

SENIOR ALUMNI NEWS



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Annual Meeting Marks 15th Year

Bill Gleberzon, Assistant Director U of T Alumni Affairs during the early stages of the Senior Alumni Association, was guest speaker at the 15th annual meeting on May 6, 1991.

The dynamic Wilson Abernethy, founder of the seniors' group, often pointed out, "You can spend over a quarter of your life in retirement, so use it or lose it."

"You alumni used it," Gleberzon said. He traced the Association from its start as a workshop convened by Abernethy in 1975, when there were no Senior Alumni Associations. "Since then your group has received two awards from CASE, the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education. What is now ATU inspired the office of Senior Citizens Affairs to develop the Senior Talent Bank Association of Ontario."

In his annual report, Senior Alumni Chairman Peter Hare mentioned the challenge of President Prichard to the Senior Alumni to assist the universities of Ontario in their quest for a more equitable share of provincial funds.

He recalled the Association's tour of the Centre for Studies of Aging. Its director, Dr. Victor Marshall, explained the Centre's role in co-ordinating research on the impact on society of an aging population. The Senior Alumni Association increased to \$300.00 the Abernethy Scholarship in Gerontology.

Today's annual meeting of Senior Alumni, celebrating fifteen years of service to the University "gives us an opportunity to recognize the contribution of our founders and of those who have kept things going. The retirement of Mary and Hiles Carter during the year left a large hole in the activities of Alumni Talent Unlimited."

Since it was set up, ATU has conducted more than 100 projects from at least 15 departments and faculties. These volunteer assignments are accepted only when there is no salary money in the budget.

Canadian Perspectives, the Seniors' long term

lecture series has introduced some 500 professors for a total of 556 lectures.

Athletic seniors registered in a Spring and Fall series of Fun and Fitness classes.

The Futures Committee reviewed the role and direction of our organization. The Publicity and History Committee prepared brochures, and coverage of Senior Alumni activities in appropriate publications.

Paul O'Neill

Twin Talks Spark Series

Two parallel talks by eminent U of T professors began the Monday Fall series of Canadian Perspectives. Speaking on different aspects of the Canada question with different expertise and from different viewpoints, these lectures complemented each other.

Discussing the future of Canada the day before the Prime Minister released the new Constitutional package, Professor R.S. Bothwell, Department of History, presented three solutions, which he titled the Optimistic, the Pessimistic and the Really Pessimistic.

"While much discussion centres on the Quebec situation," Bothwell said, "the country of Canada enjoys many positive attributes in its own right." He listed among other points, a long history of togetherness, a culture that is distinctly Canadian, and a progressive development that differs widely from that of the United States. "Poll after poll indicates that Canadians do not wish to become Americans," he said.

Six days after the package had been released, Professor Peter Russell, Department of Political Science gave his assessment.

"Canada is the only country in the world to have a constitutional debate continuing for 25 years," Professor Russell pointed out. "In that time we have had five rounds of debate." He reviewed each attempt at reform, beginning in the mid sixties, starting with Prime Ministers Pearson and Trudeau and ending with the 69 page document with its 28

proposals presented by Prime Minister Mulroney, September 23.

Focusing on the issues instead of the personalities, he gave a thoughtful insight into the controversy, and forecast a national referendum at the close of the constitutional discussions.

Seniors Help at Koffler

Senior volunteers are active these days in the Koffler Student Services Centre at the corner of St. George and College. They man the Information Desk inside the St. George Street entrance during the busiest hours. They direct students, staff and visitors to the various services: Book Store, Student Awards, Career Centre, Health, Housing, Disabled Persons, Computer Shop, Drama Centre, Counselling, Chaplain. The Senior's task is not to provide information but to tell where it's available, with the help of maps, pamphlets, directories and phone books.

Senior volunteers have a special connection with the Career Centre. They help set up newspaper clipping binders containing information about careers and employment. They check job listings and conduct employer follow-up. They assist at student registration, set up interview assignments and make up information kits for employment interviewers. They're available for Employment Fairs.

The contact with students, staff and employers is stimulating. New volunteers are welcome on a regular or emergency basis. Hours are adjustable, training is personal, and the Koffler Centre is conveniently situated.

Florence Blackwell

Take A Chapel Tour

A long time project of ATU is a chapel tour of the East Campus. A convenient starting point is Emmanuel College, located a few steps south of the east exit of the Museum Subway Station. The Depression of 1929 cancelled plans for a chapel wing, and a spacious third floor room was designated as interim chapel.

Victoria University, 1892 building, is a short walk east. The chapel is on the second floor. Five stained glass windows depict John Milton, John

Wesley, the crest of Victoria University, Martin Luther, and Isaac Newton. Oil paintings (by Sigismund Goetze) are on the east and west wall.

Loretto College is farther east. The chapel is on the second floor. On the stairs is a ceramic by Valentin Shabeff in memory of Theresa Coughlan 1T5. On the landing is a mosaic representing the Eucharist from the studio of Gabriel Loire, Chartres, France. Stations of the Cross are from the studio of Moroder in the Italian Tyrol. Two large stained glass windows by Yvonne Williams light up the original altar.

The chapel of the University of St. Michael's College is beneath St. Basil's Church. Follow the walks leading to the church spire. The new Blessed Sacrament Chapel has four stained glass windows by James Meecham, father of seven graduates of U of T.

When Fontbonne Hall was built at St. Joseph's College in 1956, the chapel was moved to this building. Dora de Pedry Hunt designed and executed the statues and Stations of the Cross. Four stained glass windows are by Karl Bersteg.

Rev. Bob Scollard



Meet Evelyn Rugg

One of the most unassuming members of A.T.U. is Evelyn Rugg.

A promotion to the post of Assistant Professor of Spanish precluded her taking an M.A. at U of T, so she earned her degree at Middlebury College in Vermont.

In 1982, Evelyn heard about A.T.U. and promptly became a volunteer. She gave of her time unstintingly on Campus and Chapel Tours, re-unions, U of T Days, the Koffler Centre and uncounted other projects. For a long time her co-workers were unaware that she walked the long distances to her various activities because of her dislike of public transportation.

Her many friends in the Language Department speak fondly of Evelyn, not only for her generous sharing of her ease and accuracy at the typewriter, but as a sympathetic friend to newcomers.

Eva Sclater



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