



# Senior Alumni News

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## April 2004

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## CHANCELLOR POY TO ADDRESS SENIOR ALUMNI



**Come to Hear  
Senator Vivienne Poy,  
our new Chancellor, tell us about  
"On Being a Senator."**

**1:30 Thursday afternoon, May 6, 2004  
The Media Room, UC**

The Chancellor of the University of Toronto, Vivienne Poy is an author, entrepreneur, fashion designer and the first Canadian of Asian descent to be appointed to the Senate of Canada.

Since being appointed to the Senate in 1998, Senator Poy has focused on gender issues, multiculturalism, and human rights. She is also President of Vivienne Poy Enterprises, Chairwoman of Lee Tak

Wai Holdings Ltd. and a member of the Board of the Bank of East Asia (Canada). Among her many voluntary positions, she is Honourary Advisor to the Canadian Multicultural Council, Asians in Ontario, Honourary Patron of the Chinese Cultural Centres of Greater Toronto, and Greater Vancouver, as well as the Vision Youth Leadership Program.

Senator Poy has a Ph.D. in History from the University of Toronto. She is also the author of three books that explore the history of the Chinese in Hong Kong and in Canada. *Continued on page 2.*

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## SENATOR POY

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In 2003, Senator Poy was recognized as one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women, by the Women's Executive Network, in the Trailblazer' category. She has received an International Women's Day Award, the Arbor Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service to the University of Toronto, as well as a gold medal for her outstanding contributions to the promotion of race relations from Toronto's Human Rights and Race Relations Centre. Senator Poy received the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal, and is an Officer of the Order of St. John.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### Robarts Library Tours.

The Senior Alumni Association is looking for active seniors interested in becoming volunteer tour guides at Robarts Library.

- flexible hours/days
- meet with other alumni members
- training provided
- complimentary U. of T. library card

Tour guides must be comfortable spending one or two hours walking through the library and speaking to groups (maximum) 20 students.

There are other projects, the Koffler Information desk, the U. of T. Art Centre, Archives, mailings and helping where needed at faculties of Engineering, School of Continuing Studies and to assist at Reunions.

Interested?

CONTACT: Kathy Parks, 416-978-0544 or  
senior.alumni@utoronto.ca

## ADVANCED NOTICES

**Spring Reunion 2004 will be June 3 to 6** with a great program including: John Arpin, art exhibits, a book sale, lectures, tours, walks and the traditional garden party. The Chancellor's Circle Medal Ceremony honouring those who are celebrating a 55th, 60th, 65th, 70th, 75th or 80th anniversary of graduation, will be in the Great Hall, Hart House on Friday. If you have any queries about Spring Reunion, call Stacie Bellemare at:

(416) 978-5881

or by Fax: (416) 978-5102

E-mail: spring.reunion@utoronto.ca

Volunteers are needed. If you can help, contact Stacie.

## WE REMEMBER JANE SCHOONMAKER

Jane Schoonmaker, an active member of our Senior Alumni died March 3 after a lengthy illness. Jane served as Treasurer & Assistant Treasurer for about 15 years & also helped with many volunteer projects. She was a recipient of the Arbour Award many years ago & continued working for the University. Jane was a very active parishioner at St. Paul's Church, Runnymede - where she served as Warden. Recently, she lived at Christie Gardens where she was also Treasurer for the Christie Gardens Association for five years. Jane will be equally missed for her sense of humour, reliable work ethic & friendship.



## GOOD NEWS ABOUT A SAA PRIZE WINNER

Jon Dellandrea, U. of T. Vice President and Chief Advancement Officer, has written to share with us some good news about Karla Kaun, a recipient of the SAA Prize in Zoology in 2002/03.

"Karla went on to Ph.D. studies in behavioural genetics at the University of Toronto at Mississauga. We are all very proud of the fact that she manages to find time to make regular visits to an elementary school classroom as part of a program called Let's Talk Science, which aims to bring hands-on science into Ontario's schools. While engaged in the rigours of PhD research, Karla is also on the front lines of science education, introducing our youngest citizens to the possibility of a life in science."

John Corkill

**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

As I approach the end of my term as President of the Senior Alumni of the University of Toronto, I look back on the accomplishments achieved during the past three years. Many things were done with the support of a superb Executive who were strong and active in terms of thought, word and in particular, in deeds done.

These deeds included the enhancement of the Canadian Perspectives to about 500 registrants in four series at the St. George campus plus around a hundred at Scarborough.

There is also a renewed surge in volunteer activities. We have had a partial change in volunteer procedures to new areas of service brought about in part by changing arrangements and needs of the University. We do continue to have get togethers for mailings, iron ring sorting, information desks, spring reunion, nursing and tours of the Robarts library.

Our new endeavours include attendance at the U. of T. Art Centre, and archive work at both Victoria and University Colleges. We have recently started similar work at the Soldiers' Tower and possibly eventually at the Faculty of Nursing. Perhaps it is somehow appropriate that Seniors are involved in preservation of the past!

During the past few years we have embarked on several special events. John Arpin piano concerts (now involved in Spring Reunion), tours of the art collection of St. Michael's College, Victoria College including the Isabel Bader Theatre and other aspects of the campus to renew or enhance our knowledge of the University, its past and its present. And what a glorious past this University has had! And what a wonderful future is coming. I believe your new President, together with the Executive will lead you into new and expanded areas of service to your University such that the purposes of the Association are met.

I am hopeful that all of us will continue to support the University by volunteer activities that we may give back in small measure to the University which, upon reflection, gave us so much.

Best wishes to all

John Corkill

**WE CELEBRATE SENIOR ALUMNI VOLUNTEERING**

As students, our University days were special. As members of the SAA, we are discovering that our time here is still special. Canadian Perspectives Courses are informative, educational and fun; however, the lectures are only part of what Sr. Alumni is about.



Volunteering through SAA on the many projects is a privilege. We are able to "give back" by giving our time on the Koffler Information desk, the U. of T. Art Centre, Soldiers' Tower, U.C. & Victoria College Archives; leading tours at Robarts, and helping where needed at faculties of Engineering, Nursing, School of Continuing Studies and at Book Sales. We do mailing when asked and assist at Reunions.

In 2002-3 - 62 Volunteers collectively worked on 12 projects for a total of 2283 hours. We are very proud to continue this connection with our University.

Next month at our Annual Meeting as in past years, we will once more present service pins to our volunteers. All new volunteers are given University of Toronto pins and long term volunteers are awarded five or ten year service pins.



We have five new volunteers who will get University of Toronto Pins: Theresa Bishop, Myra Cohen, Bill Kerrigan, Barbara Walker and Maureen Somerville.



There are also five volunteers who have earned 10-yr Pins: Rosemary Baker, John Corkill, Nancy Foster, Calla Janes and June Pemberton

We would also like to thank our many active volunteers who have received pins in past years.

Sybil Geller

**EDITORS NOTEBOOK**

I hope you are enjoying our spring lecture series along with fellow members and friends.

When Wilson Abernethy promoted his vision of bringing "Senior" graduates back to the University of Toronto he hoped to offer alumni grads the opportunity to interact with students and to offer their varied talents and expertise as volunteers on assorted projects. He believed many projects would not be feasible without the assistance of volunteers.

The Canadian Perspectives Lecture Series evolved from his vision as did the name the "ATU" - Alumni Talent Unlimited volunteer group, since re-named SAV - Senior Alumni Volunteers. As volunteers "we do make a difference" and our work is greatly appreciated. We have a number of ongoing projects - tour guides at Robarts Library, Archival Projects at University College, Victoria College, Soldiers' Tower with another on the horizon - the School of Nursing to name but a few.

Volunteering is a great way to keep active, develop friendships and to re-visit your university experiences. It's fun and rejuvenating to walk the campus walk again! This is an opportunity not at obligation! Think about it - your interest and help can be of considerable value to this great university - whether it's your Alma Mater or not. Add this experience to your Canadian Perspectives Lectures and you will find it very rewarding. Review the volunteer projects outlined on page 2 and if interested contact the Senior Alumni Office.

To open Spring Reunion, John Arpin, a fantastic pianist will appear in concert at Hart House Theatre on the evening of Thursday, June 3rd.

Watch for details in your spring reunion brochure and do mark the date on your calendar.

We are saddened by the loss of a dear friend - Jane Schoonmaker, who passed away on March 3, 2004, after a lengthy illness. Jane served for many years on the Executive. Her friendly face and smile will long be remembered.

That's all for now.



Doug Philp

**SAA SUPPORTS THE UNIVERSITY**

With donations totaling \$50,000, the Senior Alumni Association is providing endowments to new students amounting to \$ 220,000! This is an amazing feat arising from a series of matching provisions from a professor, the Ontario Government and the University itself. The endowments are summarized as follows:

Our Donation Endowment		Provided
The Transitional Year	\$20,000	\$100,000
Woodsworth College	\$20,000	\$100,000
University College	\$5,000	\$10,000
Department of Zoology	\$5,000	\$10,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>\$220,000</b>

The executive is extremely pleased that our donations can be so useful in permitting access to university education to people who, without financial assistance, could only dream of "going to College." The Transitional Year Programme is available for students who do not have the formal educational background to qualify for university admission and is aimed at minority groups, sole-support parents and people from working class families of all racial and ethnic backgrounds.

Woodsworth College has expanded greatly from mainly part-time mature students to a college with the largest enrolment at the U. of T.

Because of their size, the Senior Alumni will be identified with the endowments provided with these donations.

University College and the Department of Zoology have been very generous over the years in providing rooms for our lecture series.

After a delay of several years the executive believes it has made an important contribution to new students at the U. of T.

**SENIOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

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