

Senior Alumni News

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Editors: Doug Philp & Peter J. Hare

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Senior Alumni Remember Howard Pentland

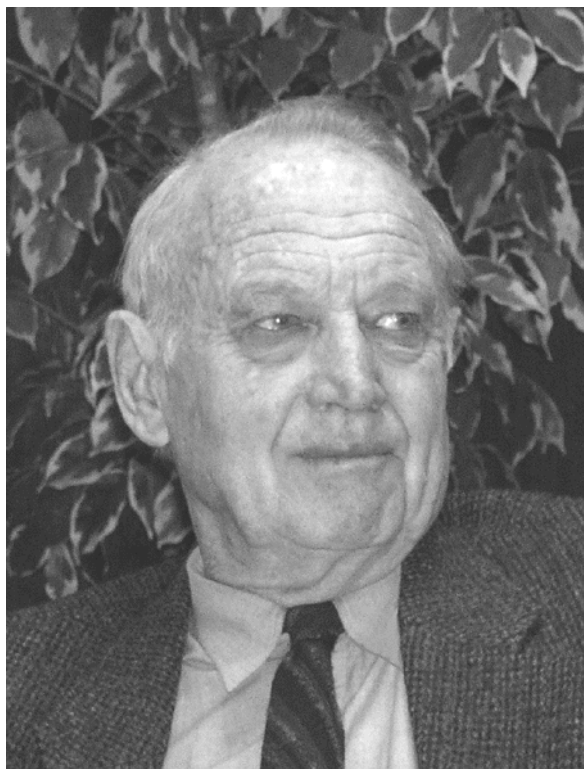
Howard died suddenly on Sunday, January 15, 2006, of a heart attack. He was interested and involved in the Senior Alumni Program at University of Toronto and received the Arbor Award for outstanding voluntary service in 2004.

Howard joined Senior Alumni about ten years ago when he walked into the Koffler Centre and asked Ilmar Talvila how he could become a volunteer and do something helpful around the university. Ilmar invited him to come to an Executive meeting so he could learn which volunteer opportunities were available. Howard took on the chairmanship of the Tuesday lecture group in the Ramsay Wright building.

Under his tender care and with the support of Barry Laibovitz, this section of the Canadian Perspectives Lectures has flourished. The enrolment is frequently oversubscribed and the members have bonded into a close community that takes turn bringing cookies to have with coffee, and plan extra activities such as trips to the Stratford Festival. In 2004, Howard took on the responsibility of coordinating all four Canadian Perspectives groups as well as having his own group.

Howard was a graduate of Victoria and Emmanuel College and earned a M.Th. from the University of Ottawa. He received an honorary degree Doctor of Divinity, from Emmanuel College Toronto, 1978.

He served in many posts including parishes in Alberta and Ontario, ending at Forest Grove United Church in Toronto. He was also a Reserve Chaplain in the Royal Canadian Navy and after retirement was an Interim Minister in several parishes including Scot's Church, Adelaide, South Australia.



At the celebration of his life, we were asked to support one another in our grief and to be thankful for the gift of his life. Howard's work with the Senior Alumni was only a small portion of his contribution to society. He personally walked with many people through difficult times and joyous times. He was an exemplary human whom we are fortunate to have walked with us. In his memory, donations may be made to Emmanuel College Fund, Victoria University Alumni Office, 150 Charles St. West, Toronto ON M5S 1K9. Acknowledgement of the donation to be sent to Mrs. Shirley Pentland, 1555 Finch Ave East, Apt. 1604, Toronto M2J 4X9.

Our thoughts go out to his wife Shirley and their children and grandchildren.

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SENIOR ALUMNI VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Robarts Library Tours: We need seniors interested in becoming tour guides at Robarts Library. They must be comfortable spending one or two hours walking through the library and speaking to groups (maximum) 20 students. A plus is a complimentary U. of T. library card. Training provided.

Koffler Information Desk: Volunteers staff an information desk at the Koffler Student Centre (St. George and College) answering basic questions, about the location of services and offices. Orientation is provided.

Mailings: Occasionally volunteers are needed to help with mailings at various locations. Volunteers are called a week or more in advance to check availability and inform them about time and location. A good project for those who would like to participate, but who don't want a regular shift.

If you would like to try one of the above three projects or require further information about them, please call Kathy Parks at the Senior Alumni Office, phone 416-978-0544 or e-mail senior.alumni@utoronto.ca

The Department of Psychology at the University of Toronto still needs volunteers for paper based and computerized tasks (no previous computer experience is necessary). These are intended to answer questions about how we age. To volunteer, you must have graduated from high school, speak English as a first language, and provide your own transportation to the St. George campus. Participants will be paid \$10 per hour. Please call Kay Karrys (416) 463 4810 for details or visit web site www.psych.utoronto.ca/~adultpool.

The L.C. Campbell Cognitive Neurology Research Unit at Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre is conducting research on various types of dementia, such as Alzheimer's Disease. They are looking for healthy volunteers between the ages of 50 and 90 willing to undergo paper and pencil tests as well as brain imaging to serve as normal controls for comparison purposes. All information is confidential and parking costs are covered. For more information, contact Isabel Lam at 416-480-6100 x2317 or email Isabel.Lam@sw.ca.

The Faculty of Dentistry, University of Toronto, Department of Periodontology needs volunteers to perform the following duties: (All senior alumni and not just dental alumni are welcome)

1. For the Graduate Periodontology Clinic two times per year for assistance with chart auditing. This involves reviewing charts to ensure all appropriate paper work and charting has been completed.
 2. For the Oral Reconstruction Clinic once every week to review dental implant charts to ensure they are up to date, i.e. to ensure all appropriate paper work and charting has been completed.
 3. To help establish a digital picture library, help in the collection and cataloguing of digital intra -oral photographs taken by the graduate residents. Requires basic knowledge in the use of computers and Microsoft programs.
 4. To establish a digital library of journal articles. This requires collecting, scanning and reformatting journal articles into PDF format. Requires basic knowledge in the use of computers and Microsoft programs.
 5. Volunteers interested in participating as subjects for periodontal research. Participation will depend on exclusion and inclusion criteria of the specific research project.
- For more information please contact:
Bernard Blackstien D.D.S at (905)-763-8711
or e-mail bernie.blackstien@rogers.com

National Study on the Needs of the Elderly:

Dr. Margaret MacAdam is seeking interviewers to collect data for a large national study about care of the elderly. The work would consist of: going to the homes of older people to collect data about their health, their ability to conduct daily activities, and their use of health and social services; interviewing a family member or other informal (unpaid) caregiver; and helping with the collection of data regarding paid and unpaid care and out-of-pocket expenses.

Interviewers will be trained in how to conduct the interviews and paid for each completed interview. The work can be scheduled at your convenience and the convenience of the person to be interviewed. Having a car is desirable but not necessary. The data collection will take place starting in late spring/early summer and will likely extend well into the fall. If you are interested in becoming an interviewer for this important national study, please contact:
Dr. Margaret MacAdam at 416-484-6967.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



University of Toronto has contributed to all of us in many ways. Usually we think of facts we have learned and contacts we have made but what surprised me most was my change in attitude.

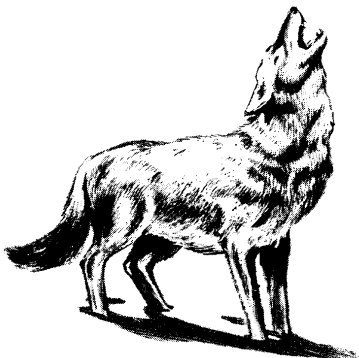
As a teenager in first year, I reacted violently to our dean's comment in an education class that a good nurse is dependent half on her knowl-

edge and half on her attitude. I was sure attitude was to be my downfall. I felt so coerced that when asked to write an essay on "A discussion of residential education" I regurgitated what my professor wanted me to say and felt guilty because my essay had very little to do with what I believed. In my final year a new dean gave us an assignment to write on any topic related to education that interested us. From the back of my troubled heart came the topic "A discussion on residential education" This time I thoroughly looked into the pros and cons of residential schooling and ended up modifying my own prejudiced opinions and feeling free to write what I had discovered from a factual point of view.

Most important to me was that my attitude had changed because the fear of retaliation had gone and I felt safe to defend facts and draw reasonable conclusions. Our first year dean was right. As my favourite coffee mug says: "Attitude is everything. Pick a good

Bev Coburn

Bev Coburn



WE REMEMBER PAUL O'NEILL AND FRED TAYLOR



On a sad note, SAA lost a long-time good friend and past member of our executive, **Paul O'Neill**, who passed away on Sunday, December 18, 2005. Through his efforts he re-introduced this newsletter as a single-page two-sided SAA News in August 1998. He was an active volunteer as well as co-chair with Florence Blackwell of our History and Publicity Committee. Our genuine condolences to his daughter, Cathy.

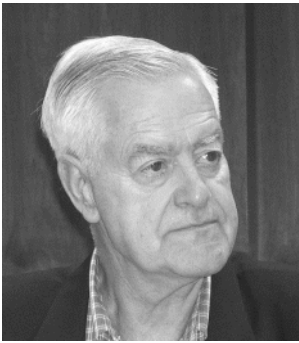
Since our last news letter, we had another sad loss.

Fred Taylor, who died November 20, 2005. Born January 25, 1919 to W. China missionaries. He was a member of the West China Club and of Victoria Tennis Club. Fred worked with Crown Life for his full working life. Fred was active in Senior Alumni and the Soldiers' Tower Committee. Our sincere sympathies to his sister Florence and his other surviving relatives.

FLASHBACK



Here we see Ilmar Talvila holding an important looking document from the U of T Archives. It is from Queen Victoria; note the words "Victoria by the Grace of God" at the top. Not readable here, but faintly on the original photo, is the name Daniel Wilson. Sir Daniel was this University's most important and interesting individual in the later 19th century. Sir Daniel Wilson, had an academic career that spanned the disciplines of English, history, archeology, ethnology and geology. He served as president of both University College and U of T and battled constantly to ensure the university's independence. It could be the granting of his knighthood. Aren't the decorations along the sides and the top a fabulous bit of Victorian whimsy?

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Even though it's February and our first newsletter of 2006 ... It's never too late to wish all our members a very happy New Year! The Executive finished the year by hosting our December Christmas party at University College, with several invited guests. After a short business meeting, followed by refreshments, we joined

in the singing of Christmas carols led by John Corkill at the piano. As much as we all enjoyed it, I doubt very much that we can expect any recording contracts!

Congratulations to Rivi Frankle on her appointment as Interim Vice-President and Chief Advancement Officer at the University by President David Naylor, replacing Jon Delandrea, effective November 2005 through June 30, 2007.

Also, thanks to Louise China et. al., for arranging a new office facility for Senior Alumni on the second floor at 21 King's College Circle. This is very much appreciated.

On November 22, several Senior Alumni executive and members attended the UTAA annual meeting at U. of T.'s Chestnut Street student residence. The business portion of the meeting went well. It was good to hear about some of the achievements that UTAA had accomplished during the past year. The guest speaker at this event was U of T President Dr. David Naylor. Refreshments were served at the close of this meeting.

On December 14, several our Senior Alumni group volunteered as "patients" at the School of Nursing exams for first year students. This is a great way for students to be in contact with real people and try to diagnose their supposed ailments. It was another instance of our volunteer work being beneficial, rewarding and fun!

I look forward, as do many of you, to the spring lecture series, beginning in March. See you there!

That's it for this time.

Doug Philp

REQUEST FOR MILITARY ARTIFACTS

The Soldiers' Tower Committee of the UTAA is still looking for military artifacts (not weapons) that will augment the existing collection in the Memorial Room Museum and honour the memory of U of T veterans (both men and women). While the collection already includes service medals and some regimental pictures, specific decorations and honours would be especially welcome. Small pieces for countertop display are preferred, but some larger items will be considered.

The Soldiers' Tower artifact committee requests your understanding that there are limits to what can be accepted. Display space is very limited, so the way in which your item will augment the collection is a major consideration. Income tax receipts from the University will be provided, subject to Canada Revenue Agency and university policy for gifts of this nature. Valuable items would require a professional evaluation.

If you have such an item that you would consider donating, please send a photo and a description of your artifact and its significance to the memory of the university's veterans. Please reply to: The Soldiers' Tower Committee, University of Toronto Alumni Association, J. Robert S. Prichard Alumni House, 21 King's College Circle, Toronto, ON M5S 3J3. Telephone: 416-978-0544
E-mail: senior.alumni@utoronto.ca

SENIOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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<http://www.alumni.utoronto.ca/groups/senior.htm>