profound changes in their communities—both

local and global. These are the stories of people who are saving lives, building hope, and changing the way that we see the world and the people who inhabit it. These are the stories of people who are shaping our planet for the better: foreign aid workers, queer rights educators, urban food growers, poverty activists, development experts, Native rights spokespeople. For good measure, we've even included a Nobel Peace Prize winner in the mix.

It's a fairly impressive collection of stories. And these stories, I know, represent only a small portion of the many that exist out there. Our reputation is well founded.

It's funny. It's been 15 years since I was a full-time student at Trent. And still, when I visit the homes of my former classmates, I'm never surprised to find multiple pairs of time-worn sandals by the front door. Those, or Doc Martens.

Some things, I guess, never change. ❖



*We'd love to hear from you*

Drop us a line today at  
[trentmagazine@trentu.ca](mailto:trentmagazine@trentu.ca)



## Transitions, Celebrations, and Outreach: A New Association President Comes Aboard

ROBERT TAYLOR-VAISEY '66, ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

It is with a great sense of pleasure, and humility, that I address the alumni community in my first column as Association President. It has been a busy three months, and 2012 promises to be a very productive year.

**TRANSITIONS:** In 1991, during the 25th anniversary of Champlain College, former residents were offered their old rooms to occupy for the weekend. It turns out my old room was the same as **Adam Guzkowski '95**, our outgoing Alumni Association president. Adam and I have debated whether this should be a prerequisite for future presidents!

**INPUT:** Your role in the University need not end when you graduate. With the release of the University's Integrated Plan (June 2011) and the draft Academic Plan (November 2011), Trent has embarked on a challenging journey to forge its future. I encourage all alumni to read both documents on the University's website ([www.trentu.ca](http://www.trentu.ca)). Constructive observations, insights, and feedback have always defined the contribution of the alumni community.

**CELEBRATION:** Trent turns 50 in 2014 and planning the celebration is underway. Our Association has strong representation on the university's steering committee—to name a few, **Bob Lightbody '64**, **Harvey McCue '66**, **Lee Hays '91**, and of course, our

Honorary President, **T.H.B. Symons**, and myself. The 50th Anniversary Committee is working diligently to plan a spectrum of events to mark this Trent milestone.

2014 will be a year of ongoing celebration, a catalyst to strengthen and renew our Association, an opportunity to sing the praises of our alma mater and to promote its incredible student experience. The richness of our personal student experience at Trent has dominated every meeting and discussion about this anniversary. And it is reflected in an alumni community that embodies perseverance and outstanding, recognized accomplishments. What can you do? Contact us. Give us your ideas. Whether you're in the "Oxford on the Otonabee" years or yesterday's grad, you are part of a distinguished history, worth celebrating.

**ALUMNI COUNCIL:** Not to be forgotten is the ongoing work of your Alumni Council. At the October 2011 AGM, seven new councillors were elected: **Erin Whitton '97**, **Bianca Bannister '03**, **Fallon Butler '00**, **Cheryl Cross '05**, **Evan Fleming '04**, and **Laura Elliott '00**. They join Jacob Bogaard (student representative), two new vice-presidents (**Chris Armitage '90**, Campus Affairs and **Jonathan Lake '92**, Membership) and **Robin Quantick '78**, the new

representative to the Board of Governors.

This strong contingent joins a dynamic group of councillors developing plans for homecoming, and exploring opportunities for alumni in

- recruitment and retention,
- continuing strong alumni benefits and services,
- fostering recognition for alumni as ambassadors of Trent, and
- stimulating the growth and stability of chapters.

In addition, they are promoting stronger on-campus visibility in Peterborough and Oshawa, exploring a more resilient engagement with our international alumni, and soliciting input into this noteworthy alumni magazine.

**INVOLVEMENT:** This impressive array of activities cannot be accomplished by your elected councillors on their own. All of them could use a helping hand. Consider participating on a committee. Get involved in planning for the Association's and the University's future. Provide feedback and ideas.

Committee mandates and objectives are posted on the alumni website. Take a moment. Take a look. Tell us how you can help. Feel free to contact me at [rtaylorvaisey@trentu.ca](mailto:rtaylorvaisey@trentu.ca). I became president to give back to my university and our association. I encourage you to do the same. ❖

[rtaylorvaisey@trentu.ca](mailto:rtaylorvaisey@trentu.ca)

### Are you interested in volunteering with the Alumni Association?

We are looking for Alumni Councillors and committee members. Our committees range from policy and governance to awards and recognition to *Trent Magazine* editorial board. If you are interested in learning more about these volunteer opportunities, please contact Alumni Association VP **Kylie Patrick '94** at [kpatrick@trentu.ca](mailto:kpatrick@trentu.ca).



For upcoming events visit [www.trentu.ca/alumni](http://www.trentu.ca/alumni)

**Oops.** In our September issue we listed Sam Billich as Captain Sam Billich. It should have been Justice Sam Billich.



Dr. Steven E. Franklin

There is a common thread about the Trent experience in the stories about social justice and activism in this issue of *Trent* magazine—namely, that a Trent education stimulates students to reflect on the complexities of the world. The more Trent alumni I meet and talk with, the more I hear about how Trent University motivated them to think critically, sometimes resulting in a change in their life direction, and often affirming their desire to make the world a better place. All of Trent's programs, in the professional fields and in the liberal arts and science offerings, provide the tools for informed reflection: critical thinking that can lead to great actions amid increasing complexity.

Trent University has an outstanding reputation for producing socially conscious graduates who go on to inspire acts of social justice around the globe. Far from accepting the world as it is, Trent graduates question commonly held notions and challenge the status quo—especially when they see inequality and injustice, as the stories in this issue attest. Trent alumni decisively engage and actively shape the world.

Interestingly, the words “engage” and “shape” are at the core of **Dr. James Orbinski's '80** vocabulary. As our

# Reflecting on a Complex World

featured alumnus in the cover story for this issue, James epitomizes the power of the individual to influence significant change in the world. Through individual effort, he works with and inspires entire communities of people to imagine and create a better future. His belief in grassroots democracy, individual action, and community engagement has helped to move forward major international agendas on all kinds of pressing issues, notably access to affordable medicines to treat devastating diseases such as HIV, TB, and malaria.

*Far from accepting the world as it is, Trent graduates question commonly held notions and challenge the status quo – especially when they see inequality and injustice.*

Trent's current Ashley Fellow, **Lucie Edwards '73** is another example of a Trent grad who continues to make a profound impact. Working on development issues, human rights, and environmental policy, Lucie shows how ideas spark action and action leads to change. The list goes on, and you will certainly enjoy reading about **Julie Tyne '06, Deborah Berrill '69, Farah Shroff '83, Andrew Ignatieff '69, Dakota Brant '06, Gerard Kennedy '77, Michael Levenston '73, Shantel Ivits '01, Spencer J. Harrison '96** and **Rann Sharma '97**.

You are likely reading this February issue of *Trent* magazine on a digital device—this issue is a consequence of Trent's environmental ideals in action. The online issue reduces the environmental impact associated with the printing and delivery of a

paper issue and is also an overall cost-saving to the university, an important consideration in these budget-conscious times. And the February online issue has created an engagement opportunity for alumni to connect with our Office of Alumni Affairs. Please use this online opportunity to connect and engage, to reaffirm your links to Trent's people and Trent's communities—now that you find yourself on the Alumni website, please share your contact information, send feedback about the articles you are reading today, and look for new ways to connect with Trent.

There are two special areas where I would like to encourage connection and feedback this winter—the 50th Anniversary Alumni Leadership Committee and the second draft of Trent's Academic Plan (which is now going through the appropriate discussions at Senate and the Board of Governors) [www.trentu.ca/vpacademic](http://www.trentu.ca/vpacademic). As alumni who reflect and connect, as engaged alumni, you provide valuable ideas, energy, and support that continue to propel this excellent institution to achieve its goals: to be true to the renewal of Vision, Mission, and Strategic Directions that were part of the integrated planning process that culminated this past year with *Toward a Sustainable Future: The First Integrated Plan for Trent University (2010-2015)*. That's a level of engagement that makes Trent unique among Canadian universities—and helps Trent to continue strong and lasting contributions to the world on so many levels. ❖

*Dr. Steven E. Franklin,*  
**President & Vice-Chancellor**  
[sfranklin@trentu.ca](mailto:sfranklin@trentu.ca)

# What's New at Trent

## New Canada Research Chair

Dr. Aaron Slepko was announced as Trent University's new Canada Research Chair in the Physics of Biomaterials in October 2011, bringing in a grant of \$500,000 for his groundbreaking research and to develop a state-of-the-art imaging facility. ❖



## Full-time BBA Now Offered in Oshawa

As of September 2011, the full Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.) degree will now be offered at Trent University Oshawa Thornton Road Campus, providing area students with the opportunity to complete their entire degree in Oshawa. ❖

## New Ph.D. in Materials Science

The School of Graduate Studies at Trent University officially announced the new Materials Science Ph.D. program in 2011. The program's focus on core science and the skills to communicate science aims to give graduates the tools required to stay at the forefront of research and development efforts while opening up career opportunities across a number of industries. ❖

30% off

Ontario Tuition grant

## Trent Joins Ontario Universities in Promoting New 30% Off Ontario Tuition Grant

The on-line application is now open for students to apply for the new 30% Off Ontario Tuition grant—a new program to help make education more accessible and affordable for Ontario's families.

Students can now apply for the new grant worth up to 30 per cent of average undergraduate university and college tuition. ❖

More information is available at [www.ontario.ca/30off](http://www.ontario.ca/30off)



Alumni, students and faculty gathered at Alumni House to welcome Lucie Edwards '73 and Tom Roach '71 back to campus. Left to right: Jessica Switzer '11, Tom Roach, Dr. Alena Heitlinger, Lucie Edwards, Dr. David Morrison, Adam Guzkowski '95 and Dr. Gary Boire.

## Trent a Top Performer in University Rankings

In the *Maclean's* rankings issue, Trent topped the ranks among primarily undergraduate universities in Ontario, taking seventh place overall in the category nationally. Trent ranked number one nationally for Awards Per Full-Time Faculty, Medical/ Science Grants, and Scholarships and Bursaries; the University leads in Ontario for Social Sciences and Humanities Grants.

The *Globe and Mail* University Report referred to Trent as one of the "401 Dream Team". An A grade was earned for Class Sizes and A- grades in Quality of Teaching, Student-Faculty Interaction, Recreation and Athletics, Campus Atmosphere, and Environmental Commitment.

In the 2011 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), Trent exceeded the North American average for "Level of Academic Challenge" and "Supportive Campus Environment." Trent surpassed provincial results in all five survey categories including Level of Academic Challenge, Active & Collaborative Learning, Student-Faculty Interaction, Enriching Educational Experiences, and Supportive Campus Environment.

Trent was also among the Top 10 Research Universities in Canada in the annual ranking by Research InfoSource. ❖





# INSPIRING the Next Generation

Trent's first Academic Plan (2012-2015) will be presented for approval by Senate and the Board of Governors by February, 2012. Trent's First Integrated Plan was approved by the Board of Governors in June, 2011. Both plans identify the student experience as a top priority, suggesting significant effort must continue to be made towards enhancing the "in-class" and "out-of-class" experience.

Indeed, it is the unique "Trent experience" that many alumni identify as providing inspiration. As you read through this issue, you'll learn about several featured alumni, including health humanitarian **James Orbinski '80**, anti-homophobia activist **Spencer J. Harrison '96**, and Free the Children's **Rann Sharma '97**. Each attribute their Trent experience as being instrumental in defining their path and the remarkable societal changes realized through their leadership.

If this next generation of Trent students is to follow in the footsteps of alumni such as Orbinski, Harrison, and Sharma, and make progress towards equality, peace, and environmental and economic sustainability, then Trent must strive to preserve and celebrate a culture that emphasizes social justice and responsibility.

Now, more than ever, alumni are encouraged to stay connected, take action, and be the leaders who inspire the next generation of alumni. What action will you take? I invite you to contact [alumni@trentu.ca](mailto:alumni@trentu.ca) to let us know. ❖

**Lee Hays '91**  
**Director Alumni Affairs**  
[leehays@trentu.ca](mailto:leehays@trentu.ca)  
705-748-1599

There are many ways in which alumni can play a major role in contributing to this special Trent experience:

- Become a mentor through the alumni online directory [www.trentu.ca/alumni/onlinedirectory.php](http://www.trentu.ca/alumni/onlinedirectory.php) or sit on a panel organized through the Career Centre [www.trentu.ca/careers](http://www.trentu.ca/careers)
- join the Trent University Alumni Association LinkedIn group [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com) and connect with a student or recent graduate
- be an ambassador of the Trent experience – perhaps there are high school students you know who would flourish here
- share your expertise by being a guest lecturer or a guest seminar participant
- make a donation to the areas of greatest need [www.trentu.ca/givingtotrent/donate.php](http://www.trentu.ca/givingtotrent/donate.php)
- organize or participate in an event or activity that brings alumni, students and faculty together
- get involved with Alumni Council or your local chapter
- volunteer to help with campus events such as new student orientation, Introductory Seminar Week, Convocation, Homecoming.

stay connected

**DR. JAMES ORBINSKI****Simple Beauty:  
Improving the Experience  
of Being Human**

Seeing beauty in the everyday might be one of Dr. James Orbinski's greatest gifts. As a foil to the pressing humanitarian issues he grapples with in his work, he delights in the fresh perspective of his three children, aged three, six, and eight. "Children don't have the same conception of time," says James. "You have to slow down. Every spider web, every rock is a discovery." James makes a point of keeping the simple treasures his children give him—perhaps talismans of what is truly important in this complex world.

In a conversation in his fourth-floor office in downtown Toronto, it is evident that **Dr. James Orbinski '80** takes a polymathic approach to life, blending the practical expertise of his training as a medical doctor with the philosophical perspective of a learned scholar. His facility with words sheds light on complex concepts, as he combines artistic references, history, politics, medical ethics, and geography with the ease of someone who has not just studied the world, but engaged fully with it. Tall and lean, he has the appearance of one who stays fit simply by using every minute of the day to the fullest. Oh yes, and for all his enthusiasm about the important work to be done in the world, he is most ebullient when he talks about his family.

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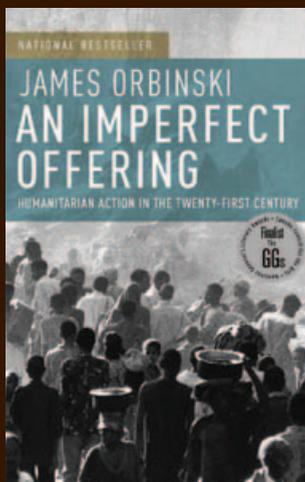
**MARILYN BURNS '00**



As one of Trent's most celebrated alumni, James has seen life's convolutions up close and personal—the great range of human possibility and weakness. His humanitarianism is renowned, and the list of his achievements lengthy: accepting the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) in 1999; receiving the Meritorious Service Cross, Canada's highest civilian award for his outstanding career with MSF; co-authoring papers on HIV/AIDS treatment adherence, one of which was recognized as among the 20 most significant medical research papers in the world for 2006; co-founding Dignitas International, a not-for-profit organization researching and conducting care, prevention, and treatment for people living with HIV in the developing world; being a founding board member of the Global Alliance for TB Drug Development, and the Stephen Lewis Foundation and Canadian Doctors for Medicare Non-Governmental Organization launched to research and conduct community-based care, prevention, and treatment for people living with HIV in the developing world; creating "Triage," the award-winning and internationally acclaimed documentary film on medical humanitarianism; and writing the best-selling book *An Imperfect Offering: Humanitarianism in the 21st Century*. Today he is chair of Global Health at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, and professor of Family and Community Medicine and of political science at the University of Toronto. Among many his honours and awards, James is also a member of the Order of Ontario, and an Officer of the Order of Canada.

When asked about the magnitude of accepting the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of MSF, James playfully recalls a surprising turn of events the night

before the award presentation. Although they had been working on the speech for weeks, James and a colleague were still putting the finishing touches on it the night before the ceremony, when his computer crashed at 3:30 a.m. and they lost the speech. Just six hours before the event was to begin, they tried to get experts in to help, but the speech was in English and the experts had nothing but Norwegian software. Time was ticking. They resorted to pulling the last printed draft out of a garbage can and rewriting the speech. "The last-minute essay never dies," the Trent alumnus concludes with a mischievous smile.



*"At a very basic level, it's about engaging your world from where you are: shaping who you are and shaping your community through your participation."*

Immediately James reflects more seriously on the significance of the honour of accepting the world's most prestigious award. "Still today I think about it as a great moment, but it's a moment, and MSF doesn't exist in order to win prizes. That you do [win prizes] is a great acknowledgment, not the reason you exist as an organization. Engagement of an organization like MSF with the living reality of our community—in all its successes and in all its possibilities—that's the purpose. To participate with a view to making the world more just."

With regard to his list of honours and achievements, James will be the first to say, "It's not about me." Humanitarianism is one of his core values—global citizenship and actively engaging and shaping the world in which we live through community.

"We live and thrive as individuals only because community is able to thrive," he says. "Citizenship is a core and primary responsibility—to be engaged and participate in the issues and shaping of your community. Humanity is about responding to the needs of others when there aren't other ways in which those needs can be met, about responding as a human being, not only in some professional role.

"The fact that there isn't a mechanism, or that an existing mechanism is failing, means that because we can respond, we should respond as human beings to that person's circumstance. The conception of goodness, fairness, and possibility really does determine the ethos of a society."

In his lifetime, James has encountered all kinds of reactions to change and adversity. And while he has seen disease and violence, he focuses on the long view of progress. "I have seen a great deal of engaged citizenship, where

# TRIAGE

DR. JAMES ORBINSKI'S  
HUMANITARIAN DILEMMA



*“Trent has given me skills and a joy in learning that allow me to continuously adapt and shape my participation in the world. Trent is number one in terms of teaching in Canada.”*

humanitarianism shapes the world in a positive way. Access to essential medicines through MSF has caused a veritable revolution in how the HIV/AIDS epidemic is being seen and how governments around the world are now responding. Because a campaign drove antiretroviral treatments from \$15,000 per year to less than \$64 for bio-equivalent versions of the same treatment, six million people are being treated for HIV in developing nations, resulting in a 25% reduction in the number of cases of HIV. This has led to different responses to shaping health-care systems in the developing world for anti-malarials and other treatments.”

When asked about his experiences of the genocide in Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia, James similarly chooses the big picture over the gruesome details of human conflict. “We’ve seen the creation of international criminal courts as a consequence of that experience,” he says. “This occurred

because of citizens and intellectuals engaged in open debate aimed at creating a viable response to the reality of genocide. Citizen groups, MSF, Oxfam, and thousands of others met on university campuses, in church basements, and civic halls around the world, in the messy and imperfect process we call politics, to create a viable alternative in the international criminal court. It is not perfect but, in the great sweep of human history, this is a seminal human achievement.”

James’s optimism is as contagious as his understanding of world events is all-embracing. He calls for “engaged citizenship and the engaged application of knowledge rooted in the ethos of basic human dignity.” He believes in the individual’s ability to shape the world through participation. It’s a message any of us could take away and apply in our own way.

“At a very basic level, it’s about engaging your world from where you are: shaping who you are and shaping your community through your participation. You can participate consciously or unconsciously, passively or actively, with overt or unconscious complicity. Or you can participate with a particular vision that seeks to shape our world in the best possible way. It’s not just about making a difference—it’s about making a positive difference. Improve the experience of being a human being.”

James’s foray into film through the critically acclaimed “Triage” was another form of engagement. “Film is the dominant art form of our age. If you want to try to participate in the process of shaping our story, one of the best ways of doing it today is through film.” Of *An Imperfect Offering: Humanitarianism in the 21st Century*, he says, “The book was more personal and difficult. My experiences have been dramatic in many ways, but the book needed to reflect on

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*“Trent was a great school and I would not be where I am today without it.”*

existential issues about who we are and who we can be as human beings. It put my experience in that context.”

But make no mistake—while at times life-altering and difficult, James’s experiences in the world and particularly in Africa will never be seen as traumas from which he needs to recover. Instead, they are seamlessly a part of his identity. He is also fiercely adoring and respectful of the continent of Africa and its people. “It is literally beautiful in all its complexity,” he shares. “Fifty-four countries, a billion people, 200 languages, and seven ecosystems. This is not a place of despair.”

In the vast world of Dr. James Orbinski, where does the Trent experience figure in relation to his ability to effect positive change in the world? Without a hint of irony or hyperbole, right at the centre: “Trent was a great school and I would not be where I am today without it,” James says. “I didn’t learn what to think, but how to think. Trent has given me skills and a joy in learning that allow me to continuously adapt and shape my participation in the world. Trent is number one in terms of teaching in Canada. There’s something about that process that is the great value of Trent.”

He didn’t set out with the intention to pursue a degree in psychology, but as many a Trent student discovers, it’s the journey of liberal arts and science education that opens up possibilities. James still comes to campus about once a year. “I like to walk across the bridge,” he says affectionately.

Clearly James holds dear the pivotal places and experiences that have contributed to the humanitarian role he plays in the world. Asked if Africa really has his heart, James is unequivocal in his response. “My wife and my children have my heart.” Therein lies the simple beauty of the life of Dr. James Orbinski. ❖



The Run to Live finish line at Port Renfrew, BC, January 16, 2012.



Scott Cannata receives an enthusiastic welcome to his Run to Live homecoming event from the Trent community.



Scott Cannata accepts a certificate from the Government of Canada from Peterborough MPP Jeff Leal '74 at the Run to Live homecoming event.

See page 21 for a photo from the the Victoria Chapter dinner in honour of Scott.

# 10 provinces

**T**rent student **Scott Cannata '05** started The Run to Live in St. John's, Newfoundland on May 1, 2011.

After completing over 200 marathons, over 8,500 km and across 10 provinces, Mr. Cannata finished his journey on January 16, 2012 in Port Renfrew, BC.

"Therefore be it resolved that I, Daryl Bennett, Mayor of the City of Peterborough, do hereby proclaim February 2, 2012 as Run to Live Day in the City of Peterborough and congratulate Scott Cannata and his team for their efforts to make cancer history," proclaimed His Worship, Mayor Daryl Bennett on Thursday, February 2, 2012 at the homecoming event held at the Trent Community Sport and Recreation Centre at Trent University.

Starting out in St. John's, Newfoundland on May 1, 2011, Trent University student Scott Cannata faced a daunting task – to run the equivalent of a marathon a day across Canada in support of cancer research. Mr. Cannata and his team have raised funds close to \$40,000 through the Run to Live which has been supported by the Canadian Cancer Society.

Members of the Trent University community are encouraged to leave messages of congratulations for Scott and the Run to Live team on their official Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/theruntolive](http://www.facebook.com/theruntolive). For more information regarding The Run to Live, visit [www.theruntolive.com](http://www.theruntolive.com). ❖

Photo: Goodrice Photography

Port Renfrew

January 16, 2012

May 1, 2011

Over 200 marathons

8 provinces

8,500 km

Newfoundland

[www.theruntolive.com](http://www.theruntolive.com)

# Social Justice:



An active member of the fencing team and the Trent Christian Fellowship, **JULIE TYNE '06** received her Honours degree in nursing from Trent in 2009. Born and raised in Peterborough, Julie entered the nursing program knowing that she wanted to work outside of Canada. When she was laid off from her nursing job in Barrie, Ontario, Julie seized the opportunity and applied to join Mercy Ships, a Christian humanitarian organization that operates the world's largest civilian hospital ship. Julie has been aboard the *Africa Mercy*, currently docked in Sierra Leone, since August 2011, where she assists mainly with facial surgeries. The ship is run by volunteers from over 30 countries, who each pay room and board and bring a diversity of experiences. Describing her experience as very rewarding, Julie has been most impressed by the sense of



Julie Tyne

community among her patients, who insist, contrary to the practice in most North American hospitals, that adults and children be together in the same ward. Though Julie will be returning to Canada in February 2012, she hopes to return to Africa again, this time as a community-based nurse.

**DR. DEBORAH BERRILL '69** was the founding director of Trent's School of Education and Professional Learning. Starting her undergraduate education at Northwestern University, Deborah completed her honours year at Trent, writing a thesis on J.R.R. Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*. A passionate educator, Deborah has won numerous national, provincial, and university awards, including the Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching, the 3M National Teaching Fellowship, and the Government of Ontario's Leadership in Faculty Teaching Award. Deborah strongly believes in social justice through teaching—and because of this, Trent's School of Education is one of the only programs in North America to mandate that all of its teacher candidates tutor students who are at risk while also taking a course on supporting literacy and learners with special needs. Through this initiative, teacher candidates' negative constructions of at-risk adolescents are transformed, and in turn their performance increases substantially. Another cause Deborah has shepherded during her time at Trent is the well-known Pen Pal Program, a student-led organization that matches primary students in high-needs Peterborough-area schools with Trent students of all disciplines, supporting literacy development through the writing relationship and introducing the idea of university education as a goal in their own lives.



Deborah Berrill



CHRISTINA VASILEVSKI '03, CARLY SNIDER '03 & JONATHAN PINTO '06

# making the world a better place



**DR. FARAH SHROFF '83** is an adjunct professor in the University of British Columbia's Faculty of Medicine, cross-appointed to Family Practice and the School of Population and Public Health. She is also the sole proprietor

of Shroff Consulting, where she engages in research, writing, facilitation, and more. Dr. Shroff edited and contributed to *The New Midwifery: Reflections on Renaissance and Regulation* (Women's Press, 1997), and is also a teacher of yoga, dance, and martial arts. Intensely committed to making the world a healthier place through social justice and research into the connection between the mind, body and spirit, Dr. Shroff has worked around the world in various areas, including health policy, women's health, holistic health, indigenous knowledge, and international health. She belongs to various organizations, such as the People's Health Movement, which is devoted to addressing and taking action upon structural and systemic inequities. Born in Kenya and growing up in Vancouver as the child of Indian parents, Farah had a strong desire to "be with people of the whole world" and was thus drawn to Trent's International Program. Meeting people whom she describes as "real radicals," Farah credits the faculty and fellow students she encountered at Trent as being a critical influence on her own personal activism, which continues to this day.

Shortly after graduating from Trent with an Honours degree in anthropology, **ANDREW IGNATIEFF '69** started work at a number of archaeological sites in Latin America. Living in Mexico and especially Peru, however, exposed him to situations of injustice, and Andrew became involved in local community development to improve living conditions and ensure equitable development. Over the last thirty years, Andrew has worked for a number of high-profile non-governmental organizations, including UNICEF, Save the Children, the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund of the Anglican Church of Canada, the Canadian Council for International Cooperation, and KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives, dedicating himself to a variety of global issues such as maternal child health, access to primary health care, income generation, adult literacy, and children in exceptionally difficult circumstances. Currently, Andrew is working on improving the dialogue around both local and international development in Canada itself. One of the reasons Andrew chose Trent was the unique relation—both social and intellectual—between faculty and students. Fondly recalling his involvement with projects such as the Mackenzie Art Gallery and interactions with some of the University's most beloved faculty and figures such as Kenneth Kidd, Gilbert and Stewart Bagnani, and William Morton, Andrew credits Trent with giving him a valuable liberal arts education that showed him a multitude of approaches.



**DAKOTA BRANT '06** is currently participating in the one-year Aboriginal Youth Internship Program with the Government of British Columbia's Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation. The program offers Aboriginal people under 30 the opportunity to gain experience working for government. She is also a firefighter with the Six Nations fire department. At 24 years old, Dakota has already achieved so much. She served as Miss Six Nations in 2005 and was one of the winners of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce World Markets Miracle Makers for excellence in volunteerism and contribution to community life. In 2010, Dakota was awarded the title of Miss Indian World, which she says was the best year of her life: "I travelled North America several times over and shared in the different Indigenous cultures across Turtle Island," she said. "I learned a lot about myself, my capabilities, my talents, honed my leadership skills and most of all learned to appreciate all the more my Mohawk nation and the family I come from." The thing she is most proud of, however, is learning and speaking her native Mohawk language. Dakota says that her time at Trent gave her education and perception. "The quality they value most in their students is curiosity," she says. "My appreciation for questioning and understanding things as they come to me was developed within the classrooms of Trent University." *Continued on page 14.*





### LUCIE EDWARDS '73

is a doctoral candidate in global governance in the Environment Faculty of the University of Waterloo, as well as this year's Ashley Fellow at Trent, working with the Departments of International Development and Environmental Resource Studies. For 34 years, she has maintained a successful career in the Canadian Foreign Service. She recently returned from a trip to Africa, where she has spent a total of 11 years, representing Canada while working on development issues, human rights, and environmental policy. During her last visit, she attended a series of conferences on climate change and biodiversity and participated in the fortieth-anniversary celebrations of the African Centre for Research in Insect Ecology and Technology, where she delivered the keynote address at the board meeting

Lucie Edwards



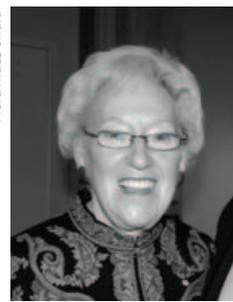
on Science for Development. At Trent, Lucie believes she learned the essential skills for anyone working as a public servant and policy advocate: "how to research, how to write, how to listen, and how to argue persuasively for something I believed in." Lucie is proudest of her current work in science,

public policy, and international development. "The British development economist Paul Collier got it right when he said, 'Restoring environmental order and eradicating global poverty have become the two defining challenges of our era...if we fail in either, we fail in both,'" she says.

**FLORA MACDONALD (Hon. 2008)** is a noted humanitarian and was a Member of Parliament from 1972 to 1988. During her time in Parliament, she held several important Cabinet positions, including Secretary of State for External Affairs and Minister of Employment and

Immigration. She was also one of the first women in Canada to run for leadership of a political party. Her involvement in foreign affairs policy, however, points to a deeper and more abiding focus in her life: the love of travel and of learning about how other people across the world live, work, and eat. Now she is the founder of Future Generations Canada, a non-profit organization supporting community development, education, and health in Afghanistan. She holds a great respect for the people she has met in Afghanistan, and places immense value on their knowledge of, and respect for, the country's history over the past 2,500 years. She has been to Afghanistan 11 times, but that's only a fraction of her travels—she's visited 104 different countries! She attributes her interest in the wider world to hearing about the exploits of her grandfather, a sailor, and

Flora MacDonald



*Be the change  
you wish to see  
in the world*



Rann Sharma and Lee Hays,  
Director of Alumni Affairs

### RANN SHARMA '97

I left my interview with alumna **Rann Sharma '97**, Free the Children's Director of Human Resources, feeling both inspired and energized. Rann contributes to Free the Children's mission through hiring, development, and leadership of employees who will educate, engage, and empower youth in a global movement for change. No small task!

A very proud Trent alumna, Rann was eager to share how her time at Trent has made a significant impact on her life. Rann credits her Trent experience with leading her to the fulfilling work she is doing with Free the Children. She met alumna **Dalal Al-Waheidi '98**, former Free the Children CEO, when they were student co-coordinators of the Trent University Women's Centre. Years later Dalal was instrumental in recruiting Rann to the organization. (Dalal is currently the managing director of the Middle East and North Africa Region.) "You can make amazing contacts when you work alongside other students, and when it comes time for career opportunities those people will be able to speak to your skill sets. It was an important experience for me."

Rann explained how the social justice component on the Trent campus helped to shape her way of thinking, taught her to be aware of the wider global world, and eventually propelled her to choose a career in a social field. "I loved that at Trent

be the change



her uncle, a veteran of the Boer War who died in World War I. Now, she considers her travels and humanitarian efforts to be more enriching—and harder work—than anything she ever undertook in Parliament. Her advice to students of all ages is that “there’s no education like travel.”

Gerard Kennedy



**GERARD KENNEDY '77** completed a year at Trent before transferring to the University of Alberta, and it is there that he became involved with the Daily Bread Food Bank. However, despite his transfer, he feels that Trent did contribute to his future career in social activism and politics, as his first year of study was generalized enough to give him the ability to understand a wide variety of social causes in context. He did not start the Daily Bread Food Bank himself, but he did become one of its first coordinators and was there when demand for the food bank’s services quadrupled in 1986. He was involved

in an initiative to review social-service records in Edmonton, ultimately helping to reveal the link between welfare cutbacks and increased food-bank usage, resulting in the cutbacks being reversed. After his successful

involvement in food-bank initiatives in both Edmonton and Toronto, he moved into provincial politics in 1996. During his political career, he was the province’s critic for health care, critic for education, and eventually the Minister of Education. He left provincial politics in 2006 and ran for leadership of the federal Liberal Party, a position eventually won by Stéphane Dion. Although he is no longer in politics, he is putting his past experiences to good use by founding Enterprising for the Public Good, a social-justice-oriented non-profit organization. He credits Trent for helping him learn to think critically and for exposing him to a wide variety of social causes.

**MICHAEL LEVENSTON '70**

is one of the pioneers of the urban agriculture world. As a Trent student during the 70s, he applied Trent’s values of civic contribution, research, honesty, and community development to the development of



Michael Levenston

the non-profit association now known as City Farmer. Based in Vancouver, City Farmer was originally an offshoot of the Vancouver Energy Conservation Centre and included a publication whose layout and format were modeled on those of the *Arthur*, Trent’s first student newspaper. Founded with other Trent alumni such as **Kerry Banks '72** and **Robin June Hood '71**, City Farmer is now an internationally respected resource for people wanting to learn more about rooftop gardens, community gardens, and composting in urban environments. Urban agriculture is now becoming more mainstream

*Continued on page 16.*

students were very engaged with social justice and activism and could pursue whatever their passions were. There was a group for everything.” At Trent Rann was actively engaged with Trent Radio, the Women’s Centre, and the *Arthur*.

Reflecting on professors who were instrumental in her development, Rann quickly rhymed off a list of names, Maeve Quaid, Bruce Ahlstrand, and Eric Helleiner, to name a few. “I’ve stayed in touch with Maeve and when I told her I was interviewing for Free the Children she said, ‘this is one of the best jobs in the country—take it! So I did.’”

While I was in Rann’s office, two of her colleagues dropped by to say hello, briefly accepting some recognition from me for their recent “Top 100 Employers for Young People” award. They acknowledged that the days are long but incredibly rewarding: “Being able to inspire and empower young people in North America by educating them on world issues is tremendously gratifying.”

When asked about Free the Children co-founder **Craig Kielburger (Hon. 2011)**, who received an honorary degree

from Trent earlier this year, Rann says “he is spokesperson extraordinaire. Both he and his brother Mark are remarkable guys who continue to push ahead on what is possible.”

Days later Rann would be helping with last-minute details for the Waterloo Region We Day event. In its fifth year, We Day’s audience has grown to as many as 18,000 in a single venue. “It is a surreal experience to be a part of,” says Rann. “That so many young people are becoming interested and involved in this cause, because of Free the Children, is really crazy.” With a cross-country line up of speakers including Mikhail Gorbachev, Al Gore, Mia Farrow, Naomi Tutu, Rick Hansen, Roméo Dallaire, Trent alumnus **James Orbinski '80**, and the stars of *Degrassi* (of which alumnus **Stephen Stohn '66** is executive producer), We Day has become a powerful venue to inspire and celebrate the youth movement for global change. “Our philosophy is anything is possible!” beams Rann.

Rann received her Bachelor of Arts Honours degree in anthropology, with a minor in administrative studies and political studies. ❖ Lee Hays '91



Shantel Ivits

as concepts such as food security and sustainability become widely accepted.

However, when City Farmer first started in 1978, growing food was seen as something with much personal, but little civic, value. In the years since City Farmer started, in 1994, Michael has provided people with resources and workshops on growing food within city environments. City Farmer now regularly hosts tours for people who wish to learn about urban agriculture, and also runs a compost demonstration garden on city land in Vancouver. Throughout City Farmer's life, Michael has focused on outreach, education, and proving that anyone can grow food given the right tools and knowledge.

**SHANTEL IVITS '01** acknowledges Trent for helping her understand who she was as a person. Before attending Trent, she grew up in a community that she felt kept her closeted. However, her classes gave her the opportunity to think critically about the norms she grew up with, and this gave her the support she needed to come out as queer and transgendered. Her career in social activism began in high school when she worked with Free the Children. When she arrived at Trent, her focus shifted from

global issues to local ones, taking part in the student efforts to keep Traill College open. This led to her involvement in Trent's student union, which she credits with helping her come to terms with her identity. After she finished her degree in English Literature in 2005, she completed an M.A. at UBC in Society, Culture, and Politics in Education. She is now involved in the Pride Education Network and the All Genders Wellness Centre. She is also one of the instructors in Simon Fraser University's certificate in community capacity building. Now she lives in B.C., works to provide low-barrier health services to transgendered and gender-diverse people, and is also working toward creating safe school environments for LGBT youth. Although she completed her degree in English, she thanks the Women's Studies program and professors such as John Wadland, Orm Mitchell, and Jim Struthers (among others), for nurturing her creativity and critical-thinking skills.

For **SPENCER J. HARRISON '96**, art, activism, and academics are all intrinsically linked. As one of the first Canadians to paint his Ph.D. dissertation—both an Ontario queer history and a personal reflection—Harrison recognizes that his message, his medium, and his passion are one and the same. They all come together

in a simple message of hope: "Art can change the world."  
His time at Trent helped foster this unique approach.

"My M.A. advisor, Charmaine Eddy, was most supportive," explains Spencer. "Although that thesis was much more traditional than my dissertation, it did stretch boundaries. I was able to bring in a very untraditional method by including personal narrative."

The embracing of the untraditional is something that sets Trent apart. "It is a place where new ideas are accepted, challenged, reinforced," he says.



Spencer J. Harrison

Spencer is currently the artist in residence at Georges Vanier Secondary School—part of a pilot project for the Toronto District School Board, and part of their push to make schools safer for gay youth. His main project is a 6-by-5-metre canvas tent onto which he is painting circus freak show posters. The portraits represent misconceptions of what it is to be gay— what it is to be Spencer Harrison. ♦

**Dream catcher**  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

CHANCELLOR TOM JACKSON AND PRESIDENT STEVEN E. FRANKLIN INVITE YOU TO

**A PANEL DISCUSSION ABOUT SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND AN EVENING OF NETWORKING**

A TRENT UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CHAPTER EVENT

**FEATURED PANELISTS:**

- Dr. Tom Jackson '85**, Chancellor of Trent University, will discuss his role as Chancellor and his vision for the future of Trent University.
- Dr. Steven E. Franklin '80**, President and Vice-Chancellor of Trent University, will discuss his role as President and Vice-Chancellor and his vision for the future of Trent University.
- Dr. Harvey McCue '66**, a professor at the University of Ottawa, will discuss his role as a professor and his vision for the future of the University of Ottawa.
- Dr. Karim Galadin '96**, a professor at the University of Ottawa, will discuss his role as a professor and his vision for the future of the University of Ottawa.
- Dr. Jamie Benidickson '67**, a professor at the University of Ottawa, will discuss his role as a professor and his vision for the future of the University of Ottawa.

**FEATURING A SPECIAL MUSICAL PERFORMANCE BY CHANCELLOR TOM JACKSON**

**OCTOBER 24, 2011**  
6:00 - 9:00 P.M.

Log In: 100 (Queer Equality Day, 2011)

50th Anniversary of Trent University

## Tom Jackson chairs panel discussion on social responsibility

Trent Chancellor Dr. Tom Jackson, accompanied by Dr. Steven E. Franklin, president and vice-chancellor, hosted a National Capital chapter event, "Conversations on Social Responsibility: a panel discussion and evening of networking," at Lago Restaurant in Ottawa on October 24. The event, attended by 70 alumni and friends, featured a panel discussion, a special musical performance by Dr. Jackson, and refreshments and hors d'œuvres. The panel discussion also featured Trent alumni **Harvey McCue '66**, **Karin Galadin '96**, and **Jamie Benidickson '67**. The event was moderated by Trent's Indigenous Alumni Chapter co-president **Louise Garrow '80**. ♦

# SOCIAL

# JUSTICE AT TRENT



I've never known a time when Trent hasn't promoted a socially activist vision in education, but in the year of the Arab Spring, the Wall Street Occupation, the Jack Layton surge, and the pro-democracy demonstrations in Red Square, Trent's sense of its mission is especially pertinent. Of course, *Arthur* is...*Arthur*, but would you expect the glossy graduate studies brochure to splash the word Progressive! in big letters? Or see in Vice-President Gary Boire's draft Academic Plan the marketing statement: "we offer critical studies in the liberal arts and sciences with an emphasis on social justice"? The document was barely public before CUPE responded: "Trent should be a university that has its foundations explicitly in social, gender, racial, and ecological justice... we propose that it become much more explicit and serve as a unifying identifier across all programs and departments at Trent ... modeling a university on a vision of lived justice is simply a good and worthwhile thing."

I suppose we need to distinguish what we believe from what we think we believe if we are to be immersed in the Trent quixotic—and this is the work of education (I write as a cultural studies/philosophy major). My first vision of social justice at Trent was gained from a stroller in which I was wheeled to a picket line at the main gate of the University to help deliver cookies and hot chocolate (laced with Grand Marnier) to striking professors. Memory slips to another place—the Bata podium, and what a nine-year-old recognizes as a spectacular carnival. Students everywhere, putting up banners, chalking messages on cement, dancing, singing, chanting. This looks like remarkable fun, especially with the large cement air intake to climb and look down on the scene and

realize there is a troubling reason that brings all these students and teachers together. The reason was the motion before the Board of Governors to close the downtown colleges. But the feeling of social energy was what remained with me.

Today, that feeling reminds me of a warning by Slavoj Žižek at the Wall Street Occupation. Žižek, who is a psychoanalytic philosopher and cultural theorist at two universities on either side of the Atlantic, uses no electronic amplification. He announces a phrase, and then that phrase is immediately repeated by the listeners standing closest to him, then repeated by listeners close to them, and so on outwards until the whole crowd is resonant with social change. His fear is that this event will remain just that—an isolated one, a temporary satisfaction in being socially active. His hope is that the occupation will be the beginning of a social movement.

Is this what it means to pursue social justice in my generation? To physically occupy the public sphere? Those early memories of Trent come back to me. The Bata podium and the community surrounding it is a political space. As one of my professors, Mark Neufeld, teaches, the polis was originally a public place for debate and decision-making in Athens—evidently, polis was actually the name of a stone wall separating the place of decision-making from the residential district. So one had to literally step into the public space. And so by extension is

St. James Park in Toronto, with its yurts and library and blankets for the homeless. What I saw here, because I recognized it first in front of the Bata Library, is not just a vibrant communal public space, but also compassion. And it is this compassion that characterizes my vision of Trent University.

A vision of compassion and of community—it is unrealized without the sound of multiple voices, many separate voices that speak together, while allowing all voices to be heard. Through the conversational harmony that constitutes Trent, a vision appears. This unwritten manifesto can be heard everywhere at Trent, not just on the Bata podium. Walking into classes with Dr. Emilia Angelova and Dr. Zsuzsa Baross, I have my attention called to local Board of Education policy announcements written on the blackboard, with the wish that I write to Queen's Park to stop the closing of PCVS, Peterborough's downtown high school whose students have been demonstrating almost daily for the last two months. Even though I am a PCVS graduate myself, I am touched by the fact that I can enter a class devoted to existential phenomenology or critical theory and participate in a conversation given to social justice. This is the Trent vision, and I don't think I'll ever walk outside of it, but I'll carry it inside, as so many alumni have done before me. ❖

**OWEN KANE '08**

# Alumni Accomplishments



**ALLAN O'DETTE '86** took on the responsibility of President & CEO of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce on February 1, 2012.

Prior to joining the OCC Allan served as the Director of External Relations (Ontario), and National Private Markets for GlaxoSmithKline Canada Inc.

He is a past President and Chair of the Board of the Canadian Club of Toronto. Allan was an Executive and Board Member with the Ontario Chamber of Commerce. He is active on the boards of Life Sciences Ontario (LSO), the Ontario Medical Association Student Bursary Foundation Fundraising Committee, Theatre 20, and the Civic Action Steering Committee. He is also a member of the advisory board for the Master of Biotechnology Program at the University of Toronto and is a member of the Mount Sinai Hospital Board of Governors. Allan is passionate about contributing in the community and assists in many other charity and volunteer activities.

With over 25 years experience in the pharmaceutical industry. He has served the industry association as a regional Vice-Chair and is currently the Chair of the National Private Payer Committee for Canada's Researched Based Pharmaceutical Companies.

**ADAM HYDE '00** ran for the Ontario Libertarian Party in the past provincial election.

Hyde, who has a degree in history and works at his family's travel business, Niagara Falls Tours, is a 30-year-old Niagara Falls resident.

Hyde said that reducing government, improving Ontario's economic situation, and allowing private health-care services are his most important issues.

"I'll be honest with you. The Libertarian Party, we advocate for private health care," Hyde said. "I'm not against universal health care. I'm not, but it's not working anymore."

Hyde said that his business experience and his four years spent in Japan opened his eyes to different ways

of governance that could work here in Canada. He cites Japan's mixture of public and private health-care services.

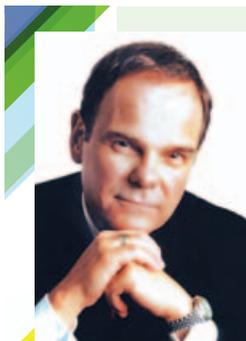
"I don't think people know what it's like to live under a different kind of government that has different ideologies," Hyde said.

**ALLAN SEABROOKE '70** who has 25 years' experience in the private sector and with provincial ministries and agencies, was named Chief Administrative Officer of the Otonabee Conservation Authority.

The conservation authority's watershed region encompasses 1,951 square kms across eight municipalities and three major river basins: the Otonabee, Indian, and Ouse Rivers.

"I will enjoy working with the staff and the board of Otonabee Conservation to advance conservation in the watershed community," Seabrooke said.

The hiring was part of the authority's comprehensive governance and operational review.



Trent University alumnus **DON TAPSCOTT '66** hosted the new CBC Radio series titled *ReCivilization*, which aired on Sundays at 11 a.m. The 5-part series ran earlier this year and ended February 19, 2012. Podcasts are available at [www.cbc.ca/recivilization](http://www.cbc.ca/recivilization)

On *ReCivilization*, Don leads discussions with experts in media, education, government and industry to address the top issues facing the world and the future of innovation in the digital realm. The first episode, "Turning the Media Inside Out" looked at how the media is faced with change.

Don has authored or co-authored 14 widely read books, including the 1992 best seller *Paradigm Shift*. His 1995 hit, *The Digital Economy*, changed thinking around the world about the transformational nature of the Internet while his follow up, *Growing Up Digital*, defined the "net generation."

Ranked ninth on the elite Thinkers50 list of the top 50 business thinkers in the world, he is one of the world's leading authorities on innovation, media, and the economic and social impact of technology.



“The new CAO has an extensive experience in strategic leadership, excellence and innovation in project management and relationship building, having worked directly with municipalities, the private sector, provincial ministries and agencies for over 25 years,” says ORCA communications manager Kathy Reid.

Seabrooke has a Master of Science degree in environmental studies from Trent and an executive management certificate from Queen’s University; he also has an Accredited Municipal Clerk Treasurer (A.M.C.T.) designation from the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario.

Trent alumna **DIANNE LISTER ’71**, president and executive director of the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) Governors Foundation has been named one of Canada’s Top 25 by *Women of Influence Magazine*.

Having first attended Trent as an undergraduate student in 1971, Ms. Lister returned to the University in 2006 as the vice-president of External Relations & Advancement (ER&A), to help establish a refreshed philanthropic vision for the institution. (During that time, Ms. Lister was thrilled to see her daughter, **Sarah Weinberger ’08**, also graduated from Trent with top marks in June 2010.) Prior to her leadership role at Trent, Ms. Lister was president and CEO of the largest hospital foundation in North America, SickKids Foundation, which raises funds for the Hospital for Sick Children. She is the first Canadian ever to hold a position on the International Ethics Committee of the international Association of Fundraisers (AFP), where she served as the inaugural chair of the Board, Canadian Council.

Ms. Lister is among several well-known and respected senior-level fundraising professionals and academic



leaders featured as chapter writers in the book *Ethical Fundraising: A Guide for Nonprofit Boards and Fundraisers* (Wiley, 2008).

Ms. Lister holds an Honours B.A. in English Literature from Trent (1976) and an LL.B. from Osgoode Hall Law School (1980) in Toronto. She has been a leader in the charitable and Canadian not-for-profit sector since 1986 and received the international Certified Fundraising Executive designation (CFRE) in 1995. The Top 25 Women of Influence is an annual ranking that provides national recognition to Canada’s top female influencers of the year, whose successful achievements contribute to the Canadian and global economies as well as to their communities.

The official ranking of the Top 25 was released in the January 2012 issue of the *Women of Influence* magazine.

**IAN AFFLECK ’71** is the 2012 Lars Onsager Prize recipient. He was awarded “For his pioneering role in developing and applying the ideas and methods of conformal field theory to important problems in statistical and condensed matter physics, including the quantum critical behavior of spin chains and...the universal behavior of quantum impurity systems.”

Affleck received his B.Sc. in physics and mathematics from Trent in 1975 and his PhD from Harvard in 1979, with Sidney Coleman. After a post-doc in the Harvard Society of Fellows, Affleck held faculty positions at Princeton University, Boston University, and the University of British Columbia, where he has spent most of the last 24 years. He began his research career in high energy theory, working mainly on instantons and supersymmetry, before switching into condensed matter theory in 1984. He delights in finding mathematically elegant solutions to experimentally relevant problems. He is a fellow of the APS, the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, the Royal Society of Canada, and the Royal Society (London) and has received numerous Canadian awards and honours, including the Stacey Prize, the Herzberg Medal, and the Rutherford Prize.

**DEANNE CROTHERS ’93**, has been elected as the new NDP MLA for St. James, Manitoba.

“I think it’s still hitting me. I’m just catching my breath, really, and spending some time with my family,” said Crothers. “I’m really excited about getting in there. Some of the ideas I heard at the doorstep during the campaign I’d really like to pursue.”



Crothers, an Ontario native whose career background is in adult literacy, ran unsuccessfully for city council last year, but this time she came

out on top. “I didn’t know if it was going our way or not. You put all your faith into the people volunteering for you,” she said.

*Continued on page 20.*



“Crazy” **LEONID URLICHICH '02** has won the Tall Pines Rally in Bancroft, the final event of the Canadian Rally Car Championship. He competed with co-driver Martin Brady.

The 200 km Tall Pines event comprises different stages that include transport sections where competitors respect the traffic laws, control points where time counts, service areas for repairs and refuelling, and special stages where the real competition takes place. Anything can happen in the stages. Of the 62 cars that started the rally, only 19 finished the final stage.

“This victory is a testament to the amazing effort of our entire team,” says Urlichich. “Tall Pines is a very challenging event and luck was on our side...but luck only comes to those who work hard! To have my first win just 100 kilometres away from the university I graduated from feels truly special. I am also very happy that we managed to keep the Rally of the Tall Pines crown in Canada. Besides, this win puts us into a solid second place in the 2011 Canadian national championship!”  
Visit us at: <http://crazyleo.net>

**ROBERT KILEY '70** ran for the Kingston Green Party in the last provincial election.

“The Green vision makes sense to me,” said Kiley, who recently earned his honours degree in history from Trent and will start at Queen’s this fall.

Kiley has been a Green Party member for two years.

“All the other parties seem to compartmentalize issues,” he says. “That doesn’t allow for the natural overlap of policies.”

**MARY ELIZABETH LUKA '80** has been named Vanier Canada Graduate Scholar at Concordia University for her Ph.D. research project, “Broadcasting, art and digital media: Inspiring citizenship through cultural expression.”

## Excellence in Education

For outstanding educational contributions to sustainable practices, Trent University’s Dr. Stephen Hill, from the Department of Environmental and Resource Science/Studies, and **Dr. Raymond Dart '82**, from the Department of Business Administration, are recipients of Excellence in Education Awards from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).



As one of the founders of Sustainable Peterborough, a grassroots organization dedicated to promoting and developing sensible long-term planning for the community, Dr. Hill has incorporated ideas of sustainability into his classroom since 2003, his first year as a professor at Trent. The Excellence in Education Award

was presented to Prof. Hill in 2011 for his efforts to engage students in sustainable practices and the innovative course projects he develops and supervises.



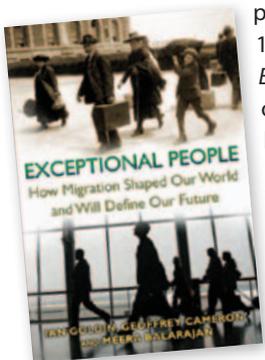
A leader in the development of a number of Peterborough’s best-known sustainability initiatives such as Peterborough Green-Up, Dr. Dart was awarded for integrating sustainability and social enterprise into the design of the introductory business management course at Trent, which began over 20 years ago. Professor Dart works to stay

on top of this exciting and dynamic field and to better integrate the Trent business program with the many leading and innovative organizations of the Peterborough region and community.

The CMHC Excellence in Education Award was created to recognize educators who have integrated sustainable concepts in housing and community development into the academic curriculum. ❖



**GEOFFREY CAMERON'S '02** book *Exceptional People: How Migration Shaped Our World and Will Define Our Future* has been voted one of the best books of 2011 by *The Economist*. In their annual listing of "Page-Turners" for 2011, published on December 10, *The Economist* voted *Exceptional People* one of the top seven books in their politics and current affairs category. The book was co-authored by Cameron, Ian Goldin, and Meera Balarajan.



**ALICIA BERTRAND '08** is currently lead Mixed Martial Arts writer for [www.n3rdgizm.com](http://www.n3rdgizm.com). The website features current events in UFC/MMA, video games, and technology. She most recently interviewed wives of MMA fighters and wrote "Strength Behind The Strong—MMA Wives," about the misconceptions of sports wives. She also co-hosts a weekly internet radio show, "n3rds on MMA," every Tuesday at 9 pm EST, and has interviewed UFC fighters Jake and Joe Ellenberger, Danny Castillo,

John Cholish, and Rich Attonito, to name a few. You can listen to "n3rds on MMA" at [www.blogtalkradio.com/search/n3rdgizm](http://www.blogtalkradio.com/search/n3rdgizm).



**DR. DAVID TARASICK '72**, a senior research scientist with Environment Canada, delivered a public lecture sponsored by the Department of Physics and

Astronomy on the recent discovery of a record-sized hole in the ozone layer over the Canadian Arctic. Dr. Tarasick was one of four Canadian authors of an international study published on October 2, 2011, in the British scientific journal *Nature*, which revealed that chemical ozone destruction over the Arctic in early 2011 was—for the first time in the observational record—comparable to that in the Antarctic ozone hole. [www.trentu.ca/physics](http://www.trentu.ca/physics) ❖

### We'd love to hear from you

Drop us a line today at [trentmagazine@trentu.ca](mailto:trentmagazine@trentu.ca) today!

## Student Co-operative seeks to establish housing in downtown Peterborough

**MATTHEW RAPPOLT '10**

Imagine a residence community at Trent that is run for students, by students. A place that merges Trent's collegiate values with co-operative principles. A student community that could re-ignite the university's academic presence in the downtown and could do so while offering students affordability and safety. These exciting goals are what we are working toward at the Peterborough Student Co-operative.

A co-operative residence would be able to provide an affordable and safe housing community to students, right in the downtown. As a student and community residence, it would be built on the collegiate idea of diverse and academic communities that inspired the founding of Trent's own college system back in the 1960s.

Recently, the Co-operative held its Annual General Meeting, and we are pleased to welcome several new directors to our board, all of whom share a passion and commitment to seeing this project succeed. Moving forward, we will be entering a crucial phase of planning with our eyes set on the ambitious target of opening our doors for the beginning of the next academic year, in September 2012.

If you are interested in getting involved in the Co-operative or if you want more information, please visit our website at [www.trentcoop.ca](http://www.trentcoop.ca) or drop by our office located on the main floor of Sadleir House. Help us bring an affordable, safe, student residence community to downtown Peterborough. ❖



Victoria Chapter hosts dinner for *The Run to Live*, January 15, 2012. Left to right, back row: Rosanne Meadows, Sabrina Benzinger '07, Blake Meadows, Sheila Cannata, Megan Cannata, Brent Meadows, Meghan Baird '07, Scott Cannata '05, Rosemary Tarnowski (Roberts) '66, Deborah Cannata, Tammy Pattison '97, Danielle Cannata, Sam Dickie '98. Seated: Marijke Edmondson '93, Linda Young '69, Roger Young '69, Lee Hays '91, Sally Crowder.

# sunshine sketches



1968

**Barbara Michael Drew '68**

retired from the Canadian Medical Association, where she was acting Secretary General and CEO. She was named one of Canada's Top 100 Powerful Women by the Women's Executive Network in 2009. She married Terry Kirby in 2006 and they are happily spending retirement at their condo in Ottawa and at their cottage at Golden Lake, as well as travelling.



and has now returned to work as Admissions Officer at Trent.

2004

**Amy Ireland Bahorichson '04** is now the proud mother of Alexander Michael Bahorich, born February 17, 2011.

2005

Proud parents **Ian Caldwell '05** and **Heather Caldwell (née Scobie) '06** welcomed Harrison Thomas Caldwell, born on August 23, 2011.



Montreal Chapter illustrates Trent graduates are lifelong learners. Alumni **Nigel Roulet '75** and **Kathy Outerbridge '77**, along with Chapter president **Derrick Farnham '83**, hosted a Montreal chapter whisky-tasting gathering at Nigel & Kathy's home. Following Nigel's presentation of his Nature (2006) paper on the role of dissolved organic carbon (DOC) in a good single malt, the chapter engaged in advanced DOC studies. ❖

**Sunshine Sketches** are written by alumni for alumni. We'd love to hear your story or the story of an alumnus close to you. Email submissions to [trentmagazine@trentu.ca](mailto:trentmagazine@trentu.ca).

2003

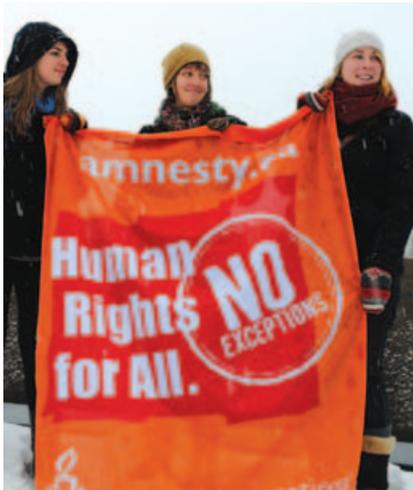
**Eliza (née Belfry) '03** and Kirk

Nicholson share the news of the birth of their daughter Brooklyn. She was a "Canada Day baby," born July 1, 2010 in Peterborough. Eliza enjoyed her busy year off with Brooklyn



2007

Trent alumna **Sarah Nisbet '10** and Andrew Marshall announce the birth of their boy in August of this last year. Elijah David is named after his grandfather, Trent Physics Demonstrator David Marshall.



Students gain their activist voice in organizations such as Trent Amnesty International, an Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG) working group. Photo: Yolanda Jones.

## Thank you for your support!

Your donations help Trent provide critical resources that students like Kayla depend on.

With the heavy workload and her commitment to the varsity soccer team, there was little time left for a part-time job. Thanks to a donor funded bursary, she was able to off-set some of her expenses until the soccer season ended and she found a part-time job.

Donations to the Annual Fund help meet the greatest needs of Trent students. Your gift supports student financial needs, services and programs.

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**Kayla DiNardo**  
Concurrent Education



# IN MEMORIAM

*"There are more things in heaven  
and earth, Horatio."*

Shakespeare



Photo: Michael Cullen

## Ian James Henry MacLaren '83

died on May 9, 2011, after a gallant fight with cancer.

A graduate of both Trent and Carleton, Ian worked in computer technology in Ottawa, London (England), and Toronto.

• • •

## Kelly Jean Fitzpatrick '94

died on July 29, 2011 after a courageous five-year battle with cancer. After graduating from Trent, Kelly furthered her education at Mohawk College in Brantford in the Orientation and Mobility Instructor Course and was employed at the Olmstead Center for the visually impaired in Buffalo. She returned to school, attending Medaille College in Buffalo, graduated with her teaching certificate, and was then employed at the Chris Hadfield School in Milton, teaching grade 2, until ill health forced her into long-term disability.

• • •

## Frank James Poley '96

died unexpectedly in South Korea on August 13, 2011.

• • •

## Eva Dorothy Sanders

(housekeeper between 1973 and 1992) died on December 11, 2011.

• • •

## Reginald Mustill '05

died on September 23, 2011.

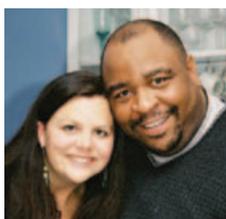
Reg passed away peacefully at home with his family by his side. He was born in Shawinigan Falls, Quebec, grew up in Chateauguay, Quebec, and received a B.Sc. from McGill and an M.Sc. from Trent. Reg showed courage and determination in his struggle with cancer. Remembered for his kind and gentle nature, his sense of humour, and his love for his family. He welcomed each day with great joy to be alive. He will be remembered for his beautiful smile and

clear blue eyes, always smiling. He was a quiet and modest man who was greatly touched by the support from his friends and colleagues. Reg was much-loved and will be greatly missed.

• • •

## Paul Osborn Fraser '92

died in October 2011. Paul's dear friend **Kara Mullins Gregory '91** has shared this message from Perth, Australia:



*I want someone to tell me it's a lie. The truth I can't bear. My friend Paul is gone. We went to Oakwood together, we went to Trent together,*

*we lived together, we went camping together, we hung out together and we laughed together. We talked. Our friendship lasted many years and great distance. I know these tears will stop one day but I won't let our friendship end. I'll keep talking to you Paul. You know I love you.*

• • •

**Emile Lamore** (retired Trill College porter) died on December 18, 2011.

• • •

## Robert Stephenson (LL.B) '68

passed away peacefully on February 12, 2012. Beloved husband of Nancy, proud father of Lindsay, Jennifer and Peter, father-in-law to Aubrey (Silverberg) and adoring Grand-Pa-Pa to Oscar.

Robert developed a lifelong love of learning while attending Trent University (1968 to 1971). He proceeded to read law at St. John's College, Oxford and finished his formal education receiving his LL.B from U of T in 1976. Robert articulated with McCarthy & McCarthy (now McCarthy Tetrault) in 1976 and became a partner in 1984 practicing mainly corporate and banking law. Robert was honoured in 2010 to receive a preeminent peer review rating for legal ability and ethical

standards from the Lexis-Nexis Martindale-Hubbe International Law Directory for both Corporate Law and Banking Law. Robert served on the Board of Governors of Trent University from 1979 to 1994, the last three of which he was the Chair as well as Chair of the Council of Chairs of Ontario Universities. He was honoured to receive the Trent Alumni Award, the Trent Eminent Service Award and to have the establishment in 1994 of the Robert W.F. Stephenson Prize for Excellence in Student Governance.

Robert's interests went far beyond the complexities of the law. He had a passion for photography, astronomy, physics, architecture, mathematics and all genres of music and art. Robert will be dearly remembered and missed greatly.

• • •

## Dr. Lee Beach

died on October 17, 2011. His life partner of 36 years, Bill Gunson, and his precious girls—Sarah Anne, Sibyl Louise, and Edith Victoria—will feel his absence from their lives, profoundly. Lee—a native of Plaster Rock, New Brunswick—pursued an academic career and obtained his doctorate in psychology from McGill University, based on his research into the causes of schizophrenia. His teaching career began at Bishops College in Montreal in 1963 and continued at Trent from 1966 until his retirement in 1995. During Trent's early years, Lee also served as a don at Champlain College. For so many of his students, he was a unique professor, a devoted mentor, and a beneficial counsel. In retirement, Lee continued his pursuit of the theories and principles of psychology through extensive reading, selective interactions, and his collecting of art.

• • •

*Continued on page 24.*

## IN MEMORIAM continued



**Professor Frederick Atwood Hagar**, long-time member of Trent's History department, died on November 9, 2011. A memorial service was held in the library of Marshfield Hills, his family home in Massachusetts. Appointed to Trent in 1967, he came with an academic pedigree extending through Harvard (B.A.), Cambridge (M.Litt.), and Berkeley (Ph.D.), as well as a wealth of knowledge of the Far East (where he served during the War) and of the British rule in India

### Freddy Hagar Memorial Service

Freddy's memorial service was held at his family home in Marshfield Hills, Massachusetts, on Saturday, December 3, 2011. On the day, our numbers grew from the expected 20–25 people to over 50. Everything went well. We dragged out all the forgotten bottles of wine from the cellar, complete with dust and bug-eaten labels. The service was at 2:00 p.m., and my plan was to serve libations immediately afterwards so we could raise a toast to Freddy.

Well, I didn't account for some of Freddy's former students. Freddy had lived in Champlain College, and was a Don to the I-J staircase. He held sherry parties for his "lads" every Thursday, and the most favoured were invited to dinner parties at which—apparently—the sherry, wine, and port flowed.

(which he documented in a vast private collection). Freddy chaired the History department for many years and served as acting head of both Champlain and Traill colleges at various times, but mostly he was don at Champlain and host of 21 years of weekly sherry parties for the residents of I-J staircase. He leaves behind a memory of traditional academic dignity, mystery, and stories.

Many of these stories involve the era of sumptuous college dinner parties, and Freddy's kindness in driving guests home after several cognacs, much to the dismay of Trent Security. Gentleman that he was, he couldn't leave behind the carcass of any Canada goose freshly killed on the River Road, but would bundle it into his car too, to be properly hung for a week on the don's flat balcony, then served for dinner. However, it is the story of his kindness to another animal that most typifies Freddy.

Three of his I-J lads (all in their 40s) came, and I innocently assigned them to crack open bottles, ascertain that they still contained wine rather than vinegar, and serve them after the service. As people started to arrive I was very busy, but after a while it dawned on me that I was seeing a lot of people with wine glasses in hand. Come to think of it, I was one of them. It seems that one cannot drink a toast—in the opinion of the lads—without first warming up with an aperitif. So, by the time 2:00 p.m. came and the service began, the mourners were indeed warmed up.

The service went very well. A former colleague of Freddy's and an Anglican minister, John Burbidge, presided. John Jennings did the music. The other Trent people who participated in the service were James Neufeld, Stuart

This story dates from 1974, when he was acting head of Champlain while the Rev. Brian Heeneey, its regular master, was on sabbatical. That winter, Heeneey's beloved dachshund chased its last chipmunk through the quad, and Freddy, considering that the ground was too frozen to permit burial, placed the dog in the Champlain College freezer. There it remained, to be discovered by a colleague from Lady Eaton opening the freezer to pick up a leg of lamb. Upon his return in the spring, Brian Heeneey hosted a now legendary dinner party at which, after the usual wine and brandy, he ordered the dog to be fetched from the freezer while he donned his ecclesiastical vestments, and then buried his dog according to the service for the burial of the dead in the Book of Common Prayer, which made Freddy feel better about everything. ❖



Robson (in absentia: James read Stuart's remarks), Gordon Martel, **Philip Playfair '83**, and Brian Heeneey's son, Matthew.

Afterwards, we toasted Freddy and most people stayed a couple of hours talking and enjoying hors d'oeuvres. We even had party favors—Freddy was famous for his bow ties, and we put out all his ties for people to choose from. Some left with three or four draped around their necks. Altogether, it was a wonderful send-off—one which, I think and hope, Freddy would have heartily approved of.

We should all be so lucky to leave behind so much love and so many friends. ❖

ELISABETH PAINE, Freddy's niece

# Will you be ready?

SHERRY BOOTH '98



My dad with my son Harrison enjoying time together.

It happens every single day. We know it is going to happen to us one day. However, somehow we all think it will be years away. I'm talking about the inevitable—death.

My father's mortality flew in my face when I was told he had advanced colon cancer. Immediately, I did what anyone in today's age does: I googled "mortality rates for stage 3 colon cancer." The odds looked better than I anticipated. However, his surgeon wasn't overly optimistic, as it was an extremely complex surgery involving three different surgeons. There was a good chance he wouldn't get off the table.

Having clearly grasped the gravity of the situation, I broached the subject with Mom about their wills. She quickly replied, "We have one, but it's out of date. We need to get it updated."

In my work at Trent University, I deal closely with estates and wills. I recognize the critical importance of having this document in place, as well as one's Power of Attorney for Personal Care and Property.

A flurry of continual contact happened over the next weeks as the surgery date approached. I circled back. "Mom, how go your wills?" She tried to put me at ease by saying, "No need to worry about that dear. I picked up our will

kits at Chapters." My heart sank. This was the second worst thing I had heard in a few short weeks.

My mind raced with memories of all the workshops, estate planning meetings, and advisory meetings about how best intentions fail when one uses a will kit. Now my parents risk their entire life assets upon some generic document. I couldn't comprehend why they would make such a choice.

I recognized it was now time for me to share my knowledge and expertise with them. So I asked Dad directly why he didn't go to a lawyer. The bottom line was he believed lawyers were expensive.

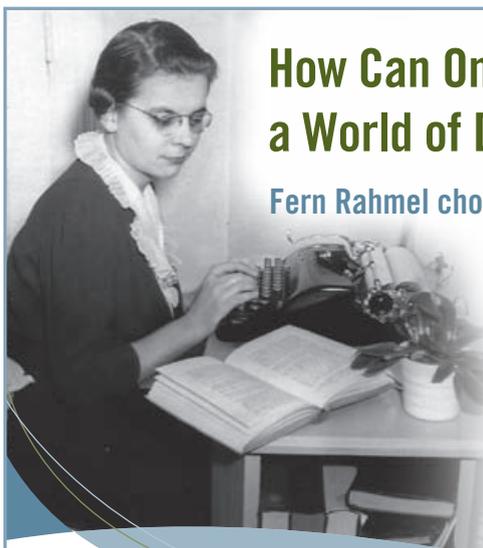
I wasn't overly surprised by this response, as my parents are from a much more frugal generation. But my Dad was

surprised to hear how inexpensive getting your will done actually is. Typically, a couple can get both wills, as well as Powers of Attorney, for somewhere between \$500 and \$1,000. Really, this is quite a small price to pay for peace of mind that your lifetime of earnings will be distributed as you wish. You would know that your loved ones will be taken care of and that all your affairs are in place.

Fast forward: Dad survived the surgery and he is now well on the road to recovery with his lawyer-written will in place.

The lesson I wish to share today is this: make sure you and your loved ones are prepared. Plan ahead and, most importantly, "See a lawyer about your will." ❖

Sherry Booth '98, Senior Development Officer responsible for Planned Giving  
705-748-1011 ext. 7593 or [sbooth@trentu.ca](mailto:sbooth@trentu.ca)



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## LOOKING BACK

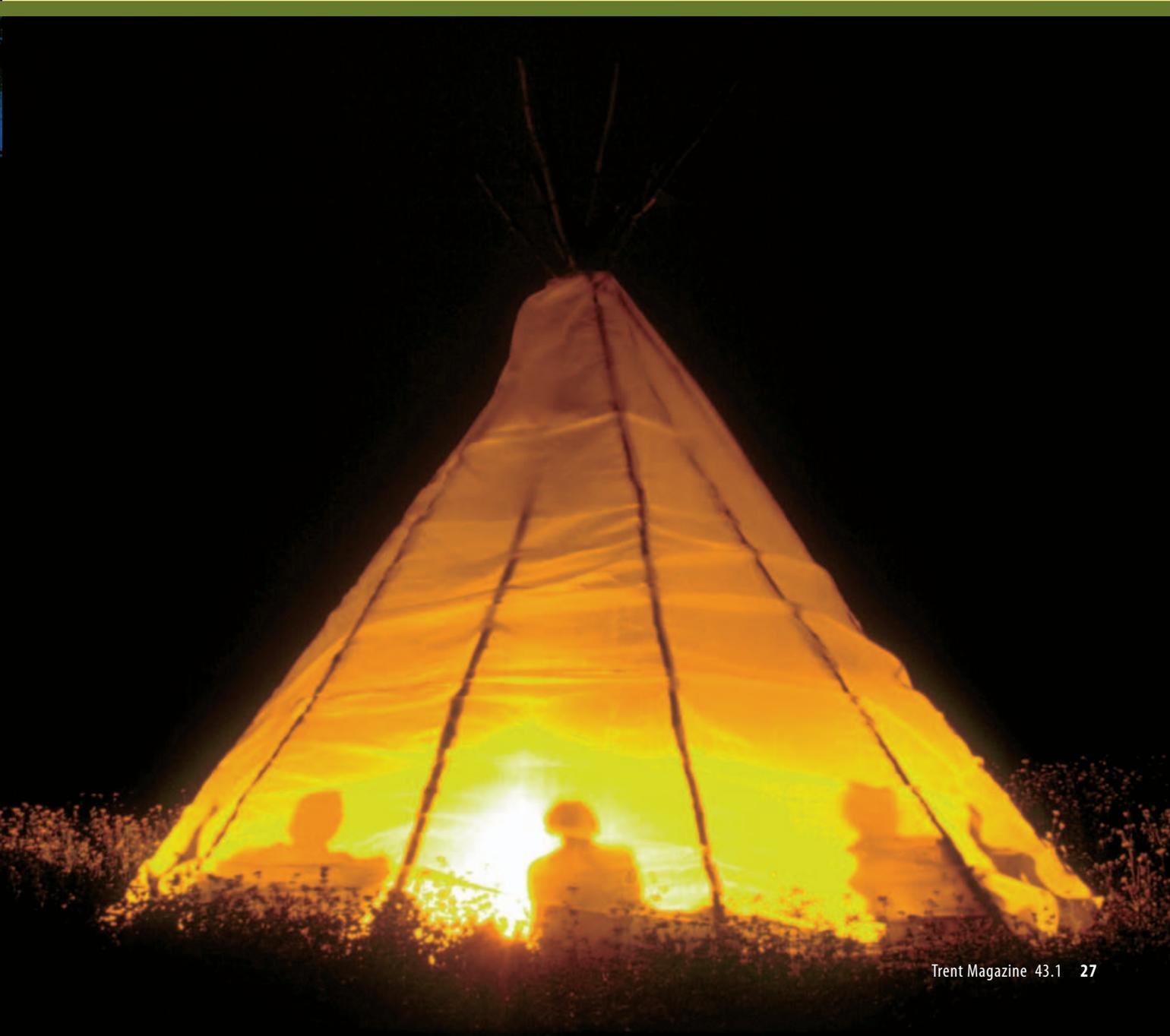


Trent University was the first university in North America to establish a department dedicated to the study of Indigenous Peoples, culture and traditions.

Established in 1969 as the Indian-Eskimo Studies Program and later in 1972 as the Department of Native Studies, the program led the way for other programs in Canada.

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