

# ALUMNI NEWS

## OFF THE BEATEN PATH

Devron Kobluk '07 and  
Blue Diamond Technologies  
revolutionizing the waste tire industry

### A SNAPSHOT OF THE PAST

Lenore Dinsdale '45 shares her  
memories of Brandon College

### CANADA'S FUTURE

Meritorious  
Brandon University alumni

BRANDON UNIVERSITY HOMECOMING

OCTOBER 12 - 14, 2012

# BLUE & GOLD WEEKEND

BRANDON UNIVERSITY HOMECOMING

OCTOBER 12 - 14, 2012

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**BRANDON  
UNIVERSITY**

Founded 1899

## ALUMNI NEWS

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### Printing

Leech Printing Ltd., Brandon, Manitoba

This magazine was printed on FSC Certified stock  
at Leech Printing Ltd., a Forest Stewardship  
Council (FSC) chain of custody certified printer.  
For more information visit [www.fsc.org](http://www.fsc.org).

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### Send us your stories!

A close-knit and friendly place, Brandon University (BU) has inspired a multitude of heart-warming stories. As alumni, you undoubtedly have much to tell about the relationships that you developed while at BU. Was it the meeting ground for you and your spouse, a business partner or a great friend? Perhaps you developed a lifelong mentorship with a special faculty member?

If you have any suggestions or know of an outstanding alumna/alumnus you believe should be featured in *Alumni News*, please contact the Alumni Office. Your ideas and feedback are most welcome.

*Alumni News* is published twice a year and reaches more than 13,000 alumni and friends of Brandon University worldwide. To date, thousands of alumni have supported the Brandon University Alumni Association (BUAA) through participation in alumni programs, affinity products and service offerings. If you do not wish to be provided with product or service offers or do not wish to receive *Alumni News* in the future, please contact the Alumni Office.

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Publications mail agreement #40064061  
Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:  
Brandon University Alumni Association  
270 - 18th Street  
Brandon, MB, Canada R7A 6A9

SPRING 2012

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Winterlude 2012

## Dear Alumni, Community Members and Friends of Brandon University,

This issue of *Alumni News* finds us busy with developing a new corporate look for our publications and website. While staying true to our heritage, BU also has to look to future success. Part of that means an *au courant* approach to visualizing and communicating our image, our values and our goals.

The University is also focused on a capital campaign. One key element of that campaign is completing the funding requirements for a new state-of-the-art Healthy Living Centre. This impressive facility will formally open in the fall of 2012 and will serve as a resource for students, staff and members of the Brandon community at large. This will be a great venue for our Bobcats and we look forward to seeing them in the new sports complex. As well, we are fundraising for increased levels of scholarships, bursaries and infrastructure support for all students with a particular emphasis on the student success of our Aboriginal and First Nations BU population.

These activities are gearing up with a number of coast to coast trips to meet with Alumni and friends of the university over the next few months. I very much look forward to meeting with you on this cross-country adventure.

We are also increasing our internationalization strategy and for the first time in our recent history, we will be attending student recruitment fairs in India. At the same time, we will continue our recruitment efforts in China. Part of this strategy includes opportunities for BU students to attend visiting semesters abroad. We now have two programs—the National Student Exchange and membership in the University of the Arctic—to facilitate these exchanges.

I would like to draw your attention to the many interesting profiles in this issue. We are blessed with remarkable graduates and you can get to know them better through the focus on their successes.

Again, I look forward to meeting with many of you during the next few months.

Warm regards,

Deborah





Left to right: Mr. Ryan Land, Vale MB; Dr. Karen Rempel, Project Investigator; Dr. Deborah Poff, BU President; Ms. Sheryl Moose, Research Assistant; Mr. Patrick Moose, Sheryl's father and Vale employee.

## Vale Contributes to Research Project

In late January, Dr. Deborah Poff accepted Vale's donation of \$400,000 in support of the Vital Outcomes Indicators for Community Engagement for Children and Youth (VOICE) project, from Ryan Land, Manager of Corporate Affairs, Vale Manitoba. Dr. Poff was accompanied by Dr. Karen Rempel, one of the lead project investigators, and graduate student Sheryl Moose. BU is supported in this project through a \$1 million-dollar

peer-reviewed research grant from the Government of Canada, through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Community-University Research Alliances Program (SSHRC CURA). The University College of the North will also participate in the research activities. As well, the project will include individuals from Frontier School Division, Kelsey School Division and the School District of Mystery Lake.

## BU Professor Emeritus Gets Provincial Nod

Errol Black, a former BU professor who taught courses in Labour and Public Policy, Economics, and Industrial Relations, has been inducted into the Order of the Buffalo Hunt. Manitoba Premier Greg Selinger made the trip to Brandon to bestow this tribute and to recognize Mr. Black's outstanding dedication to higher education and to community service as well as his leadership in social reform. This winter, a park in the ward for which Mr. Black was a long-time councillor was named in his honour.



Errol Black Park Dedication Ceremony held February 3, 2012

photo courtesy Brandon Sun

# BUNOW

View the latest news and events at [www.brandonu.ca](http://www.brandonu.ca)

## AIA Supports Project Hero Scholarship

Mr. Doug Muir of the Manitoba division of the Automotive Industries Association of Canada (AIA) was on campus to donate \$500 towards Brandon University's Project Hero Scholarship. Dr. Deborah Poff accepted the funds, which were raised through the AIA's annual golf tournament held last summer. The Project Hero program provides undergraduate scholarships to children of fallen soldiers.



Left to right: Mr. Chuck Larocque, Brandon Salutes; Mr. Steve Morrison, Chair, Brandon Salutes; Mr. Doug Muir, Chair, Manitoba Division AIA; Dr. Deborah Poff, BU President.

## Winterlude 2012

On February 25, Brandon University hosted a one-day winter celebration. The day kicked off with a free brunch for both the University community and the community at large. More than 400 people enjoyed the food and the live entertainment. Following the Great Bannock Bake-Off, campus visitors participated in fun activities in Health Studies, Music, Science, Visual Art, Archeology, the poetry lab and more. To cap off the day, fans cheered on their favourite team at a faculty and staff vs. students hockey game, on the new BU outdoor rink. The students reigned victorious, and the rivalry is on for next year!

Dr. Poff presents the trophy to the students who defeated the faculty and staff with a score of 12-3.





Whitney Dabney (left) and Keith Vassell (right) with former BU Bobcats men's basketball coach, Jerry Hemmings.

## Hall of Fame Inductees

The Manitoba Basketball Hall of Fame recently inducted two former Bobcats — Whitney Dabney and Keith Vassell. Dabney was a member of the Bobcats team that won three straight national championships in 1986, 1987, and 1988, and was named an all-Canadian as well as a GPAC all-star for his last season. After finishing his university playing career, he played professional basketball in England and

Uruguay. Vassell led the Bobcats to the 1996 championship. He was named a three-time CIAU (CIS) all-Canadian and national player of the year in the 1994-1995 season. Also, he played for the Canadian national senior team in 1997, followed by professional basketball in Iceland and Spain before returning to Canada to coach. He served as head coach of the Bobcats from 2008 to 2010.

## Underlining International Women's Day at BU

In March, 17 female students were chosen by their professors for their outstanding qualities. A celebration of the day and of these women's accomplishments, organized by the Status of Women Review Committee, was held in the library. The honourees were Natalie Bohrn (music performance), Laura Brandon (anthropology/archaeology and native studies), Kirsty Cameron (creative arts), Krista Curry (master of education),

Alyssa Cuthbert (biology), Alise Gaiser (biology), Chelsey Hiebert (music performance), Hannah Maizer (biology), Darla Palmer (biology), Shantelle Rank (psychiatric nursing), Julia

Redfern (biology), Jaryn Ruether (nursing), Ericka Serrano (master of education), Carly Swain (music education), Tina Thomas (biology), Tammy Turner (nursing), and Melissa Wishart (biology).



Acclaimed violinist James Ehnes (far left) and Kerry DuWors, Assistant Professor of Violin (far right), with School of Music students.

## Class with the Master

The morning after his duo recital with pianist Andrew Armstrong in the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium, violinist James Ehnes shared some tricks of the trade with the young violinists in the School of Music. Ehnes, who is the Francis Chaplin Guest Professor of Violin at Brandon University as well as a member of the Order of Canada and a fellow in the Royal Society of Canada, returns to his hometown at least once a year to perform as well as to lead masterclasses.

## Alumni Authors



**Natalia's Peace.** **Adrian de Hoog, BSc'67** grew up in Brandon and attended Brandon College from 1964-67. He was in the Canadian diplomatic service for 30 years with postings in Nairobi, Bonn and Berlin (as Consul General). His third novel, *Natalia's Peace*, is another international suspense story. It is about a confidential diplomatic initiative in The Hague aimed at developing new ideas to advance peace within the framework of the security challenges we face today. It explores the causes of conflict and fresh approaches for addressing them. The book has a fast-paced plot which pits the forces in the world pushing for a more enlightened international order against those that profit from armed conflict. More information is available at: [www.nataliaspeace.com](http://www.nataliaspeace.com).

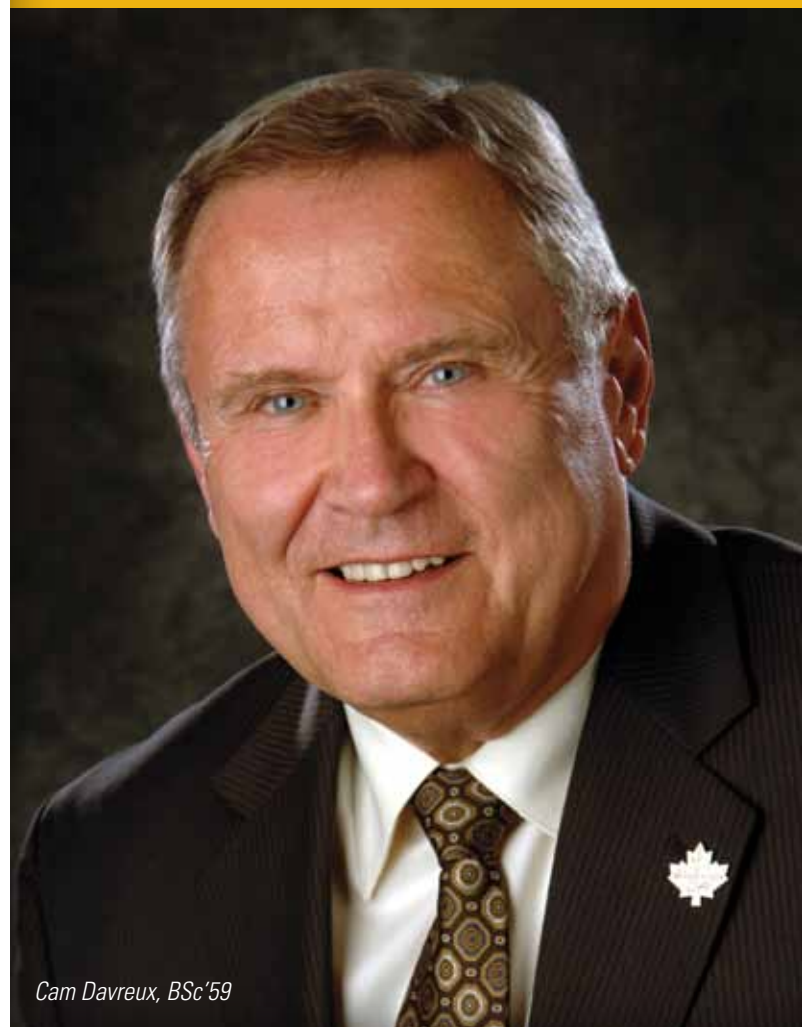


**Manitoba Wild.** In his new book, *Manitoba Wild*, author **Bill Stilwell, BGS'88**, from Neepawa, MB shares his vast first-hand experience and knowledge of Manitoba. The author of two previous best-sellers, *Manitoba, Naturally* and *Scenic Secrets of Manitoba*, now invites you to explore and enjoy more of Manitoba's best kept scenic secrets and wild places. *Manitoba Wild* takes readers on scenic drives to places of unmatched natural beauty with spectacular wildlife and nature-viewing opportunities. More intimate experiences can be had by hiking or biking to explore these scenic secrets. For more information, visit [www.manitobawild.com](http://www.manitobawild.com) or call (204) 476-5210. Book orders are also accepted by emailing [manitobawild@mts.net](mailto:manitobawild@mts.net).

*If you are an alumni author or recording artist, we would like to hear from you. Contact the Alumni Association at [alumni@brandonu.ca](mailto:alumni@brandonu.ca) or 204-727-9697.*



# Global Impact



Cam Davreux, BSc'59

For his green initiatives in the plant science industry, Cam Davreux, BSc'59, recently received an award from the Pesticide Stewardship Alliance and last fall, he won the Canadian Stewardship Award, which covers all industry sectors across Canada. Several other acknowledgements of his work preceded these honours, including an Agrow Industry Award.

Cam started his professional journey at Brandon University (Brandon College). Fifty years later, at the 2009 Homecoming, Davreux—as Class President—addressed his assembled classmates:

“We were so fortunate,” said Davreux during the event. “Most of us grew up in rural Western Canada, and in Manitoba, unlike other parts of our war-torn world, it was an idyllic time... there were no big upsets in our lives. We had the good fortune to go to Brandon College, which was an exceptional experience—and when we graduated we even beat the Boomers to the good jobs!”

Even though he had once thought of following in his mechanic father's footsteps, he decided that a post-secondary education could only brighten his future plans. Having dropped chemistry during his early high school years, Davreux managed to get his university requirements in that discipline within the last two months of high school.

“Once I was in Brandon, I got to know the entire student body and all the professors, and it forced me to participate in many activities,” he recalls. “If I had gone to a large university, I don't think I would have been as involved. The experience at Brandon got me out of my comfort zone and forced me to participate in things I might not have otherwise. A smaller and more intimate university like Brandon, particularly for me, was of immense value.”

After graduating, Davreux headed to Calgary, where he first worked in weather modification. However, he realized that the key to his success lay in further education. So he went to London, where he studied at the University of Western Ontario and obtained a Master of Business Administration. This led to a career in the plastics industry in the 1970s, including a posting in England for a large, multinational chemical company.

“Then, I ended up back in their Canadian branch in the agricultural business, before moving to the industry trade association. That's when I had both the privilege and opportunity to implement the industry's stewardship programs,” says Davreux.

He stresses that Canada's success and recognition has been the result of not one person, but of many committed people at all levels working toward shared industry goals. During this time, Davreux also chaired the industry's global initiative to recycle empty plastic chemical containers, with programs in 32 countries and a further 25 pilot programs in the developing world.

Lorne Hepworth, the president of CropLife Canada, the trade association representing the developers, manufacturers and

distributors of plant science technologies with which Davreux has been associated, stated that his contributions have been unparalleled.

“Cam was instrumental (in) making the plant science industry's vision for full lifecycle stewardship a reality at a time when recycling and other health, safety and environmental programs were not yet the norm,” said Hepworth. “Through this, not only has Cam had a true impact on Canada's environment, he's also been a strong proponent of establishing similar stewardship programs in developing countries.”

At Davreux's retirement last year, CropLife Canada announced the “Cam Davreux Stewardship Award,” to be presented annually to a deserving candidate in the plant science industry.

Although officially retired, Cam continues to consult for CropLife Canada, CropLife International, and the Food & Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. ■

Cutting edge technology, international customers and big-budget projects are now part and parcel of Devron Kobluk's professional life. As the President of Blue Diamond Technologies (BDT), he has co-created a company that owns intellectual property, trademarks and patents related to four different green businesses. These initiatives are helping to change traditional practices into more environmentally friendly ones.

Though his early years were spent in a rural setting, Kobluk's leap into the global market has been a quick, yet natural progression. After obtaining a degree in Environmental Studies with a focus on forest conservation, Kobluk worked as an assistant manager for the Alonsa Conservation District. However, upon reading a brochure about graduate programs at Brandon University (BU) and after a bit more digging on the University's website, Kobluk says he "was hooked."

"Growing up on a farm near Inglis (Manitoba), I took a special interest in rural development and ways to allow for new environmental, economic and business models to bring growth to the region," he continues.

Of his time at BU, Kobluk remembers enjoying the small class sizes and the close personal working relationships with the professors in the Department of Rural Development.

"Taking the graduate program allowed for more independent thought and discussions," he says. "A highlight was meeting a very diverse group of people from across Canada and Ghana that were in the program. Although we all came from different backgrounds with different issues facing our rural areas, our goal to improve people's lives was the same."

In his newest role, he works with the BDT's CEO and board members to implement projects that adhere to securities and accounting regulations. One of the developments BDT has introduced is a new technology that increases the efficiency by which water can be used to recycle tires.

"Our unique process allows for recovered rubber to be a direct replacement for virgin rubber and plastic polymers in the manufacturing process," says Kobluk. "Current technology uses shredding and cracker mills to size-reduce tires which is highly inefficient, and the end product does not have the proper chemical and physical characteristics for new rubber products and plastics."

As a result, BDT recently signed a capital financing contract for the first commercial facility with Insigma Group China. Citizens of China are now purchasing vehicles more than ever. The consequences of this, including the disposal of tires, are of great concern. In the United States, where the population is less dense than in China, it is estimated that there is one scrap tire per person per year. Today in China there are more than 310 million car owners—a figure that is expected to double in the next five years. Tires alone present a huge problem. So, while North American markets have been slow to respond to BDT's tire solution, the Chinese authorities quickly bought

into the new technology. Within less than a year, rubber recycling plants will be built in China based on BDT's findings.

Another BDT innovation is an economical, inline, waste effluent treatment system that filters out human, animal, oil/gas and many other types of contaminants. Kobluk explains that current systems use large scale, expensive batch-handling technology.

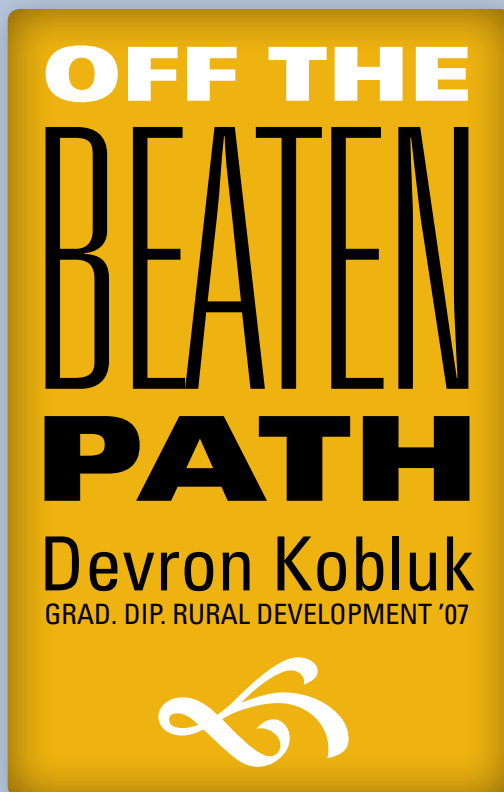
"Our system runs inline, allowing for the removal of nutrients and suspended solids," he says. "Towns and cities in North America face huge infrastructure costs to upgrade their human sewage treatment systems to meet new environmental regulations of nutrient discharges to the water table. Most notable is phosphorus, which causes algae growth in our waterways. Our system offers an affordable solution to meeting current and new regulations."

A third endeavour is focused in Vietnam. Kobluk's company has developed a waste-to-energy project that proposes taking municipal solid

waste and converting it into electricity, fertilizer, bio-gas, diesel and/or ethanol.

"My business partner and I have come across opportunities for (solutions) that are needed in the environment," Kobluk says. "So what we've done is come up with ideas and sourced out like-minded people and consulting or engineering groups. Then, we've raised private equity to fund third-party testing and any further work that we need done."

Finally, BDT holds a technology that increases the yield and quality of pork in hog processing plants.





“Although we all came from different backgrounds with different issues facing our rural areas, our goal to improve people’s lives was the same.”

“The technology complements current cooling processes in hog packing plants by increasing bottom line yield numbers and allowing for more product to meet specifications for Asian markets, which command a higher price per pound,” says Kobluk.

Like the other three business ventures, this one has gone through extensive research and development, business model building and marketplace investigating.

Blue Diamond Technologies is incorporated in Manitoba, with subsidiaries located in Asia and in the United States. One of Kobluk’s American colleagues, BDT’s Vice President of Business Development Thomas Ross, is based in Phoenix. He first met the BU alumnus when he was still a graduate student.

“What first comes to mind about Devron is his humility, strength and persistence,” said Ross in a phone interview. “Devron is perfectly suited for this company. I’ve seen him provide technical expertise and he has an eye for detail that I admire. He’s very focused and very devoted.”

Looking to the future, Kobluk anticipates other opportunities to develop new green technologies. Along with continued work toward the success of all four of BDT’s divisions, he and his partners will keep investigating current industrial processes and respond with socially and environmentally friendly alternatives.

“It’s always been said that clean energy and recycling is not profitable,” Kobluk says. “That is simply not true. It’s a matter of having the right pieces at the right time to make any business profitable.” ■



*Devron Kobluk,  
Grad. Dip. Rural  
Development '07*

# Canada's Future

## Meritorious Brandon University Alumni

**F**ive deserving recent graduates, chosen from among the most talented students across the country, have received significant grants to pursue graduate studies. The recipients of Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada's Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarships are Sarah Delisle, Trent Gill and Samantha Grills. As well, two science graduates—Chris Pugh and Alyssa Yeo—received Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) of Canada's graduate scholarships. This substantial funding will enable these young scholars to continue developing their research and leadership skills.



**Sarah Delisle**  
BA Honours, ADES '11

"I decided to attend Brandon University after reading about the Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies (ADES) program in the local paper while visiting my grandmother in Manitoba one summer. I moved from Montreal to Brandon the following year and never regretted my decision. My time at BU was a great learning experience that extended beyond the classroom. I am currently pursuing an MA in Geography at McGill University. Next summer, I will be conducting my fieldwork in Vietnam, where I will be looking at the impacts of climate change hazards on the food security and livelihoods of ethnic minorities in the Northern Uplands. After that, I am not too sure. I have some ideas, but just like my decision to attend BU back in 2007, I am making it up as I go!"



**Trent Gill**  
BA Honours, English '11

"The small classroom settings at BU were invaluable to my success as an undergraduate. They increased my drive to learn and to meet expectations. The contacts I met and produced work for have given me academic opportunities for which I'm continually grateful. I am pursuing a Master of Arts in English at the University of Western Ontario. My research interest is in the late American novel's intersection with the artistic modes of popular culture. Although I have just begun the Master degree, I am applying for PhD programs in English. There is a part of me that wants to consider my options outside of the academy, but at the present time I am thrilled with the opportunity to continue studying and participating in an academic setting."



**Five other graduates**, who have chosen to continue their studies in this province, have garnered Manitoba Graduate Scholarship grants. They are Immaculate Nabisere (Master of Rural Development), Blessing Emadedor (Master of Education), Geordie Waddell (Master of Music), Ian Shanghvi (Master of Rural Development) and Eric Lowe (Master of Education).



**Samantha Grills**

BA Honours, Political Science '11

"I decided to attend BU largely because of the fact that I would be able to stay near my family and friends. The small size of the school and the personal relationships I would be able to develop with faculty and staff was also a significant draw for attending BU. I enjoyed how easy it was to get to know your professors, how ridiculously quiet the North Stacks can get, the Forbidden Flavours (coffee shop) opening, and getting to hear speakers like Gwynne Dyer and Gloria Steinem. I am currently working towards my Master of Arts in Global Governance, at the University of Waterloo's Balsillie School of International Affairs. A part of my degree involves an internship, which I hope will help open doors for a career ideally working for an international non-governmental organization on issues of social justice and human rights."



**Christopher Pugh**

BSc Honours, Physics '11

"I attended BU because I wanted to stay at home for a while longer. Also, BU offered me tuition for first year and many other scholarships and I liked the small classes. My favourite part was the interaction of the Physics Department. We were very close with our professors as we had such a small department. The Physics Club was really fun and allowed me to meet many new people. I was also really excited about being able to help install the new telescope when it came. The Department gave me many other opportunities, like working summers with Dr. Gulliver. I'm currently at the University of Waterloo, pursuing a Master of Science in Physics (Quantum Information), with the hope of continuing on to a PhD program, possibly at Waterloo. Afterward, I would like to work in the industry, researching in Quantum Communication/Computing."



**Alyssa Yeo**

BSc, Chemistry '10

"I chose BU for several reasons, including the small campus, the relatively small class sizes and that it's in my hometown. It was easier to connect with fellow students and there were more opportunities for one-on-one time with the professors. My chemistry professors at BU were very encouraging, in particular Dr. Yan. He put me in contact with Dr. Michael Fryzuk at UBC and encouraged me to apply for an NSERC undergraduate student research award to work in the Department of Chemistry at UBC as a student researcher for the summer of 2009, which I did. This opened a lot of doors for me and made me seriously consider going into graduate studies. Initially, I applied to study for my MSc, but UBC recommended I be admitted directly into the Doctoral program, so I jumped at the chance. I'm hoping to complete my PhD in Chemistry at UBC and then go on to post-Doctoral studies. I may try to pursue a faculty position at a university and hopefully encourage young women to study Chemistry."

# IN TOUCH

Stay connected with university friends and classmates

## Gordon Williams, BSc'55 –

Gordon is (mostly) retired after 25 years on the faculty in the Geology Department at the University of Alberta, two years in Australia, and a five-year stint as Dean of Science and Technology at Mount Royal College (now University) in Calgary. He has done consulting work around the world and still teaches part of a course in Petroleum Land Management at the University of Calgary and presents day-long simulations of exploration and development in the oil and gas industry.

**Ron Keeler, BSc'62, BEd'71 & Verna (née Moore) Keeler, BA'63, EdCert.'64, BEd'84** – Ron and Verna have been spending retirement enjoying kids, grandkids, friends, travel, golf, gardening, and being a part of their Deloraine, MB community.

**Brian Foster, BA'63, EdCert'64** – Brian is a retired high school teacher and has three grown children and seven grandchildren. He is re-married to a retired teacher with another ten grandchildren.

## Garry Atchison, BSc'64 –

Garry is now retired after 35 years as a federal meteorologist. Garry and his wife Cheryl enjoy lots of travel and stealth exercise for mind and body through orienteering, dancing, and cross country skiing.

**Jim Parrott, BSc'64** – In 2007, Jim retired from his career as a heart surgeon and is now serving as MLA for the Legislature of New Brunswick. He and his wife breed and show quarter horses. They also enjoy growing grapes and making wine.

**Ed Mazer, BA'69** – After receiving his law degree from U of M in 1972, followed by a few years of practice, Ed entered the business world through ownership and management of several farm equipment dealerships. Having sold his business interests in 2008, he is now between jobs, with an emphasis on volunteer work. He is currently President of the BU Foundation and recently completed his term as a member of the BU Alumni Association. Ed's special interests include



**Tim Hodge, BMus'11 and Melissa (née Kildaw) Hodge, BMus/BEd (AD)'11** – Following graduation, Tim and Melissa moved back home to Winnipeg, MB. Melissa landed a teaching position at Linden Christian School in Winnipeg and Tim continues to teach private saxophone lessons. On August 6, 2011, Tim and Melissa were married. Both have fond memories of their time at BU.

grandkids, travel, outdoor activities, politics, and reading.

**Karen (née Anderson) Dunbar, BSc'71, BEd'77** – Karen retired in June 2010 from a teaching career that began in fall of 1972. She farms with her husband south of Souris, MB. She spends her extra time curling in the winter and golfing in the summer. She has two boys: one is a heavy duty

mechanic and the other is a high school teacher.

**Bob McCamis, BSc'71 & Betty (née Conroy) McCamis, BSc'71** – Bob and Betty have resided in Pinawa, MB since 1985 where Bob is employed at Atomic Energy of Canada as a safety and licensing analyst. They have three children, all of whom live in Winnipeg, MB.

**Tom Sclater, BSc'71, EdCert'72 and Lynda (née Roberts) Sclater, BSc'70, BEd'76** – After graduating from BU, Tom took his teacher training at BU. He began teaching in the fall of 1972 at Waskada School in Waskada, MB. He was the Vice-Principal for seven years and the Principal for five years. Tom retired in June 2006, after 33 years in the classroom. He and Lynda have started to travel and enjoy going south for a month or two during the winter. They also make trips to Edmonton, AB to see their daughter, Bryna. They enjoy golfing, downhill skiing, curling, fishing and camping. Tom also enjoys riding his Harley.

**Kerry Mummery, BSc'81** – After graduation, Kerry went on to coach swimming in Brandon, MB (Thunderbird Swim Club), Saskatoon, SK (Goldfin Swim Club) and Oakville, ON (Oakville Aquatic



Al Friesen

## Alumni Spotlight

**Geographic Literacy Award.** The Canadian Council for Geographic Education (CCGE) presented the Geographic Literacy Award to **Al Friesen, BA'72, Ed Cert.'74, BSc'82** on November 3, 2011. As an educator for over 30 years, Friesen's innovative and progressive teaching methods, such as linking textbook learning with observation in the real world, have been built into the Manitoba geography curriculum. Friesen initiated a Geo-Fair at his school and included field studies as part of his teachings around urban planning challenges. Both are ways in which he is increasing geography thinking and literacy in Canada. Friesen adds: "This achievement was in no small part due to the knowledge, experiences, and professional connections that I gained in my years at Brandon University."

**CCMA Award Recipient.** **Kelly Berehulka, BA'94** was named Talent Buyer/Promoter of the Year by the Canadian Country Music Association (CCMA) in front of a packed house of country music stars and industry leaders at the CCMA awards in Hamilton, ON, on October 5, 2011. This was his first win and his seventh consecutive nomination in the Talent Buyer/Promoter of the Year category.



Kelly Berehulka





## Annual Reunion

Alumni Bette (née Cantin) Tardiff, BA'72, BEd'90, Virginia (née Felawka) Wolfe, BA'72 and Betty Street-Kustra, BT'72, visited Wendy Slimmon, BT'73 at her home on Vancouver Island in September 2011. These BU buddies from the 70's try to get together each year.

(L-R) - Wendy Slimmon, Elizabeth (Bette) Tardiff, Virginia Wolfe and Betty Street-Kustra (back). Unable to attend the reunion this year was Carol (née Aberson) Sinclair. Another member of the group, Judy (Wood) Bray passed away in 2001.

Club). Along the way he completed a Master of Physical Education at the University of Saskatchewan and a PhD in Physical Education and Sport Science at the University of Alberta. Following the completion of his PhD, Kerry, along with his wife and two daughters, moved to Australia to work at CQ University in Rockhampton, Queensland. In July 2010, Kerry and his wife returned to Edmonton, AB where he took on the role of Dean of the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation at the University of Alberta.

**Melanie Twietmeyer, Associate'85** – Melanie has lived in and around the City of Calgary, AB since 1989. Her husband's children have provided them with three beautiful grandchildren. In 1989, she began the Certified Financial Planning course while working with one of Canada's major banks. Melanie has been working in the investment industry since 1993. In 2002, she obtained the Registered Financial Planner designation and in 2007, she obtained the designation of Financial Divorce Specialist. Melanie's interests include family, travel, hiking, horseback riding, fishing, reading, gardening, golf, music and cooking.

**Murray Nichol, BMus'92** – Murray has "retired" from a fifteen-year piano-teaching career at Tom Lee Learning Centre in Greater Vancouver to focus on adjudicating, examining for the

Royal Conservatory of Music, mentoring, and traveling with his partner of nearly 14 years. They have recently downsized to a townhouse near Trout Lake, which will be a transitional home until their new house is built. In November, Murray traveled to Pune, India, to adjudicate at a music festival.

**Michelle Surzyshyn, BGS'96, BEd(AD)'97** – For the past six years, Michelle has been working for Maple Leaf Foods Pork. She began in the Customer Service Department at the Winnipeg location and in 2009, she moved to Brandon to work at the Brandon Pork Plant as an assistant product manager.

**Anna Oliver, Associate'97** – Anna was enrolled in the Business Administration program at BU for two years and continued her education in Applied Health Sciences at Brock University. Anna served with the Canadian Forces in Bosnia before embarking on her career into real estate. For the past eight years, Anna has excelled in real estate and was recognized as a top performer with President's Gold and Platinum awards and was consistently a member of the Winners Circle. She continues her career in the real estate industry in the Greater Toronto Area.

**Erin Penno, Associate'00** – After completing two years of a BA at BU, Erin transferred to the Bachelor of Social Work program

at the University of Manitoba and graduated in 2003. Erin travelled internationally for a few years following graduation, both in Australia and in South Wales, UK, where she began her social work career specializing in the field of disabilities. Erin now lives in Calgary, AB where she graduated from the University of Calgary with her BEd in June 2011. Erin is currently pursuing a career in elementary education in Calgary. She continues to maintain strong ties to Brandon, MB through her parents and family.

**Ryan Steffenson, BBA'03** – After graduating from BU, Ryan accepted a position with Nav Canada, training for Air Traffic Control. In 2007, Ryan left the company and moved to Regina, SK to pursue a flying career. He is currently working for West Wind Aviation LP, based in Stony Rapids, SK flying the King Air 200. Ryan still calls Regina home.

**Jolie Hackman, BA'09** – Upon graduation from BU, Jolie was accepted into the Master of Occupational Therapy program at University of Manitoba and recently graduated. She moved to Saskatoon, SK to start a position as an occupational therapist at Royal University Hospital.

**Brendan Cooper, BSc'11 (Hon)** – Brendan is now pursuing a Master of Astrophysics at the University of Calgary.

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Brandon University Alumni Association would like to invite you to nominate candidates for the following awards:

### WALL OF FAME AWARD

Presented to alumni who have made a significant achievement in their personal career on a provincial, national or international level since leaving Brandon College/University.

### OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD

Presented to a Brandon University graduate from the last ten years who is 35 years of age or younger, in recognition of their significant achievements since graduation, either in his/her profession, sport or community service.

### BRANDON UNIVERSITY ALUMNI AWARD

Presented to a nominee in recognition of exceptional service to Brandon University and/or the Alumni Association.

### BRANDON UNIVERSITY ALUMNI AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

Presented to alumni who have made an outstanding contribution to community service.

Deadline for all nominations: May 31, 2012 at 4:30 pm.

For further information visit: [brandonu.ca/alumni](http://brandonu.ca/alumni) or visit the Alumni Association Office Room 025 Clark Hall or contact Carla Eisler, Alumni Relations Officer at 204-727-9697 or at [alumni@brandonu.ca](mailto:alumni@brandonu.ca).

## Annual Fund

Together, alumni across Canada and beyond have contributed \$52,417.16 through this year's Annual Fund appeal. These funds will be used to enhance programs and services for students in a number of areas across campus. Thank you to everyone whose generosity makes this possible!

## ALUMNI *by Class Year*

**Anne Dunfield, BA'37**

April 6, 2009

**Trent Frayne, Associate '39**

February 11, 2012

**George K. Gooden, Associate '42, BA'64, Honorary Degree '93**

September 8, 2011

**Rosa Shaw, BA'51**

November 13, 2011

**Peter Prokaska, BSc'53**

November 3, 2011

**Gilbert C. Giem, BSc'59**

October 20, 2011

**Dorothea M. Plohman, TTC'56**

July 20, 2011

**Ruth Mann, TTC'58**

October 17, 2009

**Robert S. Tuningley, BSc'59, BA'63, EdCert'65**

July 21, 2011

**Wayne D. Carey, BSc'66, EdCert'68**

August 31, 2011

**Floyd R. Clark, TTC'65, BA'70**

February 27, 2010

**Val E. Cummins, BSc'70**

August 25, 2011

**Alberta M. Kennedy, BEd'71**

June 5, 2011

**Jerry Matiation, BT'74, BA'81**

February 23, 2012

**Gladys G. Harper, Associate '80**

July 31, 2011

**Christopher E. Pashe, Associate '81**

December 23, 2011

**Gladys Kerr, BA'82**

August 18, 2011

**George R. Campbell, BGS'87**

March 10, 2012

**Darlene R. Kalenchuk, BScPN'03**

April 5, 2011

**Erica S. Friesen, Associate'06**

January 28, 2012

**Sharlene D. Geiger, BA'11**

January 13, 2012

## STAFF / FACULTY

**Joseph Barletta,**

Assistant Professor, French 1969–1988

October 19, 2011

**Marion Edwards,**

Education Clerk 1965–1985

July 20, 2011

**Gordon MacPherson,**

Dean of Music 1978–1987, Music

Professor 1966–1978 and 1987–1991

September 28, 2011

**Eileen McFadden, BA'53,**

Director of Library Services 1959–1977,

University Archivist 1977–1997

August 24, 2011

**Lillian Phillips,**

Library Assistant 1967–1986

September 27, 2011

# In Memory of George Gooden

February 11, 1921 – September 8, 2011

Brandon University will forever remember one of its biggest ambassadors. George Gooden began his relationship with Brandon College/Brandon University in 1939 as a student. At the age of 19, George found himself torn between his studies and trying to run the family business when his dad became ill, and he eventually dropped his classes.

By 1949, he officially took over the family menswear business, Gooden's Men's Shop Ltd., until his retirement in 1989. Meanwhile, in 1945, George married his high school sweetheart, Mary Watson, who had also attended Brandon College. George and Mary were soon blessed with three children: Kent, Jill and Bill. With his strong belief in the value of education, George returned to Brandon College graduating in 1964 with a BA.

With Mary by his side, George was an active family man and community leader. He served as President of the Brandon University Alumni Association, was Chair of the Board of Governors and was a key player in the establishment of the Brandon University Foundation in 1980. In 1989, he became President of the Foundation and remained an active member over the years. During this



time he was heavily involved in many of BU's fundraising initiatives.

George's community involvement expanded well beyond BU. He was involved with the Elspeth Reid Family Resource Centre, Many Voices Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Museum, Downtown Brandon Business Improvement Area, 1978/79 Canada Winter Games, Brandon General Hospital, YMCA, Kinsmen and K40 Clubs, and the Chamber of Commerce, as well as many other organizations.

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to the community, Brandon University presented George with an Honorary Doctorate of Laws degree in 1993. In 2004, he and Mary were both recognized by the University with the naming of the George and Mary Gooden Gallery of Art in the Health Studies complex at BU.

George touched many lives and his legacy will live on. He will be forever missed and fondly remembered by Brandon University and his community. ■



## *Sickle Online*

**Take a walk down memory lane.**

*The Sickle*, the yearbook of Brandon College and Brandon University from 1927 to 1984, is now available online.

Visit [www.brandonu.ca/alumni](http://www.brandonu.ca/alumni) and click on "The Sickle Archives".





*Construction proceeds on BU's Healthy Living Centre, slated to open this fall. Follow its progress on [www.brandonu.ca/hlc](http://www.brandonu.ca/hlc).*

# Healthy Living Centre

**T**he City of Brandon and, in fact, the entire Westman Region will soon benefit from a state-of-the-art sports and fitness facility under construction at Brandon University. The Healthy Living Centre (HLC), at the corner of Victoria and 18th, will open in the fall of 2012 and is poised to become one of Brandon's most valued sports and recreation facilities.

With three full-size gymnasiums, the \$24.3 million HLC will become the new home for the Brandon University Bobcats as well as a home base for regional hard court tournaments. Fitness buffs and those seeking an active living destination will find a new, spacious workout facility with the latest in cardio and weight machines. A four-lane jogging and walking track will provide an indoor venue for Brandon's many year-round workout enthusiasts.

"The HLC will be a tremendous asset to Brandon University and the

entire community. The newest in fitness equipment and professional staff will attract the elite performer while the indoor track will provide walkers and joggers a place to keep fit. The new gymnasium seating capacity will facilitate the staging of new events in Brandon that will provide an economic boost to local business," said Brandon University's Athletic Director, Russ Paddock.

Athletic stars will be recognized on the new Wall of Fame. Bobcat fans will enjoy the 1,000 plus retractable seats with full backs for comfort. Located nearby, the Alumni

Lounge overlooks the main court and will be available to sponsors and alumni.

An expanded athletic therapy centre will serve both the University and the community. With trained fitness and injury professionals on site, the HLC will be a perfect environment for everyone in the area to train, stay fit or recover from illness through movement and strength training. As a key element of the project, the existing gymnasium, opened in 1965, will undergo a complete renewal adding to the availability of multi-purpose and meeting space.

A major fundraising initiative is underway, aiming to raise \$7 million for the new facility. The Brandon campaign team, under the local leadership of Jared Jacobson and the national leadership of Tom Breneman, is seeking community support for this vital facility. In the meantime, construction remains on time and on target.

Watch for the grand opening announcement later this year to get your sneak peek at the facility. Check [brandonu.ca](http://brandonu.ca) for details. ■



# a Snapshot of the Past



Lenore Dinsdale, BA'45

Exuding *joie de vivre* and a glimmer of feistiness, Lenore (née Gusdal) Dinsdale, BA'45, is still a force to be reckoned with. The widow of MP Walter Dinsdale, BA'37, Hon. Doctorate '77, and mother of five, she continues to maintain a busy life as well as close ties with Brandon College (now Brandon University). Along the way, she may have rubbed elbows with political figures such as Prime Minister John Diefenbaker, American President John F. Kennedy and Governor General Georges Vanier, yet she has remained true to her roots.

"I wouldn't have had the pleasures and opportunities I've had if I hadn't been lucky enough to come to Brandon College and blossom through it. It set me up," she says, adding that marrying a Brandon College (BC) man and having 12 family members, as well as their spouses, attend her alma mater have cemented her link to the University.

As the child of a Norwegian man and a Swedish-born woman, she underlines that this unusual union contributed to strong traits in her personality. Lenore grew up on a farm in Viking Valley, near Erickson, MB, where her father was one of the first pioneers. She spent her summers at Clear Lake, where she and her sister still own the first two family cottages on the shores of the popular lake.

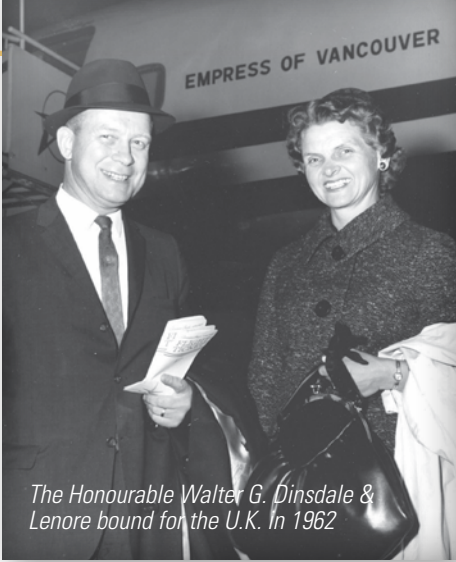
"My dad and my mother were progressive people. Dad would never allow us to go near the barn, so I was never a farm girl. I was lucky," says Lenore, a scholarship student, who took a year off to teach in a country school before heading to college. "My family and I had every opportunity in the world—if we took them."

The Second World War was in full swing while she pursued her post-secondary studies. Lenore recalls the war efforts on campus. These included daily prayers for the safe return of BC alumni who were serving overseas. She had seen one of those servicemen—Walter Dinsdale, the man who would become her spouse—over the years when his Salvation Army band played at Clear Lake. It was during his visit to Brandon College in 1942, the day he was scheduled to leave for duty, dressed in his smart uniform, that Lenore's interest was sparked.

"He came with his father, who was the speaker at the daily morning service," Lenore remembers. "As Walter walked by me and my best friend, there was chemistry. I prayed for him during the war."

Even with her interest in Walter, Lenore decided not to pick him





*The Honourable Walter G. Dinsdale & Lenore bound for the U.K. In 1962*



*Lenore's 1945 Brandon College graduation photo*

when it came time to choose an alumnus-soldier to whom she would send a Christmas card—another BC tradition. She noticed that there were many checkmarks by Walter's name and decided that he did not need yet another. Instead, Lenore chose a young man who had not been chosen by anyone.

"I had three chances to send (Walter) cards, because he was away those years, but I always chose the soldier with no checkmarks beside his name," she recalls.

During the war, all of the male BC students were required to be on the parade square. Lenore remembers them wearing the obligatory uniform for the local unit, and eventually, many opted to join the war effort.

"We lost people (in the war) from our class," she says. "There were hardships

around here too. My first roommate's brother was killed just shortly after I moved into Clark Hall."

During her years at BC, Lenore recalls that not only was there a religious undertone to all extra-curricular activities, but athletics were very important to the student experience which included track-and-field day, snowshoeing parties and dance lessons. Meals were formal affairs, for which everyone dressed appropriately. Special events were exceptional experiences. The annual graduation dinner held in the Prince Edward Hotel was very formal and included dates, long gowns, corsages, and dance cards.

In her final year, Lenore won the religious medal, the Honour Society Award, and was elected Lady Stick, which was the top honour a female student could garner and a title that equates to vice-presidency in today's students' union.

Lenore took her role very seriously.

"You had to be elected and respected," she said of being Lady Stick, adding that alumnus Tommy Douglas (BA'30) had served as Senior Stick at Brandon College in his final year as well.

Lenore makes special mention of Mrs. Darrach, the Dean of Women, who she says was most supportive of her. "Her standards left a stamp on all of the girls under her tutelage," says Lenore. "We became lifelong friends." She recalls, "It was a time when the university experience was your whole life. I lived in residence and had a rich experience."

Following her graduation, she was invited back to toast the ladies of the 1946 graduating class, where she was introduced to a "returned man", Walter Dinsdale, who had recently been hired by Brandon College. They married on September 17, 1947. ■

## SOME FACTS ABOUT LENORE DINSDALE

**1945** – she becomes the first program director (until 1947), then executive director (1948-49) at the Brandon YWCA.

**1946** – she earns a BSW from the University of Toronto.

**1947** – she is chosen to represent the YMCA and YWCA, as well as, the Lutheran Church of Canada at the World Conference of Christian Youth held in Oslo, Norway.

**1947** – she marries BC alumnus the late Walter Dinsdale (PC, DFC, MA, LLD, DHum, MP) who was the Member of Parliament for Brandon-Souris for 31 consecutive years.

In 1957, he was appointed the Assistant Minister of Veterans Affairs and later became the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources (1960-63). At the time of his death in 1982, Walter was the Dean of the House of Commons.

The couple had five children (Gunnar – 1948; Gregory – 1951; Elizabeth – 1953; Eric – 1955; Rolf – 1966).

**1949** – she lectures in psychology at Brandon College for one year. Later, she serves as executive secretary of the

Brandon branch of the Mental Health Association (1955-57), health secretary for the Social Planning Council of Ottawa (1958-60), social worker with Children's Aid Society of Ottawa (1966-74) and project developer and director of the Ottawa Mental Health Rehabilitation (1975-78).

**1962** – she is hostess of the Resources For Tomorrow Conference in Montreal, chaired by her husband Walter, which led to many trips to the U.N. and foreshadowed the establishment of the environmental movement.

**1970** – she receives a citation from the Mental Health Association for 25 years of service.

**1988** – she receives the Brandon University Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award.

**1990** – she becomes a National Director for the Brandon University Alumni Association.

**1996** – she becomes the first honorary member of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians.

# Effecting Change Half a World Away

**Ambrose Pariola, BA'71**

**N**ow retired, Ambrose Pariola, BA'71, made a significant impact in Nigeria during his professional life. While he enjoys his new grandson, there are many accomplishments upon which he can reflect. His years at Brandon University were a springboard along the road to those successes.

Originally from southwestern Nigeria, Pariola studied at St. Peter's College in Akure, a city a few hours away from his home in Efon-Alaaye. The school was run by a group of De La Salle Brothers from Canada, who encouraged their students to look beyond the borders of their country for post-secondary studies. Before Pariola made his way to Canada, three St. Peter's graduates—Leo Dare (BA'67), Emmanuel Ojo (BA'68), and James Ajila (BA'69)—had blazed a trail to Brandon University.

"I was not lucky to get a scholarship but Brandon University authorities were nonetheless sympathetic to my plight and



allowed me to study on part payment of my fees each year," wrote Pariola in a lengthy email message. "I finished paying my debt to BU after my post-graduate program at the University of New Brunswick."

While Pariola studied at BU, there were several highlights that remain important to this day. He was a self-described roving photographer for *The Quill*, an unelected "opposition member" to the student union, and the director of communications responsible for the public address system and the projection of films in the Evans Theatre.

Though he completed graduate studies while in Canada, he eventually returned to his homeland. As a newlywed, Pariola was encouraged by his South African wife to return to Africa not only to contribute what they could, but also to be close to his family. As well, his country needed him.

"It is not too often that one's country requests for one's service," he wrote. "In spite of the fact that I did not study on Nigerian Government Scholarship, I regarded their call as an honour."

And contribute he did. His work impacted several major economic policies. In 1978, he was assigned to ensure the decongestion of all Nigerian ports—both sea and air. Later, he was appointed the Director of the Standards Organisation of Nigeria and brought it to full autonomous status by 1991. Then, he became the Executive Secretary of the Utilities Charges Commission. This translated into overseeing the regulation of tariffs and rates charged by providers of petroleum, electricity and water, as well as other products and services.

"Although the assignment was challenging, it served as the most satisfying final lap of my career as a civil servant," said Pariola, who first retired in 1995, but spent the next eight years sharing his knowledge with the Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Now, he and his wife divide their time between Nigeria and South Africa, where their daughter is an architect and one of their twin sons is an attorney. Their other son is an economist in Australia. ■



Ambrose Pariola (centre) with his family (left to right) Olajide, wife Emelda, Abimbola and Olatunji



# Return Engagement

Garry Swampy, BEd'98

**T**he first time Garry Swampy—a Brandon University Faculty of Education alumnus, a former chief of Sagkeeng First Nation and that community's junior high school principal—chaperoned a group of kids to Mini University on the BU campus, his daughter was 12 years old. Four of her friends joined her for a week of fun and learning that first year. Now, his daughter is a BU graduate, but Swampy and his wife Susie have made it a family tradition to head to Mini U every July.

"This camp gives the students a sense of what a university is like. That's the most important reason. The second one is to experience a new environment and being away from home. Half of the kids had never been in Brandon before and Brandon is a beautiful place," says Swampy, whose youngest child, now 15 years old, began his treks to Mini U at the age of four. "Another reason is to meet new kids. They talk about the friends they make." Last summer, Swampy's grandson also participated.

To ensure that not only his children and his grandchildren, but also other children from the reserve, participate in Mini U, Swampy spends months making the necessary arrangements. Also, he has worked with the Child and Family Services branch that oversees some of the reservation children and enables them to attend the camp.

Swampy continues to investigate funding possibilities and organizes

fundraising initiatives to help send Sagkeeng children to Mini U. Since his first venture to the camp, Swampy has seen the number of children involved grow. The second year he headed to Mini U, for example, 34 children and several volunteer-chaperones accompanied him. He has established this tradition because he knows his charges will have a memorable experience.

"Mini U is a big operation, but it's well organized. The staff is good and it's also helping those of them who are becoming teachers or nurses. Kids are well taken care of there," says Swampy. "It's a positive thing."

Over the decades that it has been in existence, Mini University has been an excellent recruitment tool for Brandon University. Ivah Gallagher, the camp's program assistant, has noticed how many students involved in the camp looked to BU for post-secondary studies.

"What's surprising with the numbers

*Left to right: Garry Swampy with wife Suzie and Nancy Stanley, Mini U and Campus Recreation Director.*

for aboriginal children who have come down from the various communities is that the percentage of those who came to Mini U then went to BU—specifically BU, not University of Manitoba or other possible post-secondary institutions—is higher than the provincial average for going to post-secondary institutions in general," says Gallagher.

Along with the summer programs for children and youth from ages 5 to 16, Mini University now has evening sessions throughout the year as well as a Spring Break program.

Mini U is supported through public and private sector sponsors; however, there is always a need for more support. Anyone can donate to the program or sponsor an underprivileged child.

For details, please contact Mini U director Nancy Stanley at [stanley@brandonu.ca](mailto:stanley@brandonu.ca) or at 204-727-9636. ■



# REMEMBER THE GOOD OL' DAYS?



## △ Freshie Parade (1949)

Cheerleaders at the Brandon College freshie parade on 10th Street between Princess and Rosser Avenues. (L to R): Val Trent, Dorine Dennison, Doreen Fedoruk. At far right: Freshie Royalty—Peggy McGill (Princess), Isabel Lyon seated (Freshie Queen), and Mary Jane MacLachlan.

## Freshmen Initiation (1941) ▷

Back row: Marion Epton, Ruth Humeston; Front row: Iva Delamater, Lockie Volkers, Mary Elliott.



△ **Playing cards (ca. 1960)** – Brandon College students playing cards in one of the dorm rooms.

△ **Onlookers (ca. 1964)** – Brandon College student Brian Phillips pushes an egg up 10th Street from Rosser Avenue, while student nurses from the Brandon General Hospital look on.

◁ **Shinerama (ca. 1970)** – Photograph of Brandon University students taken during Shinerama.

*Unless otherwise stated, individuals in the photographs are unidentified. If you have any information about these photos please contact the S.J. McKee Archives at [henryc@brandonu.ca](mailto:henryc@brandonu.ca) or (204) 727-9634.*



# Opening New Doors

Veterans of the First and Second World Wars who chose to live in Brandon once had an affordable housing option: the Green Acres Lodge. Built in 1967, the Lodge was originally designed to give a helping hand to those individuals who had given so much to their country by serving in the Forces. When the last Lodge resident was relocated to a retirement home in early 2011, the board of directors that oversaw the management of the Lodge decided to sell the building and distribute the funds to various community groups.

"Several of the members of the board are graduates of BU, so we thought it'd be a good place to give money," says Dick McDonald (BA'60, BEd'67), the president of the Lodge board. "The main thing is that we can get (our donation) doubled by the Manitoba Scholarship and Bursary Initiative."

This donation, made possible by the sale of the Green Acres Lodge, is earmarked for Brandon University's new Healthy Living Centre as well as two new bursaries. One is for students who have an affiliation to the Canadian Forces, either as children of military personnel or through their own involvement in the militia or cadets, while the other is for students with a demonstrated history of community service.

The military link to the University is a long-standing one. McDonald explained that while he was in the militia, he had been affiliated with the 26th Field Regiment and had taken his



*Left to right: Russell Roney, BEd'70, and Dick McDonald, BA'60, BEd'67, present a donation to Ed Mazer, BA'69, BUF President*

Canadian Officers Training when he was a BU student. As well, his colleague and fellow alumnus Russell Roney (BEd'70) had been involved with the cadet corps when he was studying at BU.

For more information about the Green Acres Lodge 1967-2011 bursaries, please contact the Department of Institutional Advancement at 1-877-282-4483 or 204-727-7374 or by email at [development@brandonu.ca](mailto:development@brandonu.ca). ■

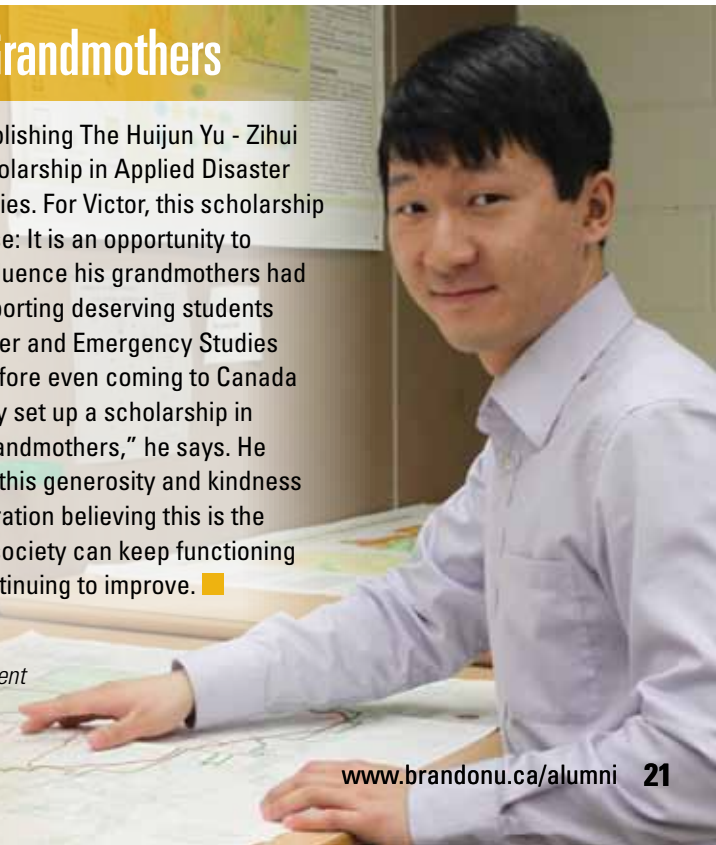
## Student Establishes Scholarship in Honour of Grandmothers

Arriving in Canada from China in August 2009, Brandon University student Victor Wang has never forgotten the lessons taught to him by his two grandmothers. The women had nurtured him from the time he was born, but he had to leave them when he moved to Brandon to pursue his studies. His grandmothers' strong belief in education and serving people instilled in Victor an appreciation for learning and giving back. "(My grandmothers) taught me to serve for the common good and society," says Victor. "They are always serving people with an optimistic attitude."

In his final year of the Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies (ADES) Program, Victor wanted to honour the two women he deeply misses. He

has done so by establishing The Huijun Yu - Zihui Yang (Grandma) Scholarship in Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies. For Victor, this scholarship serves a dual purpose: It is an opportunity to acknowledge the influence his grandmothers had on his life while supporting deserving students in the Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies Program. "I knew before even coming to Canada that I would someday set up a scholarship in recognition of my grandmothers," he says. He hopes to pass along this generosity and kindness to the younger generation believing this is the basic way in which society can keep functioning efficiently, while continuing to improve. ■

*Victor Wang, ADES student*



# 1950s Brandon College — A Nurturing Introduction to a Wider World

by Garth M. Bray, BSc'57

**D**epending on one's view of spirituality, my life has either been blessed or lucky. Raised in rural Western Manitoba, I had parents and grandparents who placed a high value on education. More than 20 years before I was born, my grandfathers had strongly supported the transition of their one-room rural school district to the three-room Lenore Consolidated School. (I realize that, from the perspective of 21st century educators, a school with three or four grades in each room may not inspire much confidence but the move was, in its time, "a big deal".)

Most of my teachers at Lenore School were excellent. Frank C. Jacobs was my sole teacher for Grades 9, 10 and 11—an aspect of my education that continues to amaze my city friends. Mr. Jacobs imparted an appreciation of language, literature and history, and a fascination with science while promoting sound study habits and the obligation to exploit one's talents to their limits. Some of his words still inspire and motivate me.

Although I did not recognize it at the time, my four years at Brandon College (1953-1957) provided an excellent transition between the protective rural environment of home and community that I knew for the first 16 years of my life to the wider world of medicine and research that has engulfed me for the past 55 years. Again at this critical point of transition, my life was blessed. Post-secondary education was only feasible for me because of the sacrifices of my parents and the generosity of a caring aunt and uncle. At Brandon College, I was fortunate to have been exposed to excellent professors, three of whom had long-lasting influences on my life. Dr. H.V. Kidd, whose love of chemistry—particularly organic chemistry—was

infectious, imparted a respect for meticulous attention to laboratory practices and record keeping that served as guiding principles throughout my years in laboratory research. Dr. Norma Walmsley, whose classes in Sociology and Political Science were always interesting as well as informative, introduced me to principles of social understanding and responsibility that influenced my approach to the practice of clinical medicine. Dr. Lorne Watson directed me to a level of musical training and appreciation that has proved to



be a meaningful, soul-reviving activity throughout my life. These professors, as well as several others, were also excellent role models for the third pillar of my career—that of teacher of medical students, clinical residents, and graduate students at McGill University, which was my academic home from 1969 to 2007.

Thus, my four years at Brandon College provided me, as it did for so many others, with the attitudes and intellectual framework that guided the transition into my chosen career. In conclusion, however, I want to acknowledge some of the other blessings of my life—wise and inspiring teachers and comrades during the years of medical training, collaborative and encouraging colleagues in research and medical practice, opportunities to work with outstanding students, and, above all, the love and support of my wife, children and grandchildren. ■

## BUAA Wall of Fame Award Recipients

**Dr. Garth M. Bray** was the recipient of the 2011 Alumni Association's Wall of Fame Award. Dr. Bray joins an esteemed list of past recipients.

**2002** – Stanley Knowles, BA'30

**2002** – Thomas "Tommy" Douglas, BA'30

**2002** – C. Dennis Anderson, BSc'84

**2002** – Ronald D. Bell, BA'51

**2003** – Betty Gibson, BA'59

**2004** – Henry Champ, Associate 1958

**2005** – Walter G. Dinsdale, BA'57

**2007** – Adriaan de Hoog, BSc'67

**2008** – Andrew Murray, BA'72

**2009** – Wilfred G. Bigelow, Associate 1933

The award was established in 2002. For a complete list of recipients and their accomplishments, visit: [alumni2.brandonu.ca/alumni/walloffame.asp](http://alumni2.brandonu.ca/alumni/walloffame.asp)



# In Honour of an Influential Professor

The late Dr. Al (Albert) Bush, a former Biology and Zoology professor at Brandon University from 1981 to 2009, is being honoured by former students, family and friends through the establishment of the Dr. Al Bush Memorial Scholarship at Brandon University.

Born in Bangor, Maine in 1948, Dr. Bush's childhood was spent in Hawaii and Florida. He attended the University of Florida, Gainesville (1969-73), and the University of Alberta (1973-74, 1976-80). His PhD studies were interrupted by service with American Forces in Vietnam. Afterward, he completed a doctoral thesis on the parasitic animals in wild ducks. Following a postdoctoral fellowship at Memorial University (1980-81), he joined the faculty of the Department of Zoology at BU, where he remained until early retirement in 2009.

A charismatic teacher, Dr. Bush was known for wearing t-shirts, shorts and open-toed sandals year-round. Former students reflected that "he was a great teacher, an accomplished scientist and an inspiration to countless numbers of students during his career", "a true friend who always had time

for his students", "highly esteemed among his peers", and "above all, he was devoted to his family, and was a splendid mentor to a generation of undergraduate students".

A writer or co-writer of two university textbooks: *Parasite Communities, Patterns and Processes* (Routledge, Chapman and Hall, 1990) and *Parasitism: The Diversity and Ecology of Animal/Parasites* (Cambridge University Press, 2001), he also wrote numerous scientific papers. For many years, he served as an Associate Editor for the scientific journals *The American Midland Naturalist*, *The Journal of Parasitology*, and *Parasitology*. He was a member of the American Society of Parasitologists, British Society of Parasitology, Canadian Society of Zoologists, Ecological Society of America, Helminthological Society of Washington, and the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles.

Dr. Bush passed away in January 2010 and is survived by his wife Maggie, and sons Jason and Jonathon. The new Dr. Al Bush Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to a Biology Major in the Ecology and Evolution Stream. If you would like to contribute to this scholarship, please contact the Department of Institutional Advancement at [development@brandonu.ca](mailto:development@brandonu.ca) or call 204-727-9715, or toll free at 1-877-282-4483. ■



Dr. Al (Albert) Bush

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# Come to BU See the world!

*Samantha Durnin, a third-year Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies student at BU during her fall 2011 semester in Germany.*



The National Student Exchange is a not-for-profit education consortium that provides opportunities for students enrolled at member campuses to study and live in a new location. NSE students have found their exchanges culturally enriching, academically rewarding, and one of the most significant experiences of their undergraduate education.

**Brandon University Alumni Association, 270 – 18th Street, Brandon, MB CANADA R7A 6A9**

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