



NOVEMBER 11, 10:20 AM REMEMBRANCE DAY AT SOLDIER'S TOWER

On Monday, November 11 at 10:20 am, University of Toronto's students, staff, alumni and friends will gather for a service of remembrance at Soldiers' Tower, Hart House. The order of the program will be simple and familiar, with solemn hymns, a reading of *In Flanders Fields*, the laying of wreaths, and a time of silent reflection. Those who served in World War I are all gone now, and many of those from World War II are also no longer with us. We also remember those who fought and those who died in other conflicts since: Korea, Viet Nam, Eastern Europe, and Afghanistan. Please join us.



WW I biplane on the University of Toronto front campus. Photos courtesy the Image Bank, Archives and Records Management, University of Toronto.

WWI ended with the surrender of Germany on November 11, 1918, and WWII with the surrender of the Germans on May 8, 1945, and Japan on August 15, 1945. Canada lost many, mostly young, mostly men in these conflicts, and it is necessary and important to remember them and those who returned.

With a little research in Martin Friedland's *The University of Toronto, A History*, I discovered what was happening in the University during the two world wars. I found that much of the research done was beneficial in intent. Surgeon Bruce Robinson developed special techniques for blood transfusions, much more effective than the saline solutions more commonly used at that time of 1914-18. In addition, U of T took over the manufacture of anti-tetanus vaccine for the Canadian Expeditionary Forces. In 1917, a course in physiotherapy was established at Hart House, vital for the rehabilitation of returning wounded veterans.

During WWII, some work on radar development took place, but the University's main contribution in that field was the training of technicians and offering of expertise to the manu-

facturers. Dr. Arthur Ham did work on burn dressings, and the Connaught Laboratories produced large quantities of the new wonder drug penicillin. Charles Best with Jessie Ridout among others, worked on finding a whole-blood replacement, and discovered quickly that serum, more easily stored and transported, was as effective. By 1941, they were producing 5,000 bottles of blood serum a week. Wilbur Franks created the anti G-suit that prevented blackouts in the new, faster, higher-flying jet planes. This is an ancestor of the suits used by astronauts today.

These were all, of course, developed as a result of the war, but have had beneficial, far-reaching effects into even the 21st Century. Most would have probably come into being eventually, but were speeded up by the conflicts of the time. This is not to diminish the horror of war, but to highlight some of the ways in which the University of Toronto has worked to mitigate this.

Maureen Somerville, vice-president

Two Presidents

Thursday, October 31 was the last day of work as President of the University of Toronto for David Naylor. Friday, November 1 was Meric Gertler's first day in that position.



President Naylor has served for the past eight years as head of the largest, and most prominent Canadian university, and has assisted in pushing U of T up world ratings to a prominent position as a teaching and research institution.

He graduated with his MD from our Faculty of Medicine, then, as a Rhodes Scholar, a DPhil from Oxford University, Faculty of Social and Administrative Studies. In 1988, he joined the Department of Medicine at the University of Toronto, promoted to full Professor by 1996. Professor Naylor became Dean of Medicine and Vice Provost of Relations with Health Care Institutions of the University of Toronto. He was chair of the National Advisory Committee on SARS and Public Health in 2003.

He has guided the University through a period of rapid growth to 80,000 students on three campuses, tirelessly promoted U of T around the world, and with diminishing financial support from the province, kept standards in all areas high. David had a grasp of what was happening in every corner of the institution,

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Senior Alumni Volunteer Opportunities

One of our objectives is to provide opportunities for senior alumni to serve the University. We hope you will try one of these opportunities.

Volunteering at the University Health Network



Are you retired and/or looking to get involved in something meaningful? Come and volunteer with us at the University Health Network, where you can meet new friends and gain a different experience while making a positive difference in someone's life. We have a lot of opportunities in the areas of patient support, clinical support and administrative support across our hospital sites. In addition, we offer the following specialized programs:

- **Hospital Elder Life Program (HELP)** - Volunteers' involvement allows elderly patients to stay physically and mentally active during their time at the hospital through activities, mobility exercises and communication with the healthcare team. This ensures patients receive the best care possible.
- **Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS)** - Volunteers assist patients as they transition through multiple points of the recovery after colorectal surgery.
- **Healing Beyond the Body (HBB)** - Volunteers contribute to patient care by offering enhanced emotional support and system guidance at every stage of the cancer journey

Contact Ivetka Vasil, 416 603-5800 ext. 2362 for more information or visit

www.uhn.ca/corporate/ways-help/Volunteering_UHN/Pages/default.aspx

University Health Network Research Volunteer Pool

More than half of us will be touched by disability, either personally or through someone in our family. You can help by joining the **Research Volunteer Pool** and participating in research at the Toronto Rehab-UHN. Our discoveries are helping speed up the return to home, work or school; allow people to live independently longer; significantly improve use of impaired limbs with new treatments and technologies; ensure that healthcare is delivered in the best way possible, and; prevent injury and illness.

If you enrol, a research staff member will contact you to get relevant information which is stored confidentially. When a specific study matches your profile, researchers will contact you. You can choose whether or not you would like to participate. You will remain in the pool for other researchers to contact you again in the future.

Remember, enrolment is completely voluntary. All Rehab-UHN research studies have been reviewed to ensure they meet the highest scientific and ethical standards.

For more information on the Toronto Rehab Research Volunteer Pool, please contact:

Toronto Rehab Patient Research Liaison
416-597-3422 ext. 7840
rehabresearch@uhn.ca



Events

Walking Tour to the TD Gallery of Inuit Art



The TD Gallery of Inuit Art is a small gem in the middle of Toronto's business district. The gallery houses some 200 pieces representing all regions of the Canadian Arctic.

One of the lectures on the Canadian Perspectives Wednesday morning Lecture Series was given by Alysa Procida, Curator of the Museum of Inuit Art on the topic of *Perspectives on Inuit Art Histories*. As a follow-on to that lecture, Maureen Somerville, our events committee chair, will be conducting a walking tour to the TD Gallery of Inuit Art. On the way, she'll highlight interesting parts of the underground city and the PATH system.

Even if you didn't attend the above mentioned lecture, you're welcome to join in. Here are the details:

Date: Wednesday, November 20

Time: 1:30pm

Meeting Place: Lower level of Union Station, GO area, near the St. Cinnabon (follow the aroma of cinnamon!). The best way to get there is by TTC/subway.

Contact: Maureen Somerville to RSVP or for more information: mj_somerville@hotmail.com or 416 423-6615

Woodsworth College Alumni Café

Tuesday, November 19, 2013.

Doors open 6:30 p.m., Speaker 7:00 p.m.



Global Wetting: Where is all that water coming from?

Speaker: Joe Desloges

Do you ever wonder about the increasing number of weather events such as rain and floods? Prof. Joe Desloges, Principal of Woodsworth College and

Professor of Geography and Earth Sciences at U of T, is an expert on human disturbance on river floodplains and glacierized landscapes. He will speak about climate change and recent weather disturbances.

Woodsworth College, Kruger Hall Commons – Small Lounge
119 St. George Street

Cost: \$10 alumni, \$12 guests

Contact Information

Stephanie Woodside

416-978-5301

stephanie.woodside@utoronto.ca

President's Corner



By the time you read this, the University of Toronto will have a new President. Professor Meric Gertler, the past Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Science, has been officially installed. Dr. David Naylor finished his eight-year term as President at the end of October and the University held a number of farewell functions in his honour. We look forward to President Gertler's leadership of one of the leading universities in the world.

Congratulations go to one of our busiest executive members, Ihor Prociuk who received an Arbor

Award in September. Ihor certainly deserves this outstanding volunteer award. He volunteers substantially on campus, and for the SAA alone he serves as our second vice-president, our newsletter editor, our computer guru, leads the Robarts Library introductory ours and is always ready to volunteer on various ad hoc sub committees. Thank you, Ihor! Some things, literally, we could not have done without your involvement.

The SAA is currently in the middle of a 5-year strategic planning process under the direction of our planning chair, Gloria Buckley. Gloria recently was involved in a similar process with her own college and has been able to arrange for a very able facilitator. We anticipate an interesting session, hope to have feedback and results tabulated in the new year and will report on our process at next year's AGM in May.

The SAA Canadian Perspectives Fall Lecture Series is well under way on Monday afternoons and Wednesday mornings. Kristine Thompson and her team have put together an excellent series of speakers and topics. There is still time to register: a single admission is only \$15.00. For more information, email us at senior.alumni@utoronto.ca or register online on our website:

<http://alumni.utoronto.ca/alumni-groups/senior-alumni/>.

We have had our new administrative assistant, Thiadora Botros working with us for the last couple of months and she has been a wonderful asset. A profile on Thiadora can be found on page 4.

The University of Toronto's Remembrance Day ceremony will take place in front of Soldier's Tower on Monday, November 11th starting at 10:20am. It is a moving ceremony with all estates of the University represented in the wreath laying. A reception follows in the Great Hall of Hart House for all attendees. We encourage you to attend this ceremony honouring not only our own heroes, but all who have served in past conflicts.

As the season of various holidays approaches, we wish you Happy Holidays and good times with family. For those of you who are 'snowbirds', enjoy your warm weather (we who are not will think of you!). For those of you who stay up north, we wish you well as you hunker down!

Wendy Talfourd-Jones
wendytj@alumni.utoronto.ca

Two Presidents

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an ability to analyze and respond to situations and articulate clearly appropriate actions. He still has a solid commitment to his family, a wicked sense of humour, and a dog called Oscar.



Professor Meric Gertler was named the University of Toronto's 16th President on March 4, 2013, and was officially installed in the position on Thursday, November 7 in Convocation Hall.

Gertler has served as Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science at U of T since December 1, 2008. This is the University's largest and most diverse faculty. He is a Professor of Geography and Planning, an inspired choice as President of

a large University in the centre of Canada's largest city. He was listed as one of Canada's top researchers in the field of geography by the Globe and Mail. He has held visiting appointments at Oxford University, University College London, UCLA and the University of Oslo.

He completed his undergraduate degree at McMaster University, graduating Summa Cum Laude in 1977. He earned a master of City Planning degree at the University of California, Berkeley in 1979 and a PhD from Harvard University in 1983.

Professor Gertler has focused on providing students with a top quality academic experience in which they benefit directly from U of T's strength and diversity in research and teaching. His position has included all three campuses, so he comes with a connection to Mississauga and Scarborough.

We welcome our new President as we bid a fond farewell to the departing one.

Maureen Somerville, vice-president
(with assistance from news.utoronto.ca)

Heritage University of Toronto

A tri-campus initiative of the University of Toronto Libraries Information Technology Services has resulted in a digital collection of archival records, photographs, books, maps, drawings, sound and moving image files showing U of T's rich history from its founding, through both world wars, to the present. The website is at: <http://heritage.utoronto.ca/home>.

This is truly a wonderful site. Here is just a small sampling of the vast collection:

- 1939 Royal visit to Hart House.
- The building of Robarts Library in the late 1960s.
- 1958 promotional film for the University featuring a football game.
- A Hart House debate addressed by Lester Pearson.
- 25 full lectures delivered by Prof. Northrop Frye under the title *The Bible and Literature*.
- Robert Lansdale Photographs: Views of U of T, 1968-1975, through the lens of one photographer.

THE SENIOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Senior Alumni Newsletter Staff

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Stratford 2013 and 2014



Unfortunately, I was unable to join the tour to Stratford to see *Merchant of Venice* on October 9, but I did go down to Carleton Street to see the coach off, and I did receive comments from Fran

Barr, who wrote that she enjoyed the play and the meal was very good. I also met David Kells, who had never read or studied the play. He did read it before he went, and was quite thrown off by the modern dress at first, but the production was so compelling, and the actors so excellent in their interpretation, that he was thrilled by the experience. The weather also co-operated with sunshine, so everyone had a pleasant day.

I'd like to introduce some of the possibilities for our 2014 trips. The main attraction for me is *King Lear*. Colm Feore will be returning to Stratford to play the title role. He has been away from the festival since 2009, but has been busy playing Cardinal della Rovere in *The Borgias* on television, and is featured as the villain in the upcoming *The Amazing Spider-Man 2*. Lear is a role usually reserved for an actor in his later years, so it will be interesting to see if Feore at 56 will play old, or put more vigor into the character. The musicals will be *Crazy for You* and *Man of La Mancha*, both with Chilina Kennedy in the female leads. Cynthia Dale will play the Red Queen in *Alice Through the Looking Glass*. The other Shakespeare plays will be *King John*, *Antony and Cleopatra*, and two different productions of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. I'll be interested to see how that will work! The final decision will be made by consulting with SAA members and by what Mary Morton Tours arranges. More to come! Cheers.

Maureen Somerville, events chair

2013 Arbor Awards recognize U of T volunteers

On September 10, 2013, inside a huge tent put up on the lawn of the president's official residence, 110 individuals and one association each received the University of Toronto Arbor Award. Created in 1989, this award acknowledges the outstanding personal service of alumni and friends whose loyalty, dedication and generosity has added substantially to the quality of the University of Toronto experience for students, faculty, staff, alumni, or to the university at large. The award includes a framed certificate and a lapel pin in the shape of a silver oak leaf. The ceremony is sponsored by University Advancement.



Among the award recipients this year was Ihor Prociuk who is on the SAA board and serves as 2nd vice-president, chair of the communications committee, and editor of the SAA News. Ihor also supervises the Robarts Library volunteers. It was a very warm evening so President David Naylor

(left in the photo) took the initiative to remove his jacket as did the Honourable Michael Wilson, Chancellor of the University of Toronto (right in the photo).



Planning for Winter 2014 well under way

The two fall lectures series are under way and are proving to be quite popular. On November 20, we will be doing a walking tour as a follow-on to our lecture on Inuit art which was part of the Wednesday lecture series. Even if you didn't attend this lecture, you're welcome to join this tour. It's free. You'll discover one of Toronto's hidden art gallery gems. Details can be found in the events section on page 2.

One would think that after years of putting together outstanding lecture series, the Canadian Perspectives Lecture Series committee would be running out of engaging speakers. Apparently not. Just look at the three (out of five) speakers that have been booked so far.

- **Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish** on *I Shall Not Hate: A Gaza Doctor's Journey*.
- **Dr. Ilse Treurnicht**, CEO of MaRS Discovery District on bringing research discoveries to the marketplace.
- **Professor Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux** on aboriginal issues.

The Winter series will take place on five consecutive Tuesday mornings, February 4 to March 4, 2104 from 10:00am to noon. We're having very positive feedback for the Carlton Theatre so this will be the location for the Winter Lecture Series. More information and registration details will be sent out early in January, 2014.

Our new administrative assistant: Thiadora Botros

We'd like to introduce our new administrative assistant, Thiadora Botros. Thiadora is currently completing her undergraduate studies at U of T in Human Geography and Architectural History. She has previously worked at the Office of Advancement at the Faculty of Arts and Science as



and administrative assistant for four years. Thiadora spent a summer working for the Ontario Heritage Trust as a Conservation Architectural Assistant. After graduation, she hopes to pursue a career in Architectural Conservation or Urban Regional Planning.

Thiadora was born in Alexandria, Egypt and moved to Canada along with her family in 1994. Alongside her three other siblings, parents, and yorkie puppy, the family resides in Whitchurch, Stouffville. She teaches Sunday school for grade 3 and 4 every Sunday at St. Maurice and St. Verena Coptic Orthodox Church. She is currently in the midst of planning her wedding, set for August 4th 2014—and enjoying every minute of it! In her spare time (really?), she enjoys painting, leading bible study, traveling and currently, wedding planning.

Thiadora is very much excited to be part of the Senior Alumni Association and looking forward to meeting all of you. She can be reached at senior.alumni@utoronto.ca or (416) 978-0544. Her office hours are usually Wednesday and Friday 10:00am to 2:00pm.