



SAA 2014 AGM—A “Not-So-Forbidden” Treat!

The Senior Alumni Association held its AGM on Monday, May 5th, 2014 at University College. The minutes of the May 2013 AGM, the President’s annual report, the Treasurer’s report for fiscal 2013 year and the report of the Planning Committee were presented to the membership present and, where necessary, were approved by the voting members. A few minor amendments to the Association’s bylaws were approved as was the slate for the executive members for the 2014-15 year (see below).



Our special guest lecturer was Dr. Chen Shen, Vice President and Senior Curator/Chair of the Bishop White Committee of the Royal Ontario Museum, who is also a Professor in the Departments of Anthropology and East Asian Studies at the U of T. He was senior curator on the ROM exhibit *The Forbidden City: Inside The Court Of China’s Emperors* and his lecture and visual presentation was highly informative and invaluable to those who were planning to attend the exhibit over the summer months.

SAA volunteers were also recognized with service pins; for one-year volunteer service: Ruth Cameron, John Frame, Vlad Handera; five-year volunteer service: Dianna Craig, Wolf von Kalben, Gerry Campbell; and U of T portfolios for ten-year volunteer service: Marilyn Hahn, Melanie Milanich, and Dorothy Overall.

Following the meeting, the guest speaker’s presentation and the volunteer recognition, a reception was held for all in the adjacent Croft Chapter House.

Your new Senior Alumni Association executive are:

President:	Maureen Somerville
Vice President:	Ihor Prociuk
Treasurer:	T.B.A.
Assistant Treasurer:	Don Forsey
Secretary:	Gloria Buckley (Interim)
Assistant Secretary:	Bev Colburn
Past President:	Wendy Talfourd-Jones

Chairs & Members of Standing Committees:

Communications Chair and Newsletter Editor:	Ihor Prociuk
Assistant Newsletter Editor:	Maureen Somerville
Senior Alumni Volunteers Chairs:	Mary Vohryzek, June Pemberton
Events Chair:	Wendy Talfourd-Jones
Assistant Events Chair:	Irene Devlin
Planning Chair:	Gloria Buckley
Canadian Perspectives Lectures Chair:	Kristine Thompson
CP Lecture Series Committee:	Laura Cooper, Dianna Craig, Irene Devlin, Ken Ward, Dagmar Falkenberg, Jean Orpwood, Kathlene Willing
Member-at-Large:	Irene Devlin

Wendy Talfourd-Jones
Past President & Chair of the SAA AGM Committee

Strategic Planning Process Concluded

A year ago, the Executive began a strategic planning process. We wanted to analyze the SAA’s performance over the past few years and also evaluate SAA’s effectiveness and success with its programs and services and its relationships with its own membership and other alumni associations and constituencies within U of T. As well, we were to identify and ascertain the Vision and Mission with supporting Aims and Objectives, which will guide the future initiatives of the SAA.

Our Vision Statement: *The SAA will be a strong and effective organization with a high profile and awareness among U of T senior alumni and friends, which provides a broad range of programs and services to meet the needs and interests of today’s seniors and experiences a beneficial, interactive relationship with other constituencies within the University.*

Our Mission Statement: *The SAA will bring Senior Alumni and Friends of the University of Toronto to the university community to learn about and participate in the activities of the university.*

Our Goals and Objectives:

- Achieve and maintain a strong infrastructure to support SAA operations.
- Provide a broad range of programs and services to meet the needs and interests of today’s seniors.
- Achieve a high profile and high awareness among U of T senior alumni and friends.
- Maintain a strong understanding of SAA’s relationships to the UTAA, other U of T alumni associations, Alumni Relations and the University of Toronto.
- Undertake evaluative processes on a regular basis to support the above stated objectives.

There is, of course, much more detail within the final report that will be going forward to the Executive this fall for approval, which encompasses the “hows”, “whos” and “whens” we have to put in place to achieve our goals. We also realize that all changes will not happen immediately or all at once.

The Association thanks all who participated in this lengthy and intensive process. We had input from current and past executive members, our lecture attendees, Alumni Relations and those who participated in our three facilitator led group sessions. We hope our members will benefit from the results of our efforts. It is now up to the executive of the SAA to work toward realizing our goals through internal planning and execution.

With reference to our first goal, to achieve and maintain a strong infrastructure, the executive itself needs more members—especially to succeed in succession planning. We are still searching for that all-elusive treasurer which we desperately need.

If you would like further information about the report or would like to become more involved with our executive, please contact me through our office: senior.alumni@utoronto.ca or 416 928-0544.

Wendy Talfourd-Jones
Past President & Chair of the SAA AGM Committee



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.

Community representative on U of T animal care committees

The University of Toronto upholds the highest ethical standards for animal research. All research must undergo rigorous review by animal care committees, which are made up of members of both the University community and the community at large.

The University is currently seeking volunteers for the position of community representative on several animal care committees across the three campuses. Interested candidates should have no current formal affiliation with the University, good communication skills, compassion for living beings and a commitment to contribute to the advancement of research at U of T.

We encourage interested alumni to consider serving as volunteer community representatives. Meetings are usually 2-3 hours long and are held monthly during regular business hours. For more information, please contact:

Mr. Rhain Louis
Animal Care and Use Program Manager,
416-946-0836 or rhain.louis@utoronto.ca

Healthy participants needed for driving simulator study

St. Michael's Hospital and U of T are seeking healthy control subjects to participate in a driving simulator study aimed to understand how disorders of the brain affect driving abilities. You may be eligible if you meet ALL of the following criteria:

- You are between 18 and 85 years of age.
- You have a valid Ontario G class driver's license.
- You have NOT had a history or past diagnosis of a neurological or psychiatric condition.
- You live in Toronto or the GTA.

The study takes place in our research lab for 1-2 hours where you will be required to complete simulated driving scenarios and some additional cognitive tests. Your participation in this study is voluntary and all data will be kept confidential.

You will be compensated for participation if you are eligible. A phone screening (which participants will not be reimbursed for) will be required to determine eligibility. If you are interested, contact:

Winnie Qian
Research Assistant
Cognitive Neuroscience Lab
Keenan Research Centre in the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institutes
St. Michael's Hospital
cognitive.neurolab@gmail.com / 416-864-6060; 77342

Volunteers needed for clinical trials on memory-loss drug



Are you concerned about the possibility of memory loss as you grow older?

This A4 study is a landmark clinical trial to test whether a new investigational drug can slow memory loss associated with Alzheimer's disease.

A4 is a clinical study for people ages 65-85 with normal thinking and memory abilities.

For more information, visit <http://a4study.org/>

To find out if you are eligible, contact Joanne Lawrence at the Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre:

(416) 480-6108 or joanne.lawrence@sunnybrook.ca.



Events



The Walk: St. Lawrence Market and Environs

Many Torontonians have been to the St. Lawrence Market but now is your chance to see how the Market fits into the local area. *[Did you know that in 1803, a Saturday farmers' market began operation at*

Front and Jarvis? – editor] Our president, Maureen Somerville will lead a walking tour of the St. Lawrence Market area on **Wednesday, November 5 at 1:00pm** beginning in the St. Lawrence Market (often referred to as the South Market) at Front and Jarvis. The tour is free. We will meet in the market, in the middle of the main (upper) floor between the two sets of stairs, where we can get a sandwich before we explore. The tour will include the market, of course, a view of the Flatiron building, up to King Street to the Toronto Sculpture Garden, St. Lawrence Hall, and St. James Cathedral. For more information, contact Maureen at mj_somerville@hotmail.com or phone 416 423-6615 **after** September 15 please. One needs to be fairly mobile for this one. If it rains, bring an umbrella!

Senior Alumni Association CANADIAN PERSPECTIVES Lecture Series

Every year, Kristine Thompson and her Canadian Perspectives Lecture Series committee (Laura Cooper, Dianna Craig, Irene Devlin, Dagmar Falkenberg, Jean Orpwood, Ken Ward, Kathlene Willing) put together two exciting, diverse, and illuminating lecture series. This year, the Monday afternoon series includes topics on healthcare, theatre, opera, and politics. The Wednesday morning series covers history, health, and Toronto's favourite topic—the TTC.

The series locations, Carlton Cinema (at Carlton and Bloor) and the Koffler Pharmacy Centre, (on Spadina Circle on the U of T campus) are easily accessible by TTC. You'll find a registration form included in this newsletter or you can use our convenient, secure online registration form (using VISA or MasterCard) at:

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

Follow the links for the Canadian Perspectives Lecture Series.

Position available on the SAA Executive Committee

The Senior Alumni Association is looking to fill the position of **Treasurer** on our Executive Committee. The treasurer is one of the signing officers of the SAA. It is not an onerous position and can be rewarding and fulfilling. We do not need a CPA, but if you have had a bookkeeping, accounting or business background, please consider getting in touch with us and offering your services. The duties are shared with the Assistant Treasurer and our Administrative Assistant. For further information, contact our office at:

senior.alumni@utoronto.ca / (416) 978-0544

Our Treasurer or President will be in touch with you.

President's Corner



I write this on an unusually cool August evening in an atypical Toronto summer, with fewer very hot days and much more rain than usual. I'm actually rather enjoying it.

This is my first message to you as president of the SAA, and I'm told I should tell you a little about myself. I'm one of the first baby-boomers born! Like half of Toronto's residents, I'm an immigrant, born in Glasgow, Scotland, living for my first seven years in Armagh City, Northern Ireland. My schools were Chester, West-

wood and East York, and of course, U of T Scarborough (UTSC) and OISE/UT. I taught English and Dramatic Arts at the high school level until I developed severe arthritis. I began volunteering at UTSC orientations in the 1980s, became involved with the alumni executive there, and represented Scarborough on the College of Electors for four years.

I then joined the UTAA executive as vice president, governance, which meant I was now chair of the College of Electors. After six years during which I had become the UTAA representative to the SAA, and eventually a member, I was wondering what to do next, and the only logical thing to do seemed to be to run for Governing Council as an alumni member. I completed nine years as a governor in June of 2013. It had been an awesome responsibility, but also very rewarding and of course very interesting. I am also chair of the Music Committee at Hart House, where I work with the hardest-working students imaginable. At the moment I am also on the Steering Committee for the 50th anniversary of Scarborough College.

Meanwhile, the SAA executive has been undergoing a strategic planning exercise, which Wendy Talfourd-Jones (our past-president) informs you about in this issue. We will be implementing the recommendations and checking on our progress regularly. We also have a new administrative assistant, Jennifer Grange, who is introduced to you in this issue. John Lang joins our executive as our new secretary.

Kristine Thompson and her Canadian Perspective Lecture Series committee have created, once again, an interesting and informative list of lectures for Fall 2014. The amount of effort and thought that goes into finding and booking the speakers is amazing.

I look forward to working with the executive and meeting with you as often as I can. Please let me know through the office if there's anything I or the other members can do to improve what we do for you.

*Maureen Somerville
president, SAA*

New SAA executive secretary



John Lang has been nominated to the position of SAA Executive Secretary and will seek approval at the September board meeting.

John is a retired executive of Imperial Oil Ltd. who graduated from the University of Toronto in Math & Physics in 1964. He subsequently obtained a Master's degree in Physics in 1966 and, in later life, a Bachelor's degree in English from Victoria College in 1996. John joined the Senior Alumni Association in 2012 as a Robarts Library volunteer. He also volunteers regularly in

the Emergency Department of Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre and is active in various communications activities in support of the Sunnybrook volunteer program.

John has been involved with a number of arts organizations over the years including the National Ballet School where he was president in the 1980's, the Stratford Festival where he chaired their Fundraising Committee, Tafelmusik, Music Toronto and the Canadian Opera Company.

John and his wife Ann have three sons and four grandchildren. They lived in Ontario, Nova Scotia and Alberta as well as New York during John's career and currently reside in North Toronto.

New SAA administrative assistant

Jennifer Grange joined the Senior Alumni Association at the beginning of August as administrative assistant. She comes from a long career in retail which combined elements of publishing, food and wine, and special events co-ordination.



The special events revolved around appearances in Toronto of cookbook authors who ranged from the 20th century food icon, Julia Child to contemporary culinary innovators, Ferran Adria, from Spain, and Rene Redzepi, from Denmark. It was also a great pleasure to meet Canadian food authorities such as Elizabeth Baird (a U of T alumna), Laura Calder, and Naomi Duguid.

Although Jennifer graduated from the University of Western Ontario (aka Western University), she has had some involvement with the U of T. She has enjoyed the athletic facilities at Hart House. Currently, she is a member of the Larkin-Stuart Committee which has members from Trinity College and St. Thomas's Anglican Church. This group selects speakers for a two-part lecture series delivered annually at Trinity College.

Outside of work, Jennifer is interested in gardening, visual arts—particularly photography, cooking, and reading Scandinavian and British murder mysteries as well as literary and political biography.

She is enjoying meeting members of the Senior Alumni Association and coworkers while learning new skills.

"Quotable Quotes"

My mother taught me that the highest forms of understanding that we can achieve are laughter and human compassion.

Richard Feynman, physicist

THE SENIOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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"The play's the thing"

Crazy for You Perfect Production

Crazy for You was the crowning glory of a wonderful day for SAA members who attended the June 19 performance in the Festival Theatre at Stratford. After a delicious lunch at Pazzo's in Stratford, many of us walked to the theatre in the sunny, mild weather. The leads, played by Josh Franklin as Bobby Child and Kayla James as Tess were triple threats: They sang, danced and acted brilliantly. The supporting cast was uniformly excellent. I particularly enjoyed the singin' dancing' cowboys! As is usual at Stratford the costumes, settings and stage work was so well handled. Donna Feore did her usual brilliant work in directing and choreographing the piece.

Don't forget *King Lear* on September 24. See the form at right. If you send in your application as soon as you receive this newsletter, you should be able to join us. Call Mary Morton Tours – (416) 488-2674 – to reserve your spot.

(Below is the article on *King Lear* from our April / May 2014 newsletter.)

King Lear

Play date: September 24, 2014



King Lear is one of my favourite plays by Shakespeare. It deals with timeless themes surrounding family and loyalty. The king wants to divide his kingdom equally between his three daughters, Goneril, Regan, and Cordelia. They must please the king by verbally professing their love. Cordelia is the youngest and cannot get the words out because her

feelings are so strong. Lear banishes her and divides his kingdom in two between the older daughters, planning to spend equal time at each of their courts. He becomes an encumbrance to them, and they shun him. He ends up insane on a heath in a storm, accompanied only by his Fool and Edgar, the son of one of his closest friends. The Fool, of course, is one of the smartest people in the play.

This is a tragedy, and a powerful one. I've seen it played by John Colicos many years ago and Peter Ustinov (not very well), and it is a compelling story. It is usually, as Prospero in *The Tempest*, played by an actor later in his career. Colm Feore is in his mid-fifties and I look forward to an energetic interpretation of the character. The Fool will be played by Stephen Ouimette, and Gloucester by Scott Wentworth, whom we admired so much in *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Merchant of Venice* in 2013.

Maureen Somerville, past events chair



Application for Stratford's King Lear

Cost: \$151.00 per person

The cost includes taxes and gratuities. You will receive a receipt. Make your cheque payable to **Mary Morton Tours**. Complete the form below and mail **directly** to:

Mary Morton Tours
11316 Petty Street
Ailsa Craig, Ontario N0M 1A0

Deadline:

There are still a few spots available for this trip. Phone Mary Morton Tours – (416) 488-2674 – to reserve your spot.

Date of Trip:

Wednesday, September 24, 2014

Be at 50 Carlton St. (Loblaws entrance of the old Maple Leaf Gardens), east of Yonge St.) by **9:15 a.m. for a 9:30 a.m. departure. If you wish to be picked up at the Islington Subway Station, please be there by 9:30 a.m. for a 10:00 a.m. departure. The bus pick up is on the east side of Islington Ave., by the phone booth.**

Trip Details:

Lunch will be at the Waterlot in New Hamburg. Salad, dessert, and coffee or tea are included. Please include any dietary restrictions. Wine, etc., are available, but is not included in the cost. We will arrive at the Festival Theatre in Stratford in time for the 2:00 p.m. matinee of the play.

Return:

We will arrive back in Toronto on Carlton at approximately 7:15 pm.

University of Toronto Senior Alumni Association King Lear — Wednesday September 24, 2014

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City, Province: _____

Postal Code: _____

Email: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

COST: \$151.00 per person

PAYMENT: Make cheque payable to Mary Morton Tours

BUS PICKUP: ☐ Carlton St. ☐ Islington Ave.

LUNCH: Choice of roasted sirloin or pan seared breast of chicken

Indicate any dietary restrictions below

REMEMBER: Complete this form and send it to Mary Morton Tours along with your cheque to the above address.