



REMEMBRANCE DAY AT SOLDIERS' TOWER NOVEMBER 9, 2012 AT 10:20 AM



Left: Remembrance Day Services, University of Toronto in front of Soldiers' Tower, November 11, 1939. Right: Remembrance Day Services, University of Toronto Front Campus, 1942. Photos courtesy the Image Bank, Archives and Records Management, University of Toronto.

Since November 11 falls on a weekend this year, the annual Remembrance Day Service on the St. George Campus will be held on Friday, November 9 at 10:20 am at Soldiers' Tower, immediately west of Hart House.

This service commemorates the sacrifice made by members of the student body, alumni and staff in both World Wars I and II. Their names are inscribed on the memorial screen and in the archways of the tower itself. The Memorial Room on the second level of the tower will be open after the ceremony for visitors to view the collection of memorabilia acquired over the years. There are magnificent stained glass windows on the stairwell and in the memorial room. The main window (see image at right) is designed to reflect the poem by John McCrae *In Flanders Fields* as well



as Canada's emergence as a nation. The stained glass Memorial Window was installed in 1995 and the stained glass stairwell windows in 2005. There is a portrait of John McCrae, other Victoria Cross winners who were alumni, and of Frederick Banting, one of the discoverers of insulin, who died in an air crash while serving in the armed services during WWII.

Tradition dictates the content of the service: The laying of wreaths, the singing of certain hymns, the recitation of *In Flanders Fields*, the Last Post, The Lament, Reville, and the Royal and National Anthems. A reception in the Great Hall of Hart House follows the service.

For years, this service has had the best attendance of the many held on November 11 in Toronto. Please join us.

SAA also gives back!

Over the years, the SAA has established scholarships for University students with surpluses that have accrued from the Canadian Perspectives lecture series. It is not our policy to engage in fundraising of any kind. In the years since it was first established in 1976, the SAA has developed into a responsible and regular contributor of services to the University, and is a well-regarded constituent of the U of T alumni community.

In this past year, SAA has supported the *OTSS-Bruce Kidd Social Sciences and Humanities Fellowship* in the Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education (\$200).

At Woodsworth College, the *Senior Alumni Association Award*

for *Senior Students* offered support to several students. **Donna Ramsaroop** (\$560) is a graduate of the Academic Bridging Program. **Larlane Black** (\$500) has just completed her TESOL certification (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages). **Hester Bernard** (\$1,000) is a graduate of the Academic Bridging Program who is currently majoring in English and Philosophy with a minor in Jewish Studies.

As many of you are aware, last year the University launched its Boundless Campaign. The goal is quite ambitious (\$2 billion) and U of T supporters have responded generously with \$1.12 billion donated to-date. This year your SAA Executive has voted to donate \$2,000 to the Campaign with the intent of having the University achieve—even surpass—its goal faster!



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. Contact Emma Duncan at our office: (416) 978-0544, or email senior.alumni@utoronto.ca for more information.

Volunteers needed for Academic Retiree Centre

The Academic Retiree Centre (ARC) is in need of reliable, responsible volunteers to take on a 3.5-hour weekly shift at the Centre’s reception desk, and work on the Senior College Encyclopedia of the History of U of T using a provided computer. Volunteers must be familiar with the Internet, searching for information, and the use of email. Other duties include greeting visitors and answering inquiries.

The ARC is located at 256 McCaul, just south of College St. The hours are 9:00am to 4:30pm. It is open to retired professors, librarians, and senior administrators of U of T.

If you want to volunteer for this position, contact Mary Vohryzek, co-chair of the SAA volunteers: 416-966-8751 or mwvohryzek@gmail.com

Brain Imaging Research

The Movement Disorder Unit at the Toronto Western Hospital is looking for healthy volunteers for brain imaging research. This study involves magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and positron emission tomography (PET). This research will help to advance understanding of cognitive impairment in Parkinson’s disease. Eligibility for volunteers:

- must be between 55 and 80 years old
- have no history or indication of neurological or psychiatric illness
- have no metal implants or a cardiac pacemaker

The eligibility for the PET study may depend on the results of any part of the screening process (screening session, MRI study).

For further information, please contact:

Leigh Christopher
PhD Candidate, University of Toronto
CAMH & Toronto Western Hospital
416-535-8501 ext. 7395 / leigh.christopher2@gmail.com

Having Trouble Sleeping?

If you:

- Are 40 years or older
- Have trouble falling asleep or staying asleep or both
- Experience trouble sleeping for at least 3 nights per week for at least 6 months

You may be eligible for treatment in a research study looking at effectiveness of two behavioural treatments. No medication involved. Participation is voluntary.

For more information about the study, contact:

(416) 979-5000-1-2568
cardiac.insomnia@ryerson.ca

Ryerson University, Health Intervention Research Center.

Funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research



Events

Woodsworth College Alumni Café

Tuesday, November 27, 2012.

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



Isabella d'Este, Renaissance Woman

Come and learn about one of the leading women of the Italian Renaissance who was a cultural and political figure as well as patron of the arts.

Speaker: Ken Bartlett, Professor of History, Renaissance Studies Program, Victoria College.

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

Cost: \$10 Alumni, \$12 Guests

Contact Information

Stephanie Woodside
416-978-5301
stephanie.woodside@utoronto.ca

Astronomy Lectures, Tours and Interactive Shows



First Thursday of Most Months
Time: 8:00pm
Place: 15th floor,
McLennan Physical Labs
60 St. George Street

More Information:
http://www1.astro.utoronto.ca/~gasa/public_talk/iWeb/index.php

On the first Thursday of most months (check the above URL), free tours are offered by graduate students in the Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics. Tours start at 8:00p.m. in the winter and 9:00p.m. in the summer.

Presentations are generally in the hall in the McLennan Physical Labs at 60 St. George St. followed by observing sessions on the 15th and 16th floors. In case of cloudy weather, a tour of the telescopes is still offered, but instead of viewing astronomical objects, a virtual sky tour is given in the observatory domes and the balcony telescopes (on the 15th floor) are pointed at down-town buildings such as the CN tower.

SAA Arbor Award winners

The Arbor Awards were created by the University of Toronto in 1989 to recognize volunteers for outstanding personal service to the university. Since then, the university has annually acknowledged the alumni and friends whose loyalty, dedication and generosity has added substantially to the quality of the University of Toronto experience for students, faculty, staff and alumni.

Individuals are nominated for the award, which can be granted for contributions to specific constituencies, or to the university at large. The award ceremony is sponsored by University Advancement and took place this year on September 12 at the President's official residence at 93 Highland Ave. To accommodate all the award winners, a huge tent was put up on the front lawn. It was a pleasant evening and guests had the opportunity to stroll the grounds and wander about the first floor of the residence prior to the actual award ceremonies.

Several SAA members were nominated for the award for outstanding service.

Donald Forsey



Since joining SAA in 2009, Don Forsey has served on the association's Executive Board as treasurer, managing the association's financial resources efficiently and wisely. Don has faithfully supported the Canadian Perspectives Lecture Series offered by the association. Wendy Talfourd-Jones, the current President of the SAA accepted the award on Don Forsey's behalf.

Marilyn F. Hahn



Since joining the Senior Alumni Volunteer Program in 2003, Marilyn Hahn has been involved in Robarts Library tours, the University College Convocation BBQ, the Sociology Spring Reunion BBQ, and mailings for the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering Spring Reunion. As well, Marilyn has supported the Centre for International Ex-

perience and the Senior College's event at Old Fort York to commemorate the War of 1812. Marilyn has also worked as a volunteer for the President's Annual Garden Party.

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Melanie Milanich



Melanie Milanich joined the SAA in 2003 and, for the past eight years, has helped regularly with Robarts Library tours. She has volunteered her time to support the University College Convocation BBQ, and other U of T special events. In addition, Melanie supports the Centre for International Experience by providing her own nature walks and historic tours of

Toronto to groups of international students and professors.

U of T offers open online courses

In 2001, MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) announced that it was their intention to make all of their courses freely available over the Internet within the next ten years. The online courses would include video-taped lectures, lecture notes, course outlines, reading lists, and assignments for each course—similar to what students who actually *attend* MIT would receive. The difference is that no credit would be given for these online courses. MIT views their OpenCourseWare (OCW) as its mission in the broadest sense: to advance knowledge and educate students.

In October 2003, OCW was officially launched with 500 courses, many of which were translated into Spanish, Portuguese, and Chinese. By November 2007, MIT completed the initial publication of virtually their entire curriculum, over 1,800 courses in 33 academic disciplines. Today the MIT OCW website averages 1 million visits per month. The site is visited not only by students (42%) but also by educators (9%) who are free to adapt material in the OCW for their own purposes under a Creative Commons License.

The OCW idea has been taken up by many other academic institutions and in 2008, the OCW Consortium was incorporated as an independent non-profit organization with over 250 universities and associated organizations worldwide offering more than 13,000 courses in 20 languages.

Now the Department of Computer Science is leading the way in U of T's experiment with open online courses. As reported on the department website, three free courses will be offered. *Learn to Program I: The Fundamentals* – Behind every mouse click and touch-screen tap, there is a computer program that makes things happen. This course introduces the fundamental building blocks of programming using the Python language. *Learn to Program II: Crafting Quality Code* – Not all programs are created equal. This course will focus on writing quality code that runs correctly and efficiently. In *Neural Networks for Machine Learning* students will learn about artificial neural networks and how they're being used for machine learning, as applied to speech and object recognition, image segmentation, modeling language and human motion, etc.

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The computer science courses are being taught by senior lecturers Paul Gries and Jennifer Campbell. Gries has received the university's top teaching award and Campbell is co-author of a popular textbook. University Professor Geoffrey Hinton, one of the world's leading researchers in machine learning and artificial intelligence, and winner of the 2011 Herzberg Gold Medal, Canada's top award in science and engineering will be teaching the neural networks course. The three courses have registered (respectively) 48,000, 15,000, and nearly 22,000 students so far.

The materials developed for the online courses will be used to enhance the learning experience of U of T students. Faculty members will use the materials to teach via the inverted classroom model in which students can engage with recorded materials on the Internet at their own pace. Classroom time can then be used for more active engagement between U of T instructors and students.



The U of T courses are being offered through Coursera, a platform for offering Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs). Coursera's mission

is "to change the world by educating millions of people by offering classes from top universities and professors online for free".

Even though Coursera was only started in the fall of 2011, there are already 33 participating universities including Princeton, Stanford, Johns Hopkins, Columbia, Vanderbilt, Michigan, the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and others (see a complete list at <https://www.coursera.org/universities>). Up until July of this year, Coursera has seen over 680,000 students from 190 countries and more than 1.6 million course enrollments across its 43 courses. U of T is the first Canadian university to join the international initiative.

In January, the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work will offer *The Social Context of Mental Health and Illness* and in February the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) will offer *Aboriginal World Views and Education*.

For more information, visit <https://www.coursera.org/utoronto>.

New member on SAA Executive



Although new to the SAA Executive as a Member-At-Large, **Irene Devlin** is not a stranger to the Senior Alumni Association and to the Canadian Perspectives Lecture Series. She has been attending the lectures series for approximately ten years, the last five as a Co-Chair of the Monday series. Previous SAA Executive Member Doug Philp introduced both Irene and her husband Gerry Devlin (our current Past President) to

the Association and the lecture series. Although now a Member-at-Large, Irene is still involved with the planning and booking of guests for the Canadian Perspective lecture series.

A graduate of Woodsworth College, Irene majored in French Literature and Fine Arts. With a passion for education, she spent her career teaching primary school in Toronto's west end. With a high density of ethnicity in the area, Irene devoted extra time, including teaching in the evenings, to mentor and help students with their

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Your 2012-13 SAA Executive



Front row l to r: Beverley Coburn, Secretary; Irene Devlin, Member-at-Large; Wendy Talfourd-Jones, President; Gloria Buckley, Planning Chair; Linda Fischer, Assistant Secretary

Back row l to r: Jane Hunter, Assistant Treasurer; Maureen Somerville, Vice-President; Gerry Devlin, Past President; Kristine Thompson, Canadian Perspectives Lectures Chair; Mary Vohryzek, Senior Alumni Volunteers Co-Chair; Don Forsey, Treasurer; Ihor Prociuk, Communications Chair and Newsletter Editor; Wolf von Kalben, Member-at-Large.

Absent: June Pemberston, Senior Alumni Volunteers Co-Chair; Betty Carter, Member-at-Large; Jean Orpwood, Canadian Perspectives Lectures Co-Chair (Monday Group); Laura Cooper, Canadian Perspectives Lectures Co-Chair (Wednesday Group); Dagmar Falkenberg, Canadian Perspectives Lectures Co-Chair (Wednesday Group).

English language skills. Irene puts a very high value on education and its role in children's development as well as a great importance on encouraging and taking an interest in each child.

Married for fifty-five years, Irene and Gerry have five children and ten grandchildren. Obviously, a great deal of her life revolves around family, yet Irene still finds time for volunteering. An Arbor Award recipient, she, along with Gerry, volunteers in other campus activities, such as U of T's annual Reunion weekend. As well, Irene volunteers in her community and in the educational sector. Among Irene's interests are long walks, reading and, until recently, travelling with Gerry on some of U of T's Travel Programs.

The SAA welcomes Irene on board, and looks forward to her increased involvement with our Executive.

Wendy Talfourd-Jones, President

No one ever said on their deathbed, "Gee, I wish I had spent more time alone with my computer."

--Danielle Berry, American computer programmer

President's Corner



Wow – November already! Where does time go? But autumn on campus, with the changing leaves and brisk weather, can be a very special time to experience.

Our fall Canadian Perspectives lecture series is well under way. For those of you registered and attending, I trust that you are enjoying both the speakers and the topics. There have been some excellent lectures and we are not finished yet! Good things are still to come. Kristine Thompson and her team are already well underway on the book-

ings for the Winter Series in February, and have also started on the April Spring lectures. You will receive registration information before the Fall lectures finish at the end of November.

Thank you to all of the members who attended the Special General Meeting on October 15th. We were able to quickly and efficiently get the business done and enjoy the following lecture. An article on the meeting appears in this newsletter.

The Honourable David Peterson finished six wonderful years as Chancellor in June, and as of July 1st, U of T has a new Chancellor: the Honourable Michael Wilson. The Chancellor's formal installation will take place on November 12th. An article on page 6 highlights his career.

Because Remembrance Day falls on a Sunday this year, U of T's services will take place on Friday, November 9th at Soldier's Tower with a reception to follow at the Great Hall in Hart House. It is an excellent service and you are encouraged to attend. Details are found in the front-page story as well as some fantastic archival photos found by our editor, Ihor Prociuk.

This month, thanks to Executive Member Gloria Buckley, the SAA will be participating in the university's "Dinner With 12 Strangers" program which is a meet-and-greet between alumni and students at an alumnus/a member's home. This will be the third time Gloria has hosted this wonderful evening with students and we thank her for doing it. If you are interested in hosting such an event, contact Emma at our office or visit the website <http://alumni.utoronto.ca/volunteer/host-a-dinner/>.

On behalf of the SAA Executive, I wish you all safe and happy holidays, and a healthy and fulfilling New Year 2013! We look forward to seeing you on campus in the New Year—and especially at our Winter Canadian Perspectives lectures.

We're always happy to hear from you. You can contact me directly at my email address below. Enjoy this issue of the SAA newsletter.

Wendy Talfourd-Jones, SAA President
wendytj@alumni.utoronto.ca

Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there."

–Will Rogers, American performer, humorist and critic

Present Laughter more like a giggle



SAA members strolled through picturesque downtown Niagara-on-the-Lake. The cenotaph is a prominent land-mark.

On Thursday, October 4th, 14 SAA members and friends set off as part of a regular Mary Morton tour to Niagara-on-the-Lake to see the Noel Coward play *Present Laughter* in the Festival Theatre. We were blessed with brilliant weather, sunny and mild, in which to enjoy the drive and the leaves even co-operated by beginning their fall change to red, yellow, and orange.

The lunch at the Prince of Wales was excellent in quality, service, and presentation, and we had time afterwards to stroll the main street and enjoy what the town has to offer. As for me, I shopped!

Coward himself said: "*You've got to control the audience... killing the ripples of small laughs to get the waves.*" I don't think that the director was entirely successful in achieving this. The play was entertaining and amusing, the actors were wonderful in their roles, but the big laughs were few. One person I was discussing this with said she thought the timing was off, that the delivery of the lines was the problem. However, it was enjoyable in many ways. Steven Sutcliffe as Gary Essendine captured the charming side of Essendine's character very well, counteracting his womanizing and explaining how he was so successful at it. One repeated gesture by the character, checking his appearance, especially his hair in a mirror before he answered the door, was a nice touch, emphasizing the vanity of the character. The rest of the actors acquitted themselves very well, including Johathan Tam who played the frenetic Roland Maule with great energy. The housekeeper was very well played by Corrine Koslo, with a cigarette hanging on one side of her mouth and an accent from the bottom of the English class system. These are two relatively minor characters, but the actors captured my attention and admiration by the way they were always in role.

Coward's plays reflect a time, place, and society that no longer exists, perhaps never entirely did. Charm plays a great part in his characters' portrayal, something we don't see enough of these days!

The set was stunning and the costumes were gorgeous, reflecting the style of Coward's heyday. The idea of a man in a dressing gown with everything but the jacket of a suit underneath is very old-fashioned today. I could find nothing anachronistic at all in the production. The suggestion of multiple partners probably was quite shocking in Coward's day, but would faze very few audience members in the present.

In summary, the day was most enjoyable, and we were back in the city in good time.

I'll be looking at next year's theatre trips in the near future!

Maureen Somerville, Events Chair

University of Toronto Senior Alumni Association
Canadian Perspectives

Planning for the ever-popular Canadian Perspectives Winter series is well underway. The series will run over five consecutive Tuesday mornings starting on February 5th and ending on March 5th. The Lecture Series committee has confirmed the following speakers to-date:

- **Dr. Kathy Siminovitch** on *Personalizing Health Care*
- **Professor John Greenwood** on *Machiavelli: The Prince*
- **Professor Ian Clark** on *The Future of University Education*

Registration forms will be available in mid-November.

We'd like to hear from you. If you have any comments about the lecture series or if there's a topic or area of interest you'd like the committee to explore, let us know. Send your comments to:

senior.alumni@utoronto.ca .

Special General Meeting, Oct. 15, 2012

Since we did not have a quorum of thirty voting members at our Annual General Meeting last May 2nd, the Association had to call a brief Special General Meeting for Monday, October 15th, at 1:00pm, just prior to the first Monday lecture of the fall Canadian Perspectives Lecture Series.

We had a large turnout and definitely did not have to worry about meeting quorum requirements this time. President Wendy Talfourd-Jones presided and with the help of the Executive members, was able to address the items of business in a very brief seven minutes.

There were two items that were carry-overs from the May AGM that had to be ratified by the voting membership so that the Association Executive could continue to do business: first, ratification of the slate of the 2012 Executive and second, the appointment of our auditor for 2012, Ben Goldmintz.

Two new items of business were also brought forward at this meeting for approval. The quorum of thirty voting members at an AGM or SGM was reduced to twenty voting members. As well, due to the Association's difficulty over the past several years in bringing new members onto the Executive, the definition of "Member" was modified both in our Constitution and Bylaws to enable the Executive, in exceptional circumstances, to appoint a non-UofT graduate as a member to the Executive in one of the 'specialized' positions of Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary or Assistant Secretary, but not in the positions of President and Vice-President.

Many thanks to our membership who unanimously ratified the above items so we can continue to run the SAA on your behalf for the next year. In the spring, you will have plenty of opportunities to hear about the May, 2013 AGM and we encourage you to attend, not only for the business part but for the speaker (our sixth spring lecture) and the reception afterwards.

U of T appoints new Chancellor



On July 1, 2012, **Michael Wilson** became the 33rd Chancellor of the University of Toronto. He was elected by the College of Electors, a body that represents the Alumni of the University. The Chancellor is the ceremonial head of the University, presiding at convocations, conferring all University degrees and acting as ambassador to the wider community and more than 500,000 graduates worldwide.

He will also play an essential role in advancing the University's interests within the local, provincial and international arenas.

Chancellor Wilson is a graduate of Upper Canada College and Trinity College U of T (1959). His career began as an investment banker, and he currently serves as Chairman of Barclays Capital Canada. However, it is in public service we have mainly heard of him. He was elected as a Member of the Canadian Parliament in 1979 for the new constituency of Etobicoke Centre and served as Minister of Finance from 1984 to 1991, when he was appointed as Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and then as Minister for International Trade. He was responsible for the NAFTA trade negotiations in the latter position. From 2006 to 2009, Michael Wilson served as the 22nd Ambassador of Canada to the United States of America.

Mr. Wilson is a mental health advocate who was instrumental in establishing the Cameron Parker Holcombe Wilson Chair in Depression Studies at the University of Toronto, and continues to provide voluntary leadership in that field. He was appointed by the Government of Canada to the Governing Council of the Canadian Institutes for Health Research, of which he is currently Vice-Chair.

From 2003 to 2006, he served with distinction as Chancellor of Trinity College. In 2005, the University of Toronto conferred an honorary Doctor of Laws degree on him in recognition of his exemplary and long-standing volunteer leadership and outstanding community service.

To list all of Chancellor Wilson's accomplishments in his professional and public life would be impossible in a short article, but he has been honoured by the Conference Board of Canada, the Public Policy Forum and The Rotman School of Business. He also has honorary degrees from York University and Trinity College at the University of Toronto.

We are indeed honoured to welcome Michael Wilson as our new Chancellor.

Maureen Somerville, Vice-President

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