

SENIOR ALUMNI NEWS

You are invited to attend
The Annual Meeting/Recognition Day
of the University of Toronto
SENIOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

TUESDAY, MAY 19 AT 1:30 P.M.

in the University College Media Room (179)
followed by a social hour and refreshments in Croft Chapter House

Four New Firsts to Spark Annual Meeting

When you attend the Seniors' Annual Meeting/Recognition Day, May 19 in the Media Room and the Croft Chapter House, you'll hear a review of four activities never listed before.

Chairman Peter Hare will present details of the Teaching Innovation Awards, the leadership project supported by the Senior Alumni Association, the brief to the Ontario Government and the different approach which recruited six volunteers.

Top off that with a report on the seven standing committees and a short talk "Memories are Made of This" by Bert Pinnington, former Director of Alumni Affairs. The annual meeting will be followed by a social hour in the Croft Chapter House with coffee and cakes and auld lang syne.

Seniors Host Leadership Skills

This Spring the Seniors are stepping into a new level of participation in U of T life. The Association will sponsor, host and participate in a first time extra curricular project designed to develop leadership skills for students from all colleges and constituencies who wish to take part.

As a sponsor, the Senior Alumni will contribute \$7,500 to cover start-up costs of the project. In addition seniors are becoming involved as hosts of the many events on the program.

The conference will make an effort to strike a balance between involvement in campus events, programs and organizations and the teaching of leadership and organizational skills. The project will consist in a series of workshops and seminars.

The course will offer three main topics—Communication Skills, Management Skills and Community Issues. These in turn will be discussed under a variety of headings by numerous specialists from university departments.

This project offers seniors a wonderful chance to meet students face to face, to zero in on the issues that confront them and to make a contribution that has not been possible in the past.

Seniors Celebrate Library Centennial

Robarts library invited Senior Alumni volunteer tour guides and members of the Senior Alumni and ATU executives to a Library Centennial Celebration, Wednesday, February 12.

Jane Cooper thanked the seniors for their help, and Carolyn Murray, who set up the training program for senior guides years ago, welcomed new volunteers.

Before lunch, the former chief librarian, Dr. R. H. Blackburn, spoke on "The Building of Robarts", the major academic research library in Canada. Among other anecdotes, he explained the choice of the triangle shape – it made possible 1,000 carrels, each with a window.

Senior Alumni Support Teaching Awards

To add the support of past students to present students for excellence in teaching, Senior Alumni augmented the presentation of plaques by SAC (Students Administrative Council) and APUS (Association of Part Time Students) with \$100 book certificates for the U of T Book Room. At a

ceremony in Hart House, March 20, on behalf of Senior Alumni, Harold Aggett, also presented a copy of "University of Toronto, A Souvenir", to each of the winners: Professors A. J. Arrowood (Social Psychology), David K. Foot (Economics), Patrick Quinn (Modern English Literature), and Ken Selby (Civil Engineering).

Also present at the ceremony were the President of U of T, Robert Prichard, Jean Elliot, Alumni and Community Relations, Professor John Kirkness, Advisor to the Provost on Undergraduate Education, and Helen Rutherford for Senior Alumni.

The Need For Ninety Million

A carefully prepared brief requesting \$90 million for the 15 universities across the province was recently presented to the Ontario Government by the Senior Alumni Association, University of Toronto.

"The money is needed to restore well worn ancient buildings, many more than 100 years old and never properly maintained," said Peter Hare, Senior Alumni Chairman and Chair of a special committee on the refurbishing of ancient university buildings.

"These costs came to light in a survey conducted by the National Council on Canadian Universities but have never been covered in current operating budgets," Hare said.

The survey describes leaky roofs, damp and decaying walls, floors now bearing weight far in excess of their original capacity. Aging heating systems are over extended, electrical equipment, constructed long before the computer age, is now maintaining the instrumentation of today's high technology.

"These old buildings do not come close to the standards set by modern building codes," Hare said.

The brief was presented to two Ontario ministers — the Hon. Richard Allen, Minister of Universities and Colleges, and the Hon. Zarina Akande, Minister without portfolio.

So Far And Yet So Near

In a two month trip that spanned six states of Australia and New Zealand, Gordon Romans, a founding member of Senior Alumni, fulfilled a dream that has been with him for many years. It

began when Romans met some Australians on a tour of Europe. They were so happy and congenial that he decided to obtain a first hand knowledge of their culture. Last fall, he put together the best features of five separate tours.

His visit covered the Rain Forest, the coral reefs, the islands of the Pacific. He enjoyed the view from the top of an 800 foot hill and the chain rail car that took the torture out of the climb. He visited the country's famous cities like Sydney and Melbourne, and attended a session of Parliament.

Gordon Romans watched some Aboriginal people sitting around a camp-fire and was impressed with their resemblance to our own natives.

Wherever he went, the main issues in the Australian papers were insufficient money for education, poor profits for farmers, high spending on public health, user fees for doctors and native rights.

"There I was 15,000 kilometers from home and yet the problems were the same." As a reminder of this tour, Gordon took 700 pictures for the family album



Meet Bob Burton

1991 was a banner year for Bob Burton. In February he celebrated his 96th birthday. In June he commemorated his 70th year as a graduate of U of T. In October he and his wife, Eva, observed their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Both Wilson Abernethy, Senior Alumni's first chairman, and Bob signed up at the same time for World Wars I and II. At the beginning of Senior Alumni in 1976, Wilson asked Bob to take part. Bob drew up the first constitution for the association.

Bob's co-ordinating skills, developed during his career as Toronto's first full-time traffic supervisor, have been at the service of Senior Alumni ever since. He's been one of the first Chapel Tour promoters, and enthusiastic guide at the Robarts Library.



Editorial Committee: Harold Aggett, Florence Blackwell, Hiles Carter, Peter Hare, Paul O'Neill, Helen Rutherford, Bob Saunders

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