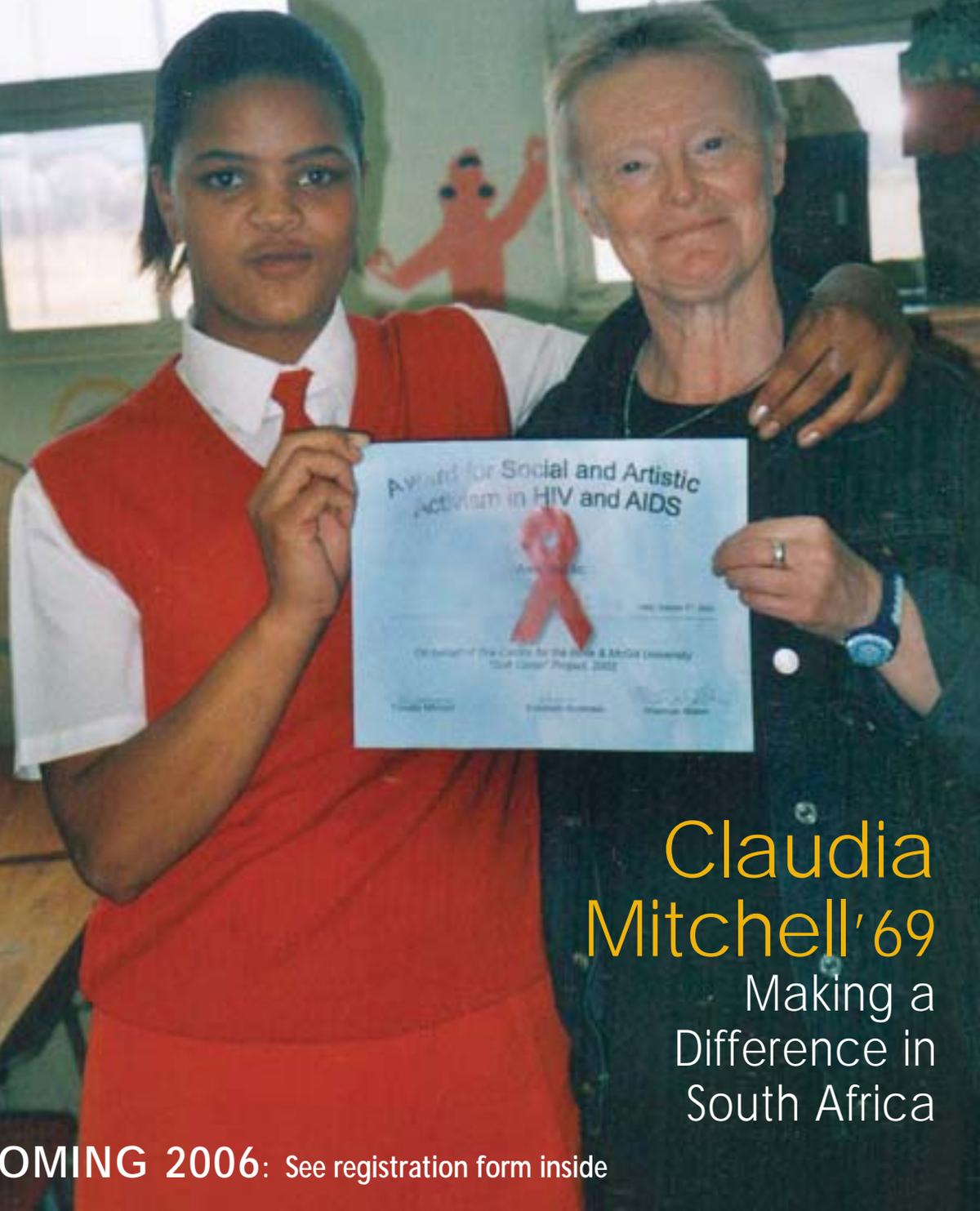


# ALUMNI

# NEWS

## INSIDE:

- Keeping in Touch
- Award Winners
- Alumni Profiles
- BU&YOU Campaign
- Annual Report



Claudia  
Mitchell '69

Making a  
Difference in  
South Africa



FALL HOMECOMING 2006: See registration form inside

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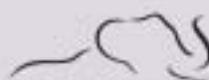
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## SEND US YOUR STORIES!

A personable and friendly place like Brandon University (BU) no doubt harbours a multitude of heart-warming stories. As alumni, you have much to tell about the relationships that you developed while at BU. Was BU the meeting ground for you and your spouse, a business partner, or best 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 we should feature, please contact the Alumni Office. We look forward to hearing your ideas, suggestions, and feedback.

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

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SPRING/SUMMER

# ALUMNI NEWS

2006

VOLUME 107

ISSUE 01

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Claudia Mitchell with student  
Photo: Mandla Oliphant



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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

NO matter where I have travelled in the past five years, whether it is Fort McMurray, Leamington, Ottawa, Trouty, Victoria, or Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, I have run into Brandon University graduates. Cabo San Lucas, you say? Yes. And, New York City as well.

The University has been around for 106 years. In that time, it went from being a small Baptist college of 200 or so students, to an institution with 3500 students and approximately 400 faculty and staff. BU graduates show up everywhere.

Our student nurses and teachers are in every nook and corner of this province, as well as distributed across the region and throughout the West. In recent years our international initiatives have resulted in students returning to 35 different countries with degrees, diplomas and certificates. In one sense, this is the kind of globalization that really has a positive impact on the world. Places like Brandon export their culture and values through these students and to the societies from which they come.

As our specialized programs like Rural Development and Applied Disaster & Emergency Studies expand, more and more international students will avail themselves of these specialties. Needless to say, Rural Development is a global issue and disasters, natural and otherwise, happen in spite of the best planning and precautions. Our students of many different nationalities will be there as the events of history unfold. In short, BU students can and will be found in every country and they will have the kind of expertise, knowledge and values that can deal with change.

As Alumni, I hope you remember how much we valued having you here. You brought a flavour, colour and culture that all societies depend on, and without which, we could not thrive. Vive la difference. In the next few years we hope to hear back from you no matter where you are! 🌍

Warmest regards,



Louis P. Visentin  
President & Vice-Chancellor, Brandon University



## ART EXHIBIT

### *Prairie Ghosts*

Artist: Louis P. Visentin  
Curve Gallery, Second Floor  
John E. Robbins Library  
Brandon University

June - August 2006

All are welcome to visit Louis Visentin's latest exhibit entitled *Prairie Ghosts*. The exhibit features photo-art adapted from photographs originally taken by Lawrence Adne Stuckey. They include images of prairie icons such as grain elevators, historical buildings, schools, and railway stations.



# BU NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

## Dr. Austin F. Gulliver Appointed Dean of Science

Brandon University is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Austin F. Gulliver as Dean of the Faculty of Science for a five-year term from February 23, 2006 to July 31, 2011. Dr. Gulliver has taught at BU since 1985, and was appointed Acting Dean of Science on August 1, 2005. Dr. Gulliver received his B.Sc. (1970) in Mathematics and Physics at the University of Toronto. He was awarded his M.Sc. (1971) and his Ph.D. (1976) in Astronomy and Astrophysics at the University of Toronto. Dr. Gulliver's research involves the study of the outer atmospheres of young, hot stars using telescopes at distant locations, particularly the 1.2 m telescope at the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory in Victoria, B.C.

## Congratulations to Athletes of the Year, Kelly DeRoo and Yul Michel

At the Brandon University Athletic Awards on March 30th, Brandonite Kelly DeRoo (Women's Volleyball) and Yul Michel (Men's Basketball) were named the outstanding Women & Men's Athletes of the year. These trophies are handed out annually to the Brandon University male and female student-athletes that best exemplify the qualities of athletic ability, unselfishness, cooperation, attitude, academic ability, and leadership. Congratulations to them and to all of the other outstanding athletes that took home awards!

## Dorothy E. Stewart (Davis) Memorial Bursaries in Health Studies Established

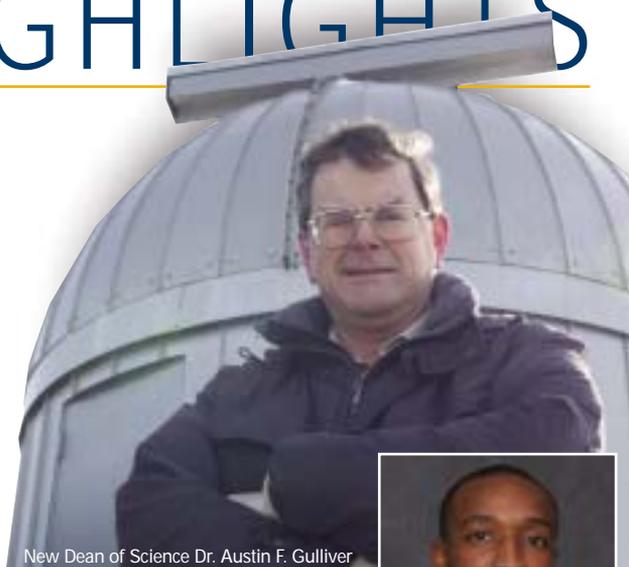
The first four bursaries from a new \$200,000 Brandon University Health Studies endowment fund are being awarded this year. The endowment, established by the estate of the late Dorothy E. Stewart (Davis) was created with a donation of over \$100,000 and will be used to fund the Dorothy E. Stewart (Davis) Memorial Bursaries in Health Studies. The Manitoba Scholarships and Bursaries Initiative (MSBI) matched the donation, establishing a total endowment of over \$200,000. Four bursaries, each valued at \$2,500, will be awarded per year to eligible students enrolled in their third and fourth years of the Bachelor of Nursing Program, who have demonstrated outstanding clinical and academic achievement and who have a financial need.

## BU Awarded \$125,000 for Plant Sciences Research Infrastructure by Manitoba Agriculture and Agriculture Canada

In January, plant science researchers at BU were awarded \$125,000 in funding from Manitoba Agriculture and Agriculture Canada for the purchase and installation of a PGV 36 Walk-In Plant Growth Chamber. The funds come from the Agri-Food Research & Development Initiative II (ARDI II) and are made available through the Canada/Manitoba Implementation Agreement of the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Framework Agreement on Agricultural and Agri-Food Policy for the 21st Century. The chamber can be used in any agricultural research application where the accurate control of temperature, light and humidity is required and is capable of growing almost any plant species. The major outcome of this development will be increased quality and quantity of plant science research in the province to benefit both producers and the environment.

## Rural and Community Studies and Rural Development Programs Expand and Receive Gift from Province of Manitoba

Manitoba Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives Rosann Wowchuk visited BU in December to announce that the Province would give Brandon University's Endowment Fund \$250,000 for support of scholarship and research in Rural Development, Agriculture and Rural Studies. The new provincial scholarship will benefit both undergraduate students in the Rural and Community Studies Program, and graduate students in the Department of Rural Development's Graduate Diploma and Master of Rural Development programs. This news came shortly after the announcement that Brandon University would expand its Rural and Community Studies Program (RCSP) to offer four-year honours, four-year major, and four-year minor Bachelor of Arts degrees, in addition to the three-year BA program currently being offered in this subject area. At the graduate level, the BU Department of Rural Development offers a Graduate Diploma program in Rural Development as well as a Master of Rural Development (MRD) degree. 



New Dean of Science Dr. Austin F. Gulliver



2006 BU Male Athlete of the Year Yul Michel



Chair of Physical Education Nancy Stanley presents Kelly DeRoo with the BU Female Athlete of the Year Award



(L-R) Mrs. Marilyn Barnett; Dr. Louis P. Visentin, Mr. Malcom McMurdo, Mrs. Judy Kowalchuk announce the Dorothy E. Stewart (Davis) Memorial Bursaries in Health Studies.

(L-R) Drs. Faiz Ahmad, Bill Paton, Jeffery Williams, Austin Gulliver and David Greenwood were on hand to announce funding for a new plant growth chamber at BU.



Manitoba Minister of Agriculture and Rural Initiatives, Rosann Wowchuk and BU President Louis Visentin announce new funding for rural studies.



This is just a sample of the wealth of new and exciting things that have happened at BU in the past few months. For more information about any of these stories, or about what is happening at BU right now, please visit [www.brandonu.ca/news](http://www.brandonu.ca/news). To stay up to date, sign up for the *BU News & Highlights* email by sending a message to [communications@brandonu.ca](mailto:communications@brandonu.ca).

# Honourary DEGREES



## Judge Ronald D. Bell

Born in Deloraine, Manitoba, the Honourable Justice Ronald Dean Bell, Chancellor Emeritus of Brandon University, has enjoyed a long career in law marked with many distinctions since his graduation from Brandon College in 1951. Justice Bell received his law degree from the University of Manitoba in 1955 and worked for several years as a solicitor for the Department of National Revenue, Taxation Division and as a partner in the Calgary law firm Fenerty & Co. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1976, and in 1978 he formed Bell Felesky Flynn, a law practice focusing on taxation, his specialty being petroleum tax issues. Justice Bell went on to develop a reputation as one of the most sought-after counsels on taxation matters in Canada, and was appointed Judge of the Tax Court of Canada in 1991. Justice Bell has written extensively for professional journals, and has lectured throughout North America and Europe on tax issues. In addition to his law career, Justice Bell has had a long and close association with Brandon University. He was Chancellor of Brandon University from 1990 to 1996. During and since that time, he has served on various BU boards, and tirelessly promotes the institution throughout the country, also making significant financial contributions to improve physical structures, programs and student scholarships, including the establishment of the R.D. Bell Scholarship and the R.D. Bell String Scholarships. The R.D. Bell Hall in Brandon University's Queen Elizabeth II music building was named in his honour, as was the Bell Tower atop the original Brandon College building, which is now part of Clark Hall.



## Miriam Toews

Miriam Toews is the award-winning author of four books: *Summer of My Amazing Luck* (1996), *A Boy of Good Breeding* (1998), *Swing Low: A Life* (2000) and *A Complicated Kindness* (2004). In 1996, Toews was short-listed for the prestigious *Stephen Leacock Award for Humour* and is a three-time winner of the *McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award*. Toews was also awarded the *John Hirsch Award for Most Promising Manitoba Writer* (1996). Her novel, *A Complicated Kindness* (2004), won the *Governor General's Award for Fiction*, the *Margaret Laurence Award for Fiction*, the *McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award*, the *Young Minds Award (UK)*, was a *Giller Prize* finalist and, most recently, was chosen as the winner of the *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's 2006 Canada Reads* promotion. *A Complicated Kindness* has been translated and published in over a dozen countries worldwide. Toews has also written for magazines including *Saturday Night*, *Geist* and the *New York Times Magazine* and won a *National Magazine Award Gold Medal for Humour* in 1999. All of her books are available in paperback from Vintage Canada. Toews has a Bachelor of Arts Degree (1989) from the University of Manitoba and a Bachelor of Journalism (1991) from the University of Kings College, Halifax. She lives in Winnipeg with her family.

## 2006 Award Winners



President's Medal:  
**Dr. T. Patrick Carrabré**



President's Medal:  
**Dr. Andrew Pernal**



Senate Award for Excellence in Teaching:  
**Dr. Cam Symons**

### Distinguished Teacher Awards:

Brandon University has created the Distinguished Teacher Award to recognize the work of Manitoba teachers who inspire students in their school to continue their education. All winners are nominated by Manitoba high school students who have studied with them:



**Mrs. Irene Plaetinck**  
Glenboro School  
Glenboro, MB



**Ms Robyne Mansell**  
Frontier Collegiate Institute  
Cranberry Portage, MB



**Mr. James McDonald**  
École Riverside School  
Thompson, MB

Brandon University Foundation Apex Award:  
**Mr. Ernie Shaw and Dr. George Gooden**

Brandon University Foundation Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser:  
**Dr. Kevin Kavanagh (Brandon University Chancellor Emeritus) and Mrs. Els Kavanagh**

# Alumnus PROFILE

The Honourable Warren K. Winkler, B.A.'59, Regional Senior Justice, currently oversees the third largest court in Canada as Regional Senior Justice in the Toronto Region of the Superior Court of Justice (Ontario), but his beginnings were humble. Justice Winkler was born in the small town of Virden, Manitoba and grew up at the foot of the Rockies in Pincher Creek, Alberta. As Justice Winkler states, his small-town beginnings played a major role in his decision to attend Brandon College (now Brandon University).

"My uncle, Dr. Carl Winkler, who was then vice-principal of McGill University in Montreal, advised me to go to Brandon College," says Winkler. "He thought that with my small town rural upbringing a smaller university would be best for me. He was right."

"Brandon University was the ideal place for a person from a small rural community because it bridged the gap between my home life and city life. I don't think I could have adjusted to Toronto, for example, right from the

start. With the small classes and close contact with other students that Brandon offered, each class was a little club—something that present-day students would, I think, value most highly."

Justice Winkler also has positive memories of the close contact with professors that small class sizes provided, and the positive influence those professors had on him.

"All of the professors would go miles to help in any way and took such a personal interest in all the students, especially if they saw that you were interested in what you were doing," says Justice Winkler. "As an example, Professor Bill Smith assigned me an essay subject dealing with classical music in a history course and loaned me his recordings. Classical music was a stretch because it had nothing to do with the course. Where else would that have happened?"

Justice Winkler also credits one of his BU professors with helping to get him interested in law. "I took an economics course in my fourth year, taught by Professor McDowall, that was my first encounter with a subject relating to the law. It captured my imagination. After graduation I was torn between pursuing History and Biology, but decided instead to enroll in law school. I had never met a lawyer until I entered law school in Toronto."

Justice Winkler attended Osgoode Hall Law School, where he earned two degrees, and was called to the bar in 1965. He went on to practice law in Toronto, specializing in labour law, administrative law and alternative dispute resolution. He was appointed Queen's Counsel

and eventually established his own law firm in Toronto. His practice involved such matters as the Algoma Steel Company restructuring and the Canadian Football League. As a Superior Court Judge he had a hand in resolving many high-profile disputes, including ones involving Hepatitis-C tainted blood, Bre-X stock fraud, the Walkerton Water Disaster and Ontario Hydro and Power workers. This year he arbitrated the agreement between the University of Toronto and its faculty. He also played a major role in the restructuring of Air Canada.

Despite these impressive accomplishments, his philosophy for living remains a very simple one: "I try to treat other people the way I would like to be treated," says Winkler, "and in my work I always try to do the *right* thing."

And Justice Winkler still stays close to his rural roots. Though he currently lives in Toronto with his wife Ruth (with whom he has two daughters and two granddaughters), the two have a farm near Markdale, Ontario where they spend every weekend with their Labrador dogs, Maggie and Gretzky. And though Justice Winkler has become a very active part of this rural community, he still finds time for some of the hobbies he has enjoyed ever since those early days in Alberta.

"I still cut wood, hike with my dogs, fly fish wherever I can in the world and enjoy my family. My family is the most important thing in my life." 🏡



The Honourable Warren K. Winkler, B.A.'59  
Regional Senior Justice

## Journey from small-town Manitoba to the largest courts in Canada

"I try to treat  
other people  
the way I would like  
to be treated,  
and in my work  
I always try to  
do the  
*right* thing."

# WINDOW

on this Woman's World



Claudia Mitchell '69  
Making a  
Difference in  
South Africa

By Darci Clark

**"BU itself was a lovely place to start from... I met all these new students from Mauritius, Ghana and other parts of Africa. Now as I look back, I think it was experiences like those that were as important as any of the content courses."**

Claudia Mitchell, B.A., M.A., PhD. is a respected professor, prolific author, risk-taking researcher, innovative media artist and, above all, a woman working on the wild side in a world where most others truly fear to tread.

She is academia's Lee Strasbourg and Steven Spielberg all in one; a revered coach to students the world over and a behind-the-scenes star whose credibility brings blockbuster status to any project with Mitchell on its billboard. Her bio is just as impressive—three degrees, a title, seven shared books, award-winning documentaries, homes on each side of the Atlantic and enough exotic anecdotes to dine out on for the rest of her days.

Our enquiring minds always want to know the inside story, to be reassured that a special someone still puts on their pants one leg at a time and that we, too, can find fame and fortune by a similar path.

And lo and behold, though her professional credentials are impressive, fortune is a very foreign state of affairs. The homes are as humble as yours and mine and it was none other than beloved BU—twice actually—that set Mitchell on the road to international success.

Claudia is that proverbial girl one can take out of the country—a dairy farm on the edge of Virden, Manitoba, in fact—only to find that same country will forever be her foundation.

Born in 1948 to Elsie and Bill Skinner, a quintessential country couple of that simpler time, with an English grandmother who only made it to Manitoba thanks to an illness-miss on the Titanic, Claudia recalls a typically tranquil rural girlhood on Devon Farm.

“...I like my own students to know that you can study,  
but at the same time you can also do things.”

“I used to ride my bike to town to play ball when I was only 10 or 11 and then ride back again, all alone in the near dark. Now I marvel at the fact that my parents never worried and neither did I.”

Fast forward to the mid-60s, a turbulent time for any teen coming of age, and Mitchell is a high-school grad with a classic case of from-a-farm fever for which the only cure is a dose of the big city.

“Growing up on a farm, you are always waiting—hoping—that something will happen!” Mitchell claims. “And it never does.”

Claudia took her first diploma just down the road to Brandon University—the post-secondary Mecca for generations of country kids past, present and future. And there she caught her first, albeit unfocused, glimpse of what would become her personal and professional passion.

“BU itself was a lovely place to start from,” Mitchell remembers. “I graduated with a degree in Sociology in 1969. It was a very exciting time when (then President) Dr. John Robbins was involved in a whole *internationalizing project* and at first-year orientation I met all these new students from Mauritius, Ghana and other parts of Africa. Now as I look back, I think it was experiences like those that were as important as any of the content of courses.”



Convocation was swiftly followed by love and marriage to fellow Virdenite Bill Mitchell, though it would be three and five years respectively before baby carriages were needed for daughters Rebecca and Sarah. The Mitchell family's early years were spent in Nova Scotia where Claudia taught English at Port Maitland Consolidated School, but by 1977, it was time to scratch her academic itch again, first with a Master of Arts at Mount Saint Vincent University and then completing her metamorphosis with a Ph.D. through the University of Alberta four years later.

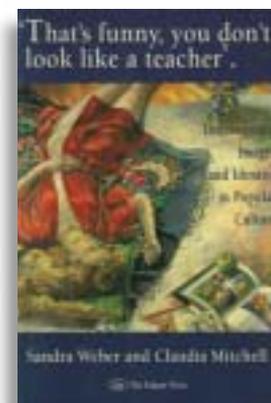
It was a powerful decade on all fronts, with 1980-81 specifically one of the most pivotal periods of Mitchell's life as she divorced and came back full circle to Brandon University as an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Education.

“Though it was brief, it was of lasting impact,” Mitchell said about that bittersweet year that was also devoted to her dying father. “Rebecca and Sarah attended Betty Gibson

School and, now in their 30s and having lived in places like Montreal ever since, they regard Manitoba as this incredibly exotic place. When we go back in summer to walk over the farm (always warmly welcomed by the McDougalls, *new owners* for a generation now) they still find it fascinating to think of growing up in a place with little bluffs of trees and a dug-out and a long lane—that I regarded then as leading to nowhere!”

Back at BU, this time as a faculty member, Mitchell could now share perhaps the most valuable lesson in mentorship she first learned there as a fresh-eyed farm girl.

“As a student, I had had the opportunity to study history with Dr. Charles Lightbody, who seemed to know everything there was to know about anything. And I remember attending court cases as part of a sociology course, having professors like Leo Driedger who were also practitioners in social work at the same time, and so on. As a result, I like my own students to know that you can study, but





“I try to situate students in a world that is far bigger... but also show it is a very small one and that there are way too many important connections to not look around and see them for yourself.”

at the same time you can also do things.” Mitchell concludes, “I try to situate students in a world that is far bigger...but also show it is a very small one and that there are way too many important connections to not look around and see them for yourself.”

A far more recent and quite serendipitous experience only confirms BU’s ongoing ambassadorial role. “I met a woman in Swaziland a year and a half ago who is also from there, and now the education officer for UNICEF,” Mitchell says. “She actually got her Masters from BU back in the 80s and it still amazes her that when walking down Princess Avenue in wintertime, people would stop to ask if she was okay, where was she from and was she warm enough...a wonderful curiosity in the kindest, not aren’t-you-lucky-to-be-here, sense.”

An eight-year stint at the University of Prince Edward Island was next, during which daughter Dorian (now a student at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban, South Africa) was born in 1986, but by 1989 Mitchell was once more on the move to a place in which to develop her full potential.

That ground zero turned out to be Montreal’s McGill University, where Mitchell evolved into a full professor in the Faculty of Education, though her rolling stone years were still technically not over—and likely never will be.

Mitchell’s McGill bio shows a strong and consistent youth stream running through her research interests, which include HIV/AIDS

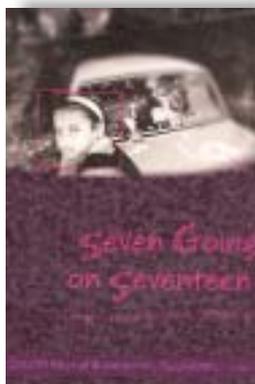
awareness, gender and its impact on development, gay, lesbian and South African young-adult literature, the changing nature of girlhood and popular culture, and the evolving role of teachers in the face of such urgent challenges.

These interrelated interests and her innovative methodology of taking an arts-and-image-based approach crystallized in 1994 when she accepted her first visiting professorship with the University of Witwatersrand, South Africa, and a position as the senior researcher on the UNICEF-sponsored Girls’ Education Project in Zambia.

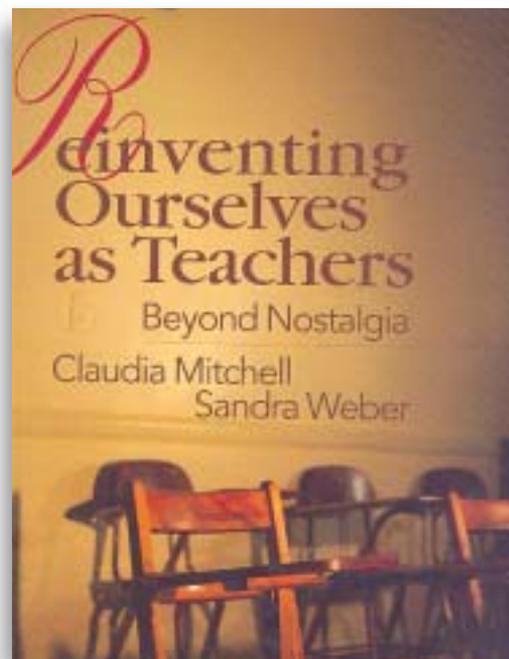
It was a watershed experience that led to the publication of her first book *That’s Funny, You Don’t Look like a Teacher* (with S. Weber) a year later and the birth of an amazing alternating alliance between South Africa and McGill that continues to the present day.

From 1997-2001, Mitchell directed the Canada-South Africa Education Management Program, co-authored a second book with Weber in 1999, *Reinventing Ourselves as Teachers*, and enjoyed a second stint at Witwatersrand.

Though Mitchell could clearly have rested on her laurels at any time, the next five years were a veritable kaleidoscope of honours and innovative projects, including the Chair of the Faculty of Education at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, where she co-founded the Centre for Visual Methodologies for Social Change, and concurrent consultancy roles with the United Nations.



Mitchell's McGill bio shows a strong and consistent youth stream running through her research interests, which include HIV/AIDS awareness, gender and its impact on development, gay, lesbian and South African young-adult literature, the changing nature of girlhood and popular culture, and the evolving role of teachers in the face of such urgent challenges.



One wonders when Mitchell found time to breathe, as she also co-authored no less than five more books: *Researching Children's Popular Culture* (with J.Reid-Walsh, 2002), *Not Just Any Dress: Narratives of Memory, Body and Identity* (with Weber, 2004), *Seven Going on Seventeen: Tween Studies in the Culture of Girlhood* (with Reid-Walsh, 2005), *Just Who Do We Think We Are: Methodologies for Autobiography and Self-study* (with Weber, 2005), *Teacher Development at the Centre of Change* (with R. Balfour and T. Buthelezi, 2005), and *Girlhood: Redefining the Limits* (with Y. Jiwani and C. Steenbergen, 2005).

It's almost an academic afterthought to mention that, during this same time, Mitchell also produced at least four documentaries, achieved the pinnacle designation of the James McGill Professorship back in Montreal and co-founded the International Centre for Visual Methodologies for Social Change Project to help "put people in the picture" and "see for themselves" about issues such as HIV/AIDS, poverty and safe schools "through the uses of photography, video documentary, performance and so on." What could possibly be next?

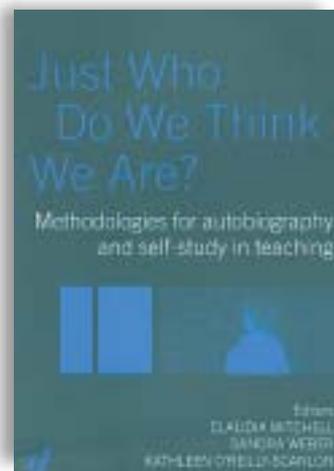
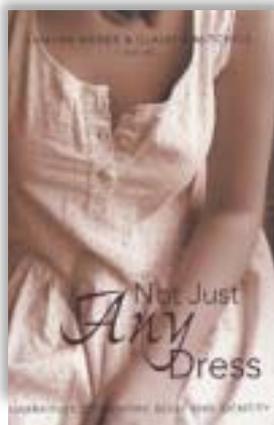
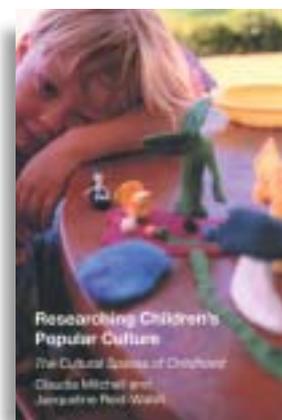
The answer is, of course, editing yet another book—*Combating Gender Violence In and Around Schools* (with E Leach), while continuing to give a voice and a face, and eventual empowerment to a world where cosmopolitan cities juxtapose gas stations selling coffins, school buses in demand for funerals, and girls

choosing between a natural call of nature and the risk of rape because bathrooms are simple pits dug far away from rescue.

It is also about bringing this message back home to a sadly desensitized society here, this despite western headlines shouting that our own kids can also be assaulted in school restrooms without us being any the wiser.

How will Claudia help us see and hear? By coming triumphantly back to Brandon University with a photo voice workshop on this side of the ocean, to help us here at home see ourselves on important issues ranging from domestic violence to the demise of the family farm.

And wouldn't it be a *piece de resistance* during our City's 125th year for Brandon University to host the international debut of a photo exhibit of her life's work serving and loving two countries and cultures! 🇺🇸🇳🇿



# Keeping in TOUCH

## ALLAN JOHNSON B.A. '56

Allan retired in 1997 when his wife, Joanne DiCosimo, was appointed President and CEO of one of the national museums in Ottawa. Since then, he has been travelling and spending time on a variety of hobby projects, including a software company (based in Winnipeg), which has developed a fund accounting system for schools that is used across Canada.

## BARB SAYLOR (née HAMEL) B.A. '67

Since graduating, Barb has lived in all three Prairie Provinces and has taught high school and adult education. She also earned an M.A. in Anthropology, worked on several archaeological projects, worked for two museums and one college. Barb is married and has raised two children. She is serving her second consecutive term as a Trustee for the Regina Public School Division.

## ERNST (RUDY) FRIESEN B.Sc. '68

After graduating, Rudy began his certification to become a teacher at the University of Manitoba. In the fall of 1968, he accepted a teaching position at the Mennonite Collegiate Institute (MCI), a private high school in Gretna, MB. After four years at MCI, he and his wife Susan went to Jamaica where he volunteered for two years as a teacher, under the auspices of Mennonite Central Committee. He returned to MCI where he taught mostly mathematics and chemistry for the next six years. He later switched vocations and worked as the school's business administrator, which led him to a three-year Mennonite Mission in Taiwan. In 1989, he returned to Manitoba and spent the next 16 years as an instructor at Garden Valley Collegiate in Winkler. Rudy has now retired from teaching and is working as an accounting assistant at Canadian Mennonite University. He and his wife have three children.

## JIM BLANCHARD B.A. '69

After graduating, Jim earned an M.A. in History at the University of Manitoba (U of M) and a Master of Library Science at the University of Western Ontario. He is currently working at U of M in the Elizabeth Dafoe Library as Head of Reference Services. He recently wrote a book called *Winnipeg 1912*, which was the last year in the big pre-War boom. There are 12 chapters, one for each month, dealing with topics that occurred in each month. "I visited the campus at Brandon for the first time in a long while and I was absolutely blown away by how beautifully the old buildings have been redone and integrated with the new ones."



## ARLENE PILGRIM (née MISANCHUK) B.A. '69, B.Ed. '86

Arlene resides in Kelowna, BC with husband Tom, where she is a rehabilitation consultant with the BC Paraplegic Association. She also teaches some continuing education courses at the local college. Arlene and her husband enjoy travelling abroad and spending time with their children in Vancouver and Edmonton.

## DON HASLAM B.Sc. '71

After graduating, Don did some travelling before settling in Montreal. He is presently an analyst with Emploi-Québec, a Quebec government agency, where he assists independent artists and cultural workers with their training needs. His interests include the contemporary arts, languages and of course, travel.

## PAUL HUDDLESTON B.Sc. '72

After BU, Paul obtained his M.A. in 1974 and is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Western Australia.

## KEN MANSELL B.A. '72

Ken lives in Flin Flon, MB and has retired after teaching 36 years of Junior High on the Rock.

## GAYLORD WARDELL B.Sc. '73

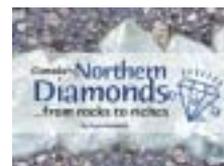
Gaylord attended the University of Saskatchewan in 1978, earning his M.D., followed by family medicine and a six month surgical residency in Hudson Bay, SK. In 1988 he completed a fellowship in anesthesia. From 1989-1993 he lived in Prince Albert, SK and was Chairman of Anesthesia and active in palliative care and pain management. From 1993-2001 Gaylord was at Greater Niagara General Hospital and Welland County General Hospital, and was Department Chair and active in pain management. He is currently the Medical Director of Palliative Care and the Wardell Pain Centre in Medicine Hat, AB and was Department Chair for the years 2002-2004. He is married to Connie (née Burke), staff RN and manager of Wardell Pain Centre, and operates Laserx (laser therapy for pain and cosmetics).

## TERRY McNAMEE B.G.S. '76

Terry has been a journalist with the *West Niagara News* (formerly *Rannie Publications*) for nearly 23 years. Terry says, "I have good memories of Brandon University and still remember several of my professors, particularly Al Rogosin (Botany), Bob Brockway (Religion) and Leigh Simms (Anthropology)."

## GAYLA MEREDITH ASSOCIATE '78

Gayla teaches in Yellowknife, NT—a place she often calls "Canada's best kept secret." Her information book, *Canada's Northern Diamonds ...from Rocks to Riches* was awarded the 2004 Science in Society Book Award (youth category). Thanks to the support of her project partners, \$5,000 from sales proceeds has been donated to the Northwest Territories Literacy Council to support the creation of its *WRITE ON* bursary program. In 2005 a children's story written and illustrated by her third grade students was published, with royalties assigned to their school to support similar whole-class story writing and book making projects. For more information visit [www.northerninkltd.nt.ca](http://www.northerninkltd.nt.ca)



## CRAIG SHEARER B.A. '78

After graduation, Craig continued his studies and obtained a Certified Management Accountant (CMA) designation. Craig currently resides in Vancouver with his wife and two children, and is a Financial Accountant for HSBC Capital (Canada) Inc.

## TENA BIRCH ASSOCIATE '81

Tena has lived in the USA for nearly 20 years. She is currently employed as a Registered Nurse in a busy West Texas hospital. She has decided to return to college in the near future to continue her nursing degree. She has two grown children and one granddaughter.

## LAURIE LAIMON B.A. '83

Laurie is Vice-President of Media Learning Systems, a Hi-Tech e-Learning Firm, which puts courses on line for various businesses as well as educational and financial institutions.

## SUSAN BILLY B.A. '84

Susan has recently relocated to Saskatoon, SK where she is a trainer for the Prairie Provinces for staff working in penitentiaries and parole offices.

# Keeping in TOUCH



Ed Robertds  
and son  
Spencer

## **ED ROBERDS** ASSOCIATE '84

Ed is a Senior Staff Officer and the Lead Planner for the Canadian NORAD Region. He is responsible for overseeing the development of training events and exercises regarding the Sovereignty of Canada in support of the NORAD mission. He works as a liaison between their HQ in Winnipeg, the subordinate HQ in North Bay, ON and the NORAD HQ in Colorado Springs (only for issues pertaining to NORAD).



John Gilbert

## **JOHN GILBERT** B.A. (Spec.) '85

John completed his Master of Science in Education specializing in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (MSEd-TESOL) at Shenandoah University, and is currently preparing his thesis for publication.

## **CHOK LAM** B.Sc. '85

Chok worked at Nortel for nine years as a Software Engineer and Advisor. He was the Chief Architect for Vovida Networks, Inc., when it was acquired by Cisco Systems in 2000. Chok is currently working as a Technical Leader for Cisco Systems in San Jose, California. He has been living in the USA since 1985. He met Kathy Ng at UCSB and married her in 2001. They have two sons.

## **RICHARD S. MAYOMBWE** B.A. '87

After graduation Richard obtained his B.Sc., MBA, FICB and CGA. In addition to a successful career in the private sector, Richard is now working as a project leader for the Federal Government of Canada in Ottawa.

## **CORINNE KRUSE** B.Ed. '90

Corinne and her husband have been in Grand Prairie, AB for more than 10 years. Corinne has been teaching for 15 years, the last eight at the Grand Prairie Public School Division. She is now the Vice-Principal of the K-9 school.

## **ESTHER MOARO** B.Sc. Nursing '90

Esther is working in the largest referral hospital in Botswana, Princess Marina Hospital, as the Chief Nursing Officer in the capital city of Gaborone.

## **MAUREEN COUSINS** B.A. (Spec.) '91

Maureen is the Communications Coordinator for the Manitoba Cattle Producers Association. She and her partner Steve reside in Winnipeg.

## **DANA GULLET (née DODDS)** B.Ed. '91

Dana is an Intermediate Resource Teacher at Archie Stouffer Elementary School in Minden, Ontario. Future aspirations include the pursuit of an administration career. She lives with her husband and two children on Kushog Lake in Ontario's Cottage Country.

## **JEFF TRAPP** B.Ed. '91

Jeff is currently working at the University of Toronto in the Faculty of Arts and Science as an International Recruitment Officer.

## **NORMA MILLER** B.A. '92

Norma obtained a Masters in Library and Information Studies from UBC in 1997 and now works in communications for a non-profit organization in Vancouver. Norma has been married to Rob Bodnar since 1992.

## **SCOTT CAMPBELL** B.Sc. '94

In 1999, Scott enrolled in the Certified General Accountants (CGA) program, and started with Meyers Norris Penny LLP. In 2002, he was hired by Duncan Sabine Collyer Partners LLP (formerly Evancic Perrault Robertson) in Brandon. In October of 2004 Scott received his CGA designation. Still single, Scott lives in the Minnedosa, MB area where he volunteers for his local curling/golf club and trains for the Multiple Sclerosis Riding Mountain Bike Tour. [dscamp@mts.ca](mailto:dscamp@mts.ca)

## **RICHARD N.W. LITTLE** ASSOCIATE '94

Richard enrolled in the Canadian Forces and has been employed in various jobs around the world including England, Bosnia, Israel, and Afghanistan. He is married to Elaine (née Bisson) of Killarney. They have two beautiful daughters Chantel and Adrienne.



Richard Little  
and family

## **DEBORAH SALYN (née LOGAN)** B.A. '94

After graduation Deborah remained in Brandon and married in 1997. In 2000, she and her husband began a six-year trek across Canada that included stays in Iqaluit, NU; Yellowknife, NT; Regina, SK; and finally a return to Brandon in 2005. They have two boys (ages four and one years old).

## **DAVID COOK** B.Sc. '95

Originally from Dryden, ON, David now works for the City of Hamilton as a GIS Planning Technician. He has also worked as far away as India. David is now married and he and his wife, Lee Ann, are expecting a child in May 2006.

## **MAURICE VODON** B.Sc. '95

Maurice grew up in the area around Virden, MB. After graduating from BU, Maurice earned his Masters in Public Administration from the University of Manitoba in 1998. He is currently working at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency as a Policy and Planning analyst in Strategic Planning and Coordination for Corporate Facilities and Real Property. He has worked in the real property policy field in the federal government for over six years. [vodonm@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:vodonm@inspection.gc.ca) or [mvodon@rogers.com](mailto:mvodon@rogers.com)

## **VIVEK MENON** B.Sc. '96

Vivek graduated in the fall of 2005 from the University of Manitoba with a Master of Architecture degree.

## **TROY BRISTER** B.Ed. '96

Troy is currently teaching Senior 3 and Senior 4 Mathematics at Neepawa Area Collegiate in the Beautiful Plains School Division. He married Heather Elliott, B.Ed. '98, in 1999. They have three children—Claire (2001), Myles (2003), and Ward (2005).

## **CAROLYN HALCROW (née KOSTYK)** B.Ed. '96

After staying at home for four years with her son, Carolyn returned to teaching in 2005 as a substitute. In September, she returned permanently as a half-time grade three teacher at Westwood Elementary School in Thompson. Her husband of 14 years, Harley, works for Manitoba Hydro at Kelsey Generating Station, and son Aiden (four), is enjoying junior kindergarten and is looking forward to attending kindergarten. The newest member of the family, Ally McBeagle, joined them in the spring of 2005.

# Keeping in TOUCH

## JENNIFER KLIPPENSTEIN (née FUNK) B.Ed. '96

Jennifer lives in Altona with her husband Charles and two children, Austin (five) and Julie (three). She teaches at Red River College - Winkler Community Learning Centre. She works with students grades four to six teaching basic basketball skills. This is year seven of her program with the Town of Altona. [cjklipp@mts.net](mailto:cjklipp@mts.net).



Curtis and Bonnie Szakacs

## CURTIS SZAKACS B.Mus. '96, B.Ed. '96

## & BONNIE SZAKACS (née THIESSEN) B.Ed. '96

Curtis and Bonnie have four children—two girls (ages six and eight), and two boys (ages two and three). They spend most of their time travelling across Canada with music and children's ministry. They are living in Kennedy, SK and have released three CDs. Their latest release *Looking for a Treasure* (November 2002) received nominations for the 2004 VIBE Awards and the 2003 Covenant Music Awards (CGMA).

## LEANNE DUSTAN B.A. '97

Leanne is completing a Ph.D. in Canadian History at York University. She is living in Ottawa, completing thesis research and working with a number of community groups on social policy.

## JORIE GILROY (née BURNETT) B.Ed. '97

Jorie is currently teaching for the Regina Public School Division. She is very active on the Canadian Association for Young Children Board as well as the Saskatchewan Literacy Network Board. Along with her teaching, she is currently in the process of completing a Master of Education Degree in Curriculum and Instruction.



Lentz sons

## NICOLE LENTZ B.A. '97

Nicole and her husband Ryan live in Kenora, ON and have been married since 1997. They have three sons—Skylar (1998) Connor (2001) and Dawson (2005). Nicole has been teaching at St. Thomas Aquinas High School since 1999 and is on maternity leave until the 2006/07 school year. Keep in touch! [nlentz@kmts.ca](mailto:nlentz@kmts.ca)

## ELIN CARLSSON B.Mus. '98

After graduating, Elin returned home to Sweden to enter the Opera Academy of Stockholm. She was discovered by the director of the Royal Opera, which led to a five-month practice as Christa in *The Makropoulos Case* by Janacek at the Royal Opera. She was hired for the lead role in a contemporary opera in Karlstad, Sweden. She later moved back to Stockholm to sing Euridice in *Orfeus in the Underworld* by Offenbach, at the Folkopera. Elin has a year contract with the Royal Opera, singing Barbarina, First Lady and Frasquita. In the fall, she will move to Frankfurt, Germany for a two-year contract. "I felt very supported by all my professors and teachers, especially Mrs. Richardson. All the things I've learned at BU are still present in my mind!"

## MARSHA BOYD B.A. '99

Marsha is living in Edmonton and working at the University of Alberta. [boydm@shaw.ca](mailto:boydm@shaw.ca)

## TIMOTHY FRYKODA B.Sc. '00

## & AMY FRYKODA (née WOYWODA) B.Sc. '00

Amy completed a medical degree from the University of Manitoba in 2004. Amy is in the last six months of the Family Medicine Residency program through Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador. After a year off from school, Timothy completed a Masters of Divinity degree at Providence Theological Seminary in Otterburne, MB. They moved to Newfoundland where Timothy completed a B.Ed. degree through Memorial University. Timothy is working as a High School Math and Science teacher in a First Nations community outside of Happy Valley - Goose Bay as Amy completes her residency.

## COURTNEY DESPIEGELAERE B.G.S. '02, B.Ed. '04

Courtney is currently teaching Physical Education and Math at the St. Claude School Complex in Manitoba.

## JEFF OSADEC B.Ed. '02

After BU, Jeff transferred to the University of Manitoba and completed a degree in Exercise and Sport Science. He is currently working as a certified personal trainer at the Talisman Centre in Calgary, AB. He and his wife married in 2005.

## ELIZABETH PRINCE B.Ed. (AD) '02

Elizabeth is the coordinator at Little Hands Head Start, Long Plain First Nation. She previously taught Grades two and five at Long Plain School. She now coordinates an Aboriginal Head Start program at her home reserve. This early intervention program is geared towards pre-schoolers aged 0-6, and utilizes six components into daily programming—Culture and Language, Education/School Readiness, Health Promotion, Nutrition, Social Support, and Parental Involvement. Along with her husband Larry, they are the proud grandparents of Nolan, Madison, Brooklyn and Patrick.

## TED CRAWFORD B.G.S. '03/B.Ed. (AD) '06

Ted recently completed his Education Degree at BU. Prior to this, Ted completed a diploma in drumset performance from Grant MacEwan College in Alberta. He played in several ensembles, and received three scholarships including the CR (cel) and Del Dilkie award and Jazz Band Scholarship. Ted took a year off to perform before his return to BU. He performed various gigs, while teaching students and drumlines at schools. [crawfo@mts.net](mailto:crawfo@mts.net)

## STEVE REID B.G.S./B.Ed. '05

After graduation, Steve began teaching in Kiev, Ukraine for the 2005-06 school year. Steve will be continuing his travels and teaching in Torreón, Mexico.

## CHARLENE RODGERS B.G.S./B.Ed. '05,

Charlene lives and works in Elkhorn, MB as a high school English teacher.

## in MEMORIAM

MATILDA AMES B.A. '63  
June 23, 2005

MARION EDMISON B.A. '35  
September, 2005

PETER ISAAK B.Ed. '77  
October 31, 2005

DEENA JACOBSON B.Ed. '92  
December 24, 2005

GLADYS NEUFELD B.T. '73/B.G.S. '79  
June 1, 2005

ERLA ZIEMER B.G.S. '83  
November 30, 2005

## staff/faculty

ELIZABETH STEWART  
Library 1967 - 1988  
January 7, 2006

MURIEL E. MALCOLM  
Library 1970 - 1990  
March 29, 2006

Note: In the Spring 2005 issue of the *Alumni News* magazine, we included Jean Hannah, Associate '56 in our In Memoriam section. We wish to inform you that we were not referring to Jean (née Hannah) McIntosh, B.A. '56. Our sincerest apologies for any confusion this may have caused.

# BRANDON UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION GREETINGS

Welcome back to another edition of *Alumni News*. The Brandon University Alumni Association (BUAA) has had an active winter, and we're looking forward to a number of additional activities scheduled for the spring and summer.

We have hosted alumni events in Winnipeg, Victoria and Calgary this year. These events were well-attended, and it was great fun to be involved with so many active alumni! The alumni board has also maintained a presence on campus, starting with a donation to the BUSU food bank, utilizing the profit from last summer's Clear Lake event. We've also maintained a more recent tradition of supplying coffee and donuts to students studying for Christmas exams and most recently supplied ice cream to the student body during final exam week. We've also purchased more Christmas lights for the evergreens in front of Clark Hall, which adds to the festive spirit on campus as well as to the 18th Street strip. The annual Clear Lake social at Danceland is set to go again on July 22, featuring Big Dick Cadillac, who will be accompanied by special guest Joey Gregorash.

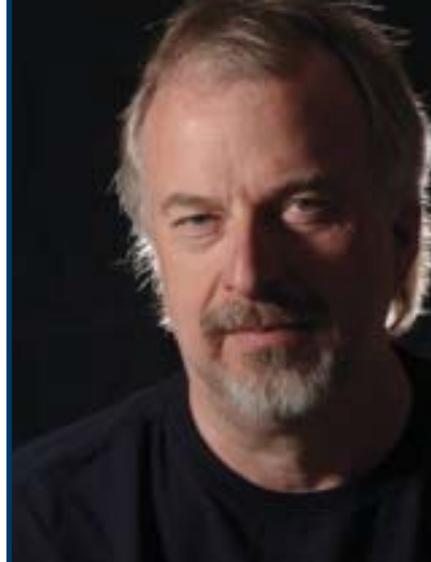
However, the big news (which you will read about in greater detail in this magazine) is the return to a traditional fall Homecoming event. For the first time in over a decade BU will host a Homecoming weekend on September 29, 30, and October 1. We have a number of committees working to put on a weekend to remember! The fun starts Friday with a welcome reception and Munchies@SUDS, followed by a basketball game in the gym featuring a Bobcat Alumni team facing off against the incoming 06/07 'Cats. The mezzanine will be decorated with Bobcat memorabilia, and we'll be serving up fresh popcorn for your enjoyment. A cash bar will also be on site. On Saturday you will be able to meet up with your classmates in The Gathering Space, go on campus tours and sit in on the inaugural Masters Lecture Series featuring Professors Al Rogosin and Dale Hayes. Saturday's events end with a banquet, awards ceremony and dance featuring Scotty McIntosh's Big Band. On Sunday morning you'll be able to partake in a little *hair of the dog* at our Champagne Breakfast, where there will be an open mic available for you to regale your friends about your favourite times at BU.

So, check out all the details in this edition, and make sure to register early for the Homecoming event using the attached form, or online at [alumni.brandonu.ca/homecoming/registration.asp](http://alumni.brandonu.ca/homecoming/registration.asp). See you in the fall! 🍷

Sincerely,



John Scott, '74  
President, Brandon University Alumni Association



Mr. John Scott '74  
President, Brandon University  
Alumni Association

## BRANDON UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

### OUR MISSION

The BUAA is dedicated to building and serving the community of present and future alumni by celebrating the traditions of Brandon University, inspiring pride in Brandon University and enhancing student life of Brandon University.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President**, John Scott '74

**Past President**, Mr. Rich Lonstrup '94

Ms Amanda Campbell '03

Ms Theresa Flannery '92

Mr. Bryan Cesmystruk '89

Mrs. Louise Lamont '94, '04

Mrs. Lana Myers '68

Mrs. Elaine Nairn '85

Ms Linda Schrader '67

### Ex Officio - Voting

**BU Students' Union Rep**, Mr. Nathan Peto

**BU Faculty Association Rep**, Dr. Noreen Ek

**BU President &  
Vice-Chancellor**, Dr. Louis P. Visentin

### Ex Officio - Non Voting

**Alumni Relations Officer**, Mrs. Carla Eisler

**Institutional Advancement**

**Executive Director**, Mr. Marc Desrosiers

## ALUMNI MEMBER CARD

The Brandon University Alumni Member Card is yours **FREE!** Take advantage of savings offered through your alumni association's programs and services.

Contact the Alumni Office at  
204.727.9697 or  
[alumni@brandonu.ca](mailto:alumni@brandonu.ca)



We invite you back to Brandon College/University to join friends, classmates, faculty and staff for a weekend of celebrations that will ignite fond memories of your time at BU.

This year we will be honoring the 10th, 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th & 70th anniversaries, which include the class years of 1936, 1946, 1956, 1966, 1981 and 1996. We encourage all class years to attend, as well as all who are interested in celebrating the history and traditions of Brandon University. Get in touch with your classmates now and encourage them to come!

Call the Alumni Association for help in organizing your class reunion. We have a line-up of weekend activities to keep you busy!

**Friday, September 29**  
3:00 PM – 7:00 PM

**Welcome Reception and Check-In**  
*Mingling Area—*  
*Knowles Douglas Students' Union Building*  
Meet up with classmates and see who else is coming for the weekend celebrations! Check-in and pick up your weekend passes and itinerary.

3:00 PM – 7:00 PM

**Munchies@SUDS**  
*Students' Union Building*  
Head into SUDS for appetizers and refreshments. Relax with friends as you wait to take in the Homecoming Basketball game!

7:00 PM

**Alumni Basketball Game**  
*Brandon University Gymnasium*  
Cheer on your favourite team as alumni take on the Bobcats! Enjoy the game with popcorn and refreshments from the sports lounge reserved for you in the upper mezzanine. Who will win the Homecoming Trophy?

**Saturday, September 30**  
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

**Class Reunions**  
*The Gathering Space—*  
*John E. Robbins Library*  
Grab a cup of coffee, reunite with class members and reminisce as you look through *Sickles* and old photographs. This is an opportunity for you to gather with classmates from your graduating year.

1:00 PM – 1:45 PM

**Campus Tour**  
Meet in the old Chapel (Room 104 Clark Hall) to begin your tour of the campus. See what has changed and what has stayed the same. Do you remember what it used to be like?

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Masters Lecture Series**  
Lewis D. Whitehead Lecture Hall (Room 212 Clark Hall)  
Professor Al Rogosin  
*The Pleasures and Perils of Botany (and Teaching)*  
Dr. Dale Hayes  
*It is Great to Be a Teacher!*  
(see next page for information on the lecturers)

6:00 PM – 6:45 PM

**Reception**  
*Main Dining Hall*

7:00 PM

**Banquet, Awards & Re-convocation Ceremony**  
Dance with Scotty McIntosh's Big Band

**Sunday, October 1**  
10:00 AM

**Farewell Champagne Brunch**  
*Main Dining Hall*  
Share your stories during our open mic session and bid farewell to old friends.

Other University Events scheduled for this weekend:

**Friday, September 29** BUSU Student/Alumni Social  
Contact 204.727.9660 or [www.busu.ca](http://www.busu.ca) for information.

**Saturday, September 30** Athletics Wall of Fame Luncheon (*Location TBA*)  
12:30 PM - 2:30 PM  
Join us in celebrating our former athletes as they are inducted into the revamped Hall of Fame. Additions include sports from the Brandon College Caps and a new Community Leadership recognition award.  
Contact Rick Nickelchok 204.727.7405



# Register Now

Online at: [alumni.brandonu.ca/homecoming/registration.asp](http://alumni.brandonu.ca/homecoming/registration.asp)  
Call: 1.877.282.4483 or 204.727.9697, or fill out the form below.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

A block of rooms has been booked at the Royal Oak Inn in Brandon.  
Royal Oak Inn, 3130 Victoria Avenue, Brandon, MB, R7B 0N2

To book a room, call the Royal Oak Inn toll free at:  
800.852.2709 or at 204.728.5775. **Group Booking Agreement ID #: 05355**

A Hospitality Room has also been booked for your convenience  
both Friday and Saturday until Midnight.

Don't forget the  
School of Music's  
100th Anniversary Reunion  
August 18 - 20, 2006

For more information call 204.727.9631  
or to register online visit  
<http://www.brandonu.ca/music/reunion2006>



september 29, 30 & october 1, 2006

## MASTERS SERIES LECTURERS

### Professor Al Rogosin

*The Pleasures and Perils of Botany (and Teaching):  
From Thin Ice into Hot Water*

Professor Al Rogosin taught Botany and Biology courses for many years at BU, starting when the department shared space with Geology and Zoology in the *H-Hut*, which now houses the Maintenance and Physical Plant unit. The course closest to his heart was Plant Ecology, for which the outdoors is its natural laboratory, and in many ways, part of its text as well. Following his formal retirement, he works as a volunteer in the Herbarium (a sort of plant archive) of the Botany Department identifying the large number of plants in its collection. These were collected by many individuals including former students, staff, others, and himself. They serve as reference materials for courses, research, helping the public, and for contributing to the knowledge of our natural resources.

He has had a long-term interest in environmental issues, which provides him something to do in his *spare time*.

### Dr. Dale Hayes

*It is Great to Be a Teacher!*

Updating a presentation he made to national, provincial, special interest groups and regional teacher organizations during the 80s and 90s, Dr. Hayes will speak of the rewards, challenges, and benefits that come from being a classroom teacher.

Dr. Hayes retired after 42 years in professional Education (27 years as a Professor of Education and former Dean of Education at BU). In Canada, he worked on several programs identified by Canadian governmental agencies as exemplary. As a professor he served on graduate and masters degree committees and a number of his students went on to complete doctoral studies. In the late 80s he was identified by a national speakers bureau as "One of Canada's top motivational speakers in Education." He became internationally known for his work in the preservation of Canadian and American western heritage and cowboy poetry.

He is a member of the Academy of American Poets, a professional member of the Academy of Western Artists, and Life Member of the Alberta Cowboy Poetry Association. He continues to hold (retired) membership in several professional education societies.

## REGISTRATION

To register, please fill in the form below (please print clearly):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Degree Type(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Home): \_\_\_\_\_ (Work): \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I want to register for:

### FRIDAY

Welcome Reception and Check-in \_\_\_\_\_ # @ no charge = \_\_\_\_\_

Munchies@SUDS \_\_\_\_\_ # @ no charge = \_\_\_\_\_

Alumni Basketball Game \_\_\_\_\_ # @ no charge = \_\_\_\_\_

### SATURDAY

Class Reunion-Class Year \_\_\_\_\_ # @ no charge = \_\_\_\_\_

Campus Tour \_\_\_\_\_ # @ no charge = \_\_\_\_\_

Master Lecture Series \_\_\_\_\_ # @ no charge = \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet & Dance \_\_\_\_\_ # @ \$35 = \_\_\_\_\_

### SUNDAY

Farewell Champagne Brunch \_\_\_\_\_ # @ \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

PAID BY:

Cheque  Visa  Mastercard  American Express

*Please make cheques payable to Brandon University*

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date (MM/YY) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Brandon University Alumni Association, 270-18th Street,  
Brandon, Manitoba, CANADA R7A 6A9



BU A-DES Chair, John Lindsay lectures in the Emergency Operations Lab

## Brandon University: leading the way in Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies

**“The field of emergency management is becoming more professional, and a strong academic program is an important part of that.”**

# Program PROFILE

Established officially in 2001—shortly before the September 11 terrorist attacks in the U.S.—the Brandon University Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies (A-DES) program graduated its first class of students in the spring of 2005. The BU A-DES program was the first degree program of its type in Canadian universities, and provides the skills and knowledge necessary to enable graduates to participate effectively in the management of hazards and disasters. Students are introduced to the broad range of technological, cultural and environmental risks of disasters with an emphasis on how the social and physical factors interact in disasters. Graduates of the program are able to assist with all aspects of emergency management, including the traditional preparedness and response activities as well as recovery efforts to help people affected by disasters as they try to get their lives back to normal and mitigation planning to prevent future damages. BU’s A-DES program adopts a Liberal Arts

and Sciences approach to foster an appreciation for the interdisciplinary nature of the field.

The A-DES program has grown and evolved over the first five years with a broader range of core courses and electives being developed by the A-DES faculty. The department currently consists of Dr. Elaine Enarson, Dr. Jason Levy and Mr. John Lindsay. Dr. Enarson contributes significant research and teaching experience in the social sciences area of disaster studies and Dr. Levy brings his expertise in disaster sciences, especially in crisis decision-making and computer support systems. Mr. Lindsay, who is also currently the department’s Chair, has over a dozen years of practice as an emergency manager in New Zealand and Canada. Together with sessional instructors the A-DES department offers a curriculum that balances theory and practice as well as the social and physical science perspectives.

The A-DES degree is now based on a 54 credit hour major combined with the student’s choice of minor leading either to a Bachelor of Science degree or a Bachelor of Arts degree. Both degree programs are normally completed in four academic years. There is also a new option to complete a 4-year (21 credit hour) minor in Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies to complement a major in another topic, such as Geography or Business Studies. Students already holding a Bachelor’s degree may complete the A-DES program as a second degree in significantly less time.

The Emergency Operation Lab (EOL) is an innovative and unique part of the Department. The EOL’s design is based on actual modern Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs) used by local and provincial governments during disaster and emergency situations. The EOL brings together

various disaster and emergency related hardware and software used for emergency modeling, exercises and planning in order to familiarize students with these environments and their usage. Utilizing the EOL, students learn how to employ new technologies (software and hardware) applications for various disaster and emergency planning and management tasks covering mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery phases of different types of disasters, as discussed in the courses. Leading companies have donated emergency management software to help make the EOL as realistic as possible. The EOL is also employed by faculty as a facility for conducting research projects as well as for examining and evaluating the applications of new disaster and emergency related technologies.

The A-DES student body has grown to include over 60 students and a new Disaster and Emergency Students Society has begun the important work of creating networks between students and practitioners. A-DES graduates are being employed in emergency management positions and several A-DES students are engaged in summer work as well. The importance of the practicum and the applied nature of the courses are recognized in helping A-DES students transition quickly from school into professional positions.

“The field of emergency management is becoming more professional and a strong academic program is an important part of that,” says Brandon University A-DES Chair John Lindsay. “Across Canada there is an increasing need for qualified emergency managers and a greater awareness of the range of skills required. Put simply, the A-DES program gives our graduates the knowledge and experience to help make our communities safer.”

# Alumnus PROFILE **AROUND THE WORLD**

Though Steve Reid, B.Ed. '05, is now a dedicated teacher—so much so that he travels around the world to do it in unfamiliar places—he almost didn't make it to university himself. Born and raised in Brandon, Steve's original intention was to complete the Assiniboine Community College Hospitality and Tourism program. After a year, however, he decided it wasn't for him. Steve stayed in Brandon, working various jobs for a couple of years, and then decided to attend Brandon University, simply for the sake of convenience. He quickly learned, however, that he was in the right place.



Steve Reid, B.Ed. '05

"I discovered how highly regarded the BU Education Program is," says Reid, "and decided on that one because I felt I could relate to students, as I was not a model student myself in school—the summer holidays and opportunities for travel were also a bonus."

"I had a great experience at BU," he continues. "I quite regularly enjoyed [on-campus pub] SUDS, and I played my guitar at Wednesday night Coffee House events—I remember sitting on the floor and watching the 2002 Olympic gold medal hockey game between Canada and the U.S.A. with about 70 other students. Great times."

Reid also has fond memories of his professors. "When thinking of people who helped to shape my career," says Reid, "Professor (Glenn) Cockerline instantly comes to mind. A lot of teachers will simply teach the curriculum, but I thought Professor Cockerline really molded his lessons for having a practical use in the professional world. In general, the professors at BU are an amazing group of people."

It was the prompting of one of his professors that convinced Reid to look into the international teaching circuit, and set him off on the adventure that his career has become since he graduated in the spring of 2005.

"Now I get to enjoy travel and teaching in Eastern Europe," says Reid, who currently teaches grade three at an international school in Kyiv, Ukraine, where he lives with his wife Alissa, who is also a teacher.

"My class has 16 students," he says, "who are from 10 different countries and speak 14 different languages. It's an amazing experience!"

Nevertheless, it seems that Reid is not content to stay put for too long—beginning in the fall of 2006, he will face a new challenge, in a new country.

"I've signed a contract to teach at an American school in Torreon, Mexico next year," he says, noting that he has received numerous job offers via email from potential employers who contact him simply on the basis of the BU Education Faculty's reputation. "I'll be teaching a grade six class."

"I try to live one day at a time and never take life for granted," Reid says, "but right now, I feel like I am living my greatest accomplishment. I am lucky to have found a career that I enjoy so much, because the whole thing so far has been a highlight—I have seen so many places and met so many incredible people in my journeys, and I am looking forward to seeing and meeting so many more!" 🇺🇸

## BU degree launched an international teaching career

"I feel like I am living  
my greatest  
accomplishment.  
I'm lucky to have  
found a career that I  
love so much."



Dr. Tom Breneman, DMD  
BU & You Campaign Chair

# BU & YOU CAMPAIGN

Thank you to all our alumni and friends for helping Brandon University exceed our \$8 million goal in just two years of the most encompassing campaign to date!

The tremendous success of this campaign is due to the hard work of our volunteers and staff, and the gifts from our Alumni and friends. As we enter the final year of this campaign, we will strive to meet all our goals including a community fitness centre, a greenhouse that students will use for plant science and research, essential improvements to our student residences, establishing *smart* classrooms, and equipment for many programs. It is more important than ever to support these areas of need.

I am proud to reflect on the work we have done, what we will continue to do, and the many generous donors who have contributed to the BU & YOU Campaign. On behalf of Brandon University, I thank you for your support and encourage you to continue helping us make BU *Something Special*.

Dr. Tom Breneman, DMD  
Campaign Chair

## Brandon University Foundation Mission

The Brandon University Foundation was established to promote the advancement of higher education at Brandon University, and to improve the quality of its facilities and activities.

## It starts here. It starts with you.



### Growing

At Brandon University, we believe in shaping the whole person. To us that means nourishing not only their minds, but also their bodies. A new fitness centre at BU will ensure the health and wellness of our students, faculty & staff, and everyone in the community.

### Enhancing

Up-to-date equipment means more hands-on experience for students. A new greenhouse, microscopes, cutting edge software and lab renovations will allow our students to become better learners and help them to have more valuable skills upon graduation.

### Succeeding

The success of our students rests largely in the hands of our faculty. Supporting current faculty through research endowments and recruiting the best new faculty ensures that BU students continue to receive the best possible educational experience.



## Charity Begins at Home

In order to be successful, fundraising initiatives must rely on community support. Thanks in part to the involvement of many businesses and organizations, the BU & YOU Campaign is thriving.

### Brandon Sun

One of the local businesses that is showing their support of Brandon University is The Brandon Sun. The University is thankful for their ongoing partnership. Pictured is Dr. Tom Breneman, BU & YOU Campaign Chair (right) expressing appreciation to Mr. Ewan Pow, Publisher, The Brandon Sun. Their promotion and support continues to assist with the BU & YOU Campaign's vision of growing the campus infrastructure, enhancing learning and teaching resources and succeeding with research and endowments. Mr. Ewan Pow is also a valued member of the Brandon University Foundation.

### Total Eye Care

Brandon University is pleased to recognize Total Eye Care's support of the BU & YOU Campaign. Total Eye Care recently made a gift of \$15,000 towards growing the campus infrastructure through the construction of the Fitness Centre.



For more information on making a gift, please contact the Department of Institutional Advancement at 204.727.7374 or 1.877.BU2.GIVE or [development@brandonu.ca](mailto:development@brandonu.ca). Gifts can also be made on-line at <http://alumni.brandonu.ca/contribute.asp>



(L-R): Mr. Marc Desrosiers and Mr. David Chartrand.



(L-R): Dr. Austin F. Gulliver, Dean of Science; Dr. Louis P. Visentin; Roland Moberg, President & CEO, Tundra Oil & Gas; Chris Freund, B.Sc. '01, Geologist, Tundra Oil & Gas; and Brad Thiesson, Land Manager, Tundra Oil & Gas.



(L-R): Mr. Nonnie Cancade, Dr. Louis P. Visentin; Mr. Mark Plamondon; Dr. Scott Grills, BU Dean of Arts; Mr. Dennis Hunt; Mr. Grant Starko; and Mr. Rick Harris.



(L-R): Dr. Kevin Kavanagh and Mr. Douglas Adams.



(L-R): Dr. Louis P. Visentin; Ms Cheryl McClelland; and Mrs. Linda Burrige.

### Manitoba Métis Federation

Marc Desrosiers, Executive Director of BU's Institutional Advancement, and David Chartrand, MMF President, sign the latest agreement acknowledging a gift to Brandon University of \$100,000 from the Louis Riel Institute. Their gift will be used to grow their \$1M Endowment at the university. This gift will be fully matched by the Manitoba Scholarships and Bursaries Initiative program, to add a combined total of \$200,000 into the Louis Riel Institute Endowment. The *Louis Riel Institute and the Manitoba Métis Federation Continue to Grow Métis Student Awards* to help Métis students to attain a post-secondary degree in a faculty of their choice at Brandon University

### Tundra Oil and Gas Ltd.

Representatives from Tundra Oil & Gas Ltd. visited Brandon University to be honoured for their donation of \$60,000 to the BU Geology Department through the BU & YOU Campaign. The funds allowed the department to purchase 11 Polarizing Petrographic Microscopes and five Transmitted/Reflected Light Petrographic Microscopes. "This generous donation from Tundra Oil & Gas Ltd. has enabled us to be state-of-the-art in our petrographic teaching facilities," says Dr. Hamid Mumin, Chair of the BU Geology Department. "Students are the beneficiaries; better trained, more engaged and well prepared to meet the challenges of a rewarding career in the Geological Sciences."

### Investors Group Financial Services

Investors Group Financial Services in Brandon has made a significant contribution with a gift of \$50,000 over the next three years. Their gift has established the Investors Group Distinguished Speaker Series, which provides the opportunity for successful Canadian business leaders and entrepreneurs to offer lectures at Brandon University over the next five years. Grant Starko, Regional Director for Investors Group Brandon, was pleased to make the announcement. "Since 1940, Investors Group has built its reputation in this region around integrity, quality and responsiveness. Many of our consultants are Brandon University Business graduates, who definitely live up to this reputation, and follow a very strong financial planning ethic. We at Investors Group believe in a deep commitment to our community, and this partnership with the Brandon University Foundation promises to be a powerful way to enrich the lives of the broader community."

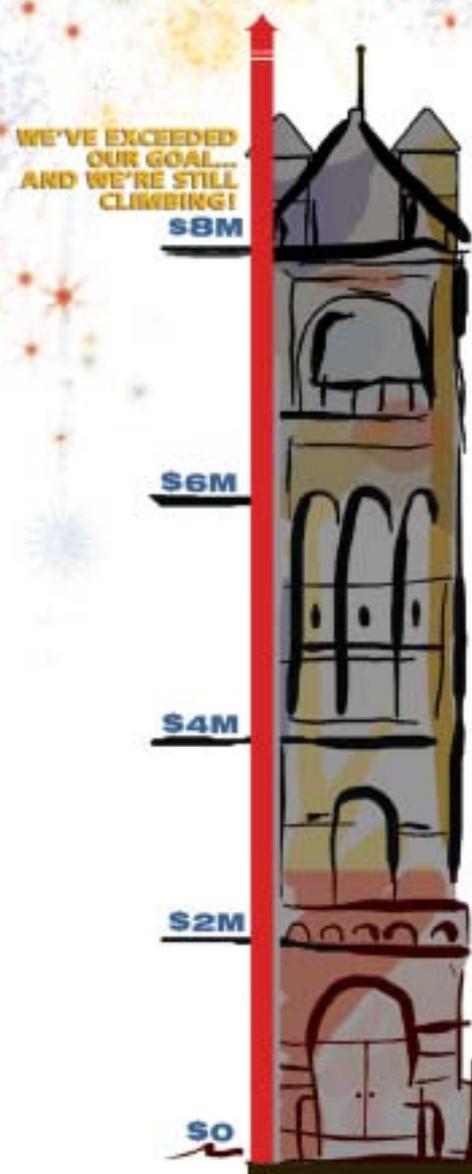
### Great West Life

Chancellor Emeritus and BU & YOU Campaign Honorary Chair, Dr. Kevin Kavanagh, along with BU Foundation President Douglas Adams, acknowledge a generous gift of \$100,000 from the Great West Life Assurance Company towards the Fitness Centre. Dr. Kavanagh is the long-time former President and CEO of Great West Life and remains active in a volunteer capacity with both Brandon University and with Great West Life.

### Convergys

Brandon University is pleased to recognize the support of the Convergys Corporation to the BU & YOU Campaign. Their generous gift of \$60,000 USD will be used to create the Convergys Corporation Teaching Lab, a component of the Library Information Commons. Pictured here are Dr. Louis P. Visentin, President and Vice-Chancellor, Brandon University, Cheryl McClelland, Senior Manager, Human Resources, Convergys Corporation, Brandon, and Linda Burrige, Brandon University Librarian. 

Brandon University would like to **THANK** our recent donors for their **SUPPORT** of the **BU & YOU CAMPAIGN**



We need your support! Please help us provide essential needs for our students in areas that are important to you. Call us at 204.727.7374 or 1.877.BU2.GIVE (1.877.282.4483), or visit us online at [www.alumni.brandonu.ca/BU&YOU](http://www.alumni.brandonu.ca/BU&YOU)



## Giving and Receiving

Dennis Hunt, B.A. '83

Since the 1996 budget, the federal government has introduced a number of significant tax changes designed to encourage Canadians to make larger gifts in support of charitable organizations. Charitable gifting, when combined with life insurance, can be incorporated into an estate plan to achieve a variety of complementary financial goals. The following case involves a charitable widow:

Brenda is 70 years old and is recently widowed. She has two grown children who are married with their own children. Brenda wishes to make a sizable gift to a local charity which her late husband was actively involved with. However, she does not want to significantly reduce her current assets or those available to her family upon her death. She has also been advised that her death will trigger tax liabilities in the range of \$100,000 from capital gains on mutual funds and from RRSPs.

To meet Brenda's objectives, it is recommended that she purchase a \$100,000 permanent insurance policy with an annual premium of \$2,500. She can then transfer ownership of the policy to the local charity. By virtue of the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (CCRA) administrative position, Brenda can claim the premium payment as a charitable donation on an annual basis. This would reduce the after-tax cost of paying the premium on the policy and ensure the charity receives a large gift on her death. The downside of this approach is that Brenda no longer controls the policy and the underlying death benefit. Her only option is to discontinue paying premiums should she wish to withdraw her support for this charity in the future.

Another option is to arrange for the gift of the life insurance to be deferred until Brenda's death. She can provide through her will or directly through an insurance designation that the insurance proceeds be paid to the local charity on her death. Such a gift will be treated as a charitable donation in the year of death. The charity is designated as the beneficiary of the policy. This ensures the gift is received on a timely basis and avoids estate creditors and the payment of a variety of estate administration fees and taxes (i.e. probate).

There are several benefits of a deferred gifting strategy using life insurance. First, Brenda continues to own the policy and can divert the death benefits to other sources unless the charity is the irrevocable beneficiary. Second, the gift can be used to offset up to 100 per cent of net income in the year of death. Excess donations in the year of death may be carried back, subject to the same 100 per cent limit, to the immediately preceding tax year. So in addition to funding a sizable gift to the charity, the life insurance, in effect, offsets approximately \$100,000 of taxable income in Brenda's estate. This allows more of the estate assets to pass to her beneficiaries. To avoid probate fees or taxes, it is recommended to designate the charity as the policy's beneficiary.

In summary, this illustrates two common insurance strategies for planned gifting. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or require further information on the above. ☎

Dennis Hunt, CFP, BA Specialist '83, Executive Financial Consultant  
 Investors Group Financial Services Inc., I.G. Insurance Services Inc.  
 License Sponsored by The Great-West Life Assurance Company  
 Ph: 204.729.2000 ext 227 Fax: 204.728.1882 Toll free: 866.530.7678

## Gifts to BU Come in Many Forms

Brandon University accepts contributions to support different areas of campus need and donor interest. However many people are not aware of the wide range of contributions that can be made. Gifts made to Brandon University can be specifically tailored to suit the wishes of our donors, and come in a wide variety of options.

Gifts do not necessarily have to be deferred until the end of one's life to be considered a Planned Gift. Some donors prefer to make an outright gift to immediately see the impact of their generosity. Any donation of substantial assets given during your lifetime, designed to meet your charitable goals and sometimes to maximize tax or estate-planning objectives is also considered to be a Planned Gift.

Gifts-in-kind are also welcomed by the University. Examples of gifts-in-kind include pieces of art or cultural property, which are used by art students for teaching purposes, land or real estate, and musical instruments. An example of this type of gift came from Mr. Alphonso and Mrs. Sybil Weekes, music lovers and ongoing supporters of Brandon University, who recently made two unique gifts to BU. When purchasing a new clarinet for himself last fall, Mr. Weekes decided to also purchase one for Brandon University's School of Music. This spring, they donated another instrument to the School, this time a trumpet.



This fine new Buffet-Evette clarinet, valued at \$760, and the Besson Trumpet, valued at \$850, will be added to the School of Music's instrument bank, which provides students with access to high-quality instruments during their studies. According to Dr. Glen Carruthers, Dean of the School of Music, the instruments will directly benefit our students, and will be put to good use by them for years to come.

Mr. Weekes is a classicist who began his musical training with the Royal Barbados Police Band, and received his diploma in History and Analysis of Music from the Chicago Conservatory. He was a sub-lieutenant in the Swift Sure Cadet Band where he played solo clarinet under Ted Good. He was also a solo clarinet player in the Lago Oil & Transport Company Ltd. Colony Band in Aruba under Jan Koolman, the Canadian Legion Band under Bert Sheen, the Brandon University Symphony Orchestra under Walter Hexter, and the Brandon University Concert Band for nearly a decade in the 1970s under William Gordon. In addition to all of this, Mr. Weekes was the principal clarinet player in the Aruba Symphony Orchestra under director Jan Stam.

For information on making this or any other form of gift to Brandon University Foundation, please call 204.727.7374. ☎

## GIFT ALERT

In the 2006 Federal Budget delivered on May 2, effective immediately, the Federal Government has eliminated the Capital Gains Tax on gifts of appreciated publicly-traded securities. For further information, please visit our web site at <http://alumni.brandonu.ca/giving/planned.asp>

# Recent Alumni EVENTS



VICTORIA



VICTORIA



CALGARY



CALGARY



WINNIPEG

## CALGARY DESSERT AND BUFFET SOCIAL EVENING

On the evening of Sunday, April 9, BU alumni gathered at the Fort Calgary Historic Park with host Dr. Finley Campbell, '50, and his wife Barbara Campbell. Dr. Jeff Williams, Vice-President, Academic & Research, provided a presentation on the recent highlights of Brandon University, while Alumni Association President Mr. John Scott shared an update on alumni affairs.

## VICTORIA ALUMNI AFTERNOON

On Friday, March 3, Dr. George Gooden, '42/'64 and his wife, Mrs. Mary Gooden, '42, hosted an Alumni Afternoon at the Chateau Victoria in Victoria, BC. Along with the spectacular view, approximately 50 guests enjoyed learning about the new and exciting programs and events at their *Alma Mater* as Dr. Jeff Williams, Vice-President, Academic & Research provided an update. Also, alumni Joy Finlay (née Barton), '54 and Cam Finlay, '52 shared the joy of their giving experience.

## WINNIPEG ALUMNI EVENT

On November 22, 2005, the Brandon University Alumni Association held an Alumni Dessert Buffet and Social Evening. Dr. Kevin Kavanagh, Chancellor Emeritus and his wife Mrs. Els Kavanagh hosted the event at the Fort Garry Hotel with over 50 guests in attendance. Dr. Louis P. Visentin, President & Vice-Chancellor, provided an update on the direction and progress at Brandon University. Mr. John Scott, BUAA President brought greetings on behalf of the Alumni Association.

## UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

### DANCELAND SOCIAL

Clear Lake, MB  
Saturday July 22, 2006

### SCHOOL OF MUSIC 100 YEAR REUNION

August 18 - 20, 2006

For more information call 204.727.9631 or to register online visit <http://www.brandonu.ca/music/reunion2006>

### BU KAM LUNG SPENCER LEE MEMORIAL GOLF SCRAMBLE

Glen-Lea Golf Course  
Saturday August 26, 2006

For more information call 204.728.0266

### HOMECOMING 2006

September 29 - October 1, 2006

Stay tuned for upcoming Alumni events:

OTTAWA, ON  
VANCOUVER, BC  
WINNIPEG, MB

For more information on any event, or if you are interested in assisting with an event in your area, contact the Alumni Association Office at 204.727.9697 or e-mail [alumni@brandonu.ca](mailto:alumni@brandonu.ca). Be sure to check out our web site for future events at <http://alumni.brandonu.ca>

## THANK YOU ALUMNI!

### ANNUAL FUND 2005 - 2006

**Thank you** BU Alumni for giving so generously to the Brandon University Annual Fund 2005-06. You've helped us to raise over \$67,000 in cash and pledges for many areas on campus. Your support ensures that our students will continue to enjoy a rich and vibrant learning environment. Please see the Brandon University Foundation Annual Report inserted in this magazine for full details on this year's campaign!

## ALUMNI PRIVILEGES

Simply by being a BU alumnus, you have access to many services and discounts.

**Alumni Card:** Your alumni card is FREE. This member card allows you to enjoy special benefits and discounts. Contact the Alumni Association and apply for your card now.

**Alumni News Magazine:** FREE subscription to the magazine, published twice yearly.

**Career Planning and Placement Services:** Our Career Planning and Placement Officer can help you launch or further your career. Contact Doug Pople at 204.727.9651 or at [careers@brandonu.ca](mailto:careers@brandonu.ca).

**Recreational Facility Use:** Alumni are welcome to make use of the BU Gymnasium. Contact Campus Recreation at 204.727.9636. BU alumni may also make use of recreation facilities through the Reciprocal Recreation Facilities Program at many different colleges and universities. Check our web site for a list of participating schools.

**Alumni Events:** Alumni Events, on and off campus, are an excellent way to network with other alumni. To hold an alumni event in your hometown, or for reunion planning, please call our Alumni Officer at 204.727.9697.

**John E. Robbins Library Borrowing Privileges:** Show your alumni card and receive full borrowing privileges.

**Bobcat Home Games:** Show your alumni card and receive a discount on all home games.

**Group Life Insurance:** We are pleased to partner with Industrial Alliance Pacific Life Insurance to provide you with comprehensive coverage at economical group rates.

**BUAA Mastercard™ Affinity Program:** In partnership with MBNA Canada, we have established a card that gives you the benefits of MasterCard™ while a percentage of each purchase charged to the card supports the BU Alumni Association and its services for alumni.



## Alumna PROFILE

For Barb Carle-Thiesson (B.Sc. '75), attending Brandon University offered a chance to revisit her roots. Born in Winnipeg, Carle-Thiesson lived in Brandon from the time she was in kindergarten until she was in grade five, when her family moved to Alberta. She returned to Brandon nine years later when, after being accepted into College St. Jean in Edmonton, she decided instead to revisit her childhood home and attend the smaller Brandon University.

Carle-Thiesson pursued a math degree with the intent of becoming a teacher, but in her final year she had an experience that set her on a different path entirely.

"A CA recruiter from Winnipeg visited students in my grad year," she says. "I was interested, but he said he wouldn't hire me because I didn't have a commerce degree, and advised that I might find it difficult to find an articling position without one."

### Alumna has found success as a CA in two provinces

Carle-Thiesson proved him wrong when she was offered an articling position in Brandon in 1976. However, it offered only half of the salary that was available in a booming Alberta at the time, so Carle-Thiesson returned to Edmonton.

Though Carle-Thiesson credits Brandon University with getting her into the Chartered Accountant program, there was still much work to be done after returning to Alberta.

"I didn't have the prerequisites for the Alberta CA program," she says, "so I became the pre-cursor to today's co-op students by working for four months and then attending the University of Alberta for four months on a rotating basis over two years to get the qualifications."

In 1979, Carle-Thiesson moved to Grande Prairie, Alberta. There she completed her articles, got married, and started her own practice. While living in Grande Prairie, she also had two daughters. In 1986, after building a successful business, she decided that she wanted to give something back to a profession that had provided her the opportunity to become successful.

"That's when my journey of volunteering to serve on the Alberta Council began," she says. "I was an elected council member in Alberta until 1990 when a new opportunity arose in the form of a move to Vancouver Island."

Carle-Thiesson moved to British Columbia in 1991 and has lived there ever since. "We're still here and we'll likely stay," she says. "You can't beat waking up each morning and looking out to the water."

Since moving to B.C., Carle-Thiesson has served seven years as an elected member on the council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of B.C. (ICABC), and another three on the presidential ladder. She served as President of ICABC in 2004/2005.

Currently, she sits on the Board of Evaluators, a group of Chartered Accountants whose job it is to develop uniform evaluations of Canada's Chartered Accountants on behalf of the provincial institutes/order in a manner that ensures fairness to all candidates. She is also about to return to studies via the Directors Education Program offered by the Institute of Corporate Directors Corporate Governance College in partnership with the Segal Graduate School of Business at Simon Fraser University and the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto. As if this is not enough to keep her busy, she continues to work with her business partner, Doug Tyce, CA, in a boutique Nanaimo, B.C. Chartered Accountants practice and, along with her husband, is building and marketing 20 vacation strata units at Sproat Lake this year.

Carle-Thiesson has been recognized for her hard work by being honoured as a Fellow of the Chartered Accountants in both B.C. and Alberta, but she says the accomplishments she is most proud of are her daughters.

"They've turned out to be beautiful, kind, respectful, bright young women," she says. "It is hard work to turn out fine young adults, but what a rewarding journey!" 🏡

"It is hard work to turn out fine young adults, but what a rewarding journey!"

# In YOUR Words

A valedictory is a farewell; a bidding adieu to all that has held such a central place in our lives for the past three or four years. As valedictorian for the Class of '56, I experience mingled sentiments. It is an honour to bring a final farewell to Brandon College. But such an honour comes not without regret, as I recall in retrospect all that she has meant for us in the past, and will continue to mean in the future.

There is, as well, a feeling of inadequacy, for I cannot begin to know and express the many thoughts within the minds of each of my classmates on this memorable occasion. No doubt, each of us will be remembering certain events which are not so significant for another. Thus I can only attempt to reveal to you the things which are uppermost in my own mind today, hoping that in these thoughts will be mirrored some of the memories treasured by my colleagues.

Here at college, we have been offered many golden opportunities. I like to think on all the things we have shared together as a class. Of course I might mention the lectures which we attended so faithfully—especially at 8:30 in the morning! I shall always remember the infectious enthusiasm that was so evident in sports, competitions, and class parties. But we have also experienced quieter, more serious moments as when we have gathered together for the morning chapel service in a period of reflection and meditation. From these various phases of our college life, each of us has made lasting friendships to be cherished forever. We have experienced a feeling of strength—of oneness. We have gained a confidence that will help to solidify our faith both in ourselves and in our fellow men.

Now, as graduates, we are responsible persons. Our responsibility lies not in one specific field, but in several fields. We must always remember how much we owe to our parents for helping to make this day possible for us. Our responsibility to our *Alma Mater* is equally as large, for without her, how little we could have accomplished. And yet, we are also responsible to ourselves. True, we have proven ourselves worthy of a university degree according to academic standards. However, life does not suddenly become an easy road simply by adding Bachelor of Arts, or Bachelor of Science after one's name. Dr. Samuel Johnson has said, "Deign on the passing world to turn thine eyes, And pause awhile from letters to be wise."

Our attitudes, our actions and ideals are the things by which others will determine whether or not we are fulfilling our responsibility as university graduates. It would serve us well to keep always in our mind's eye, our class motto, "To be, rather than to seem." It is not enough that outer appearance be sparkling and impressive. It is our duty to make the person within one of true worth and steadfast integrity. As we come to this parting of the ways, the paths we choose will be diverse. It is natural that each of us wonders what the future holds in store; but it is well for us that we do not, and cannot know God's plan for us. I think of a line of poetry by Alexander Pope, in which he says, "Oh, blindness to the future kindly given." We are young. We have much to learn. The path before us stretches long. Inevitably we will encounter joys and sorrows, success and failure. Yet our future will be much more secure if we ask the help of God. King George VI, in his Christmas message of 1939 used the following illustration, "I said to a man who stood at the gate of the year, give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied, "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God; That shall be to you better than light, and safer than the known way."

We have heard many theories as to how we may succeed in the world. But what is success? Is it to be defined in terms of money, fame, or honour? Aristotle believed that success and happiness come to man when he works towards some intellectual or social goal, for the good of all. I think we shall find that it is not what we attain for ourselves, but what we contribute towards the happiness of others, that accounts for success or failure in life.

We must bid farewell to these hallowed halls where we have led a somewhat protected and sheltered life. We are not, however, oblivious to the problems, fears, and tensions present in the world today. We leave with reluctant steps and backward glances; but with firm resolution in our hearts ever to uphold the sterling ideals which have become for us, the marks and symbols of Brandon College. ☘



50 FIFTY  
Years Later...

Valedictory  
Address 1956  
by Marina Laking (née Townsend)

*I currently reside in the Barrie, Ontario area. This year is my 50th Anniversary since graduating from Brandon College. To my classmates and all other graduates of Brandon College/University, I look forward to seeing you all at the fall Homecoming weekend in September 2006. Let's make it a weekend to remember!*

Marina Laking (née Townsend), B.A. '56  
Valedictorian

If you have some wonderful stories to tell, we invite you to submit articles *In Your Words* for consideration for this section of the *Alumni News* magazine.

Please send article and photo to:  
communications@brandonu.ca  
or call 204.727.9762 for more information.  
Articles should be no longer than 500 words.

We look forward to hearing from you.

# TAKING <sup>the</sup> PLUNGE



## Are you Ready for a Career CHANGE?

This is a question we all ask ourselves from time to time. Whether it is from boredom, lack of opportunity, an overly challenging workplace, or the fact that you can't face another Monday with your current employer, carefully weigh your options.

Regardless of your reasons for exploring a career change, **do your homework**. Carefully explore the reasons for thinking about a new job. Ensure it is not a spur-of-the-moment thought based on some short-term dissatisfaction with your current position. If you have carefully thought it through and you are ready to seriously start looking, first determine what your needs are of a new job. This will include at least two important requirements—what do you need from a job to feel fulfilled, and what are your income requirements.

Another consideration is that you may in fact find out after some research that you are being paid well and you now face the dilemma of being constrained by *golden handcuffs*. This term simply means that you are stuck in your current job because you would be unable to find another job with a similar rate of pay.

My personal commitment to my position is that the day I wake up and am not excited to see students and work with employers, it is then time for me to look elsewhere. Given the amount of time you spend in your workplace, it is vital that your job is reasonably fulfilling and is providing you with an adequate income.

One of my favourite movies, *Office Space*, contains a line, that relates closely to the whole idea of finding a fulfilling job. Peter says, "What if we are still doing this when we are 50?" If you are seeing your job as a life sentence as opposed to a personally fulfilling experience, maybe it is time to at least research other opportunities.

A major consideration within this whole area is who will be affected by your job change—spouse, children or others who depend upon you. It is advisable to discuss these matters before throwing open the door one day and announcing "Honey, I'm home and—surprise—I quit my job today!" Will you tell your current employer you are looking elsewhere? This is usually a difficult question as you do not want to be less than upfront with your current employer, nor do you want to appear evasive to prospective employers.

Career research has never been easier. With the advent of the Internet as a recruiting tool, many organizations and employers have posted their employment information on-line with the intent of attracting qualified candidates. There are also a huge number of sites where potential job seekers can post their résumé for employers to view.

**WorkopolisCampus.com** is one of the largest student and grad job sites, posting thousands of positions requiring individuals from a multitude of academic backgrounds. Please contact me at [pople@brandonu.ca](mailto:pople@brandonu.ca) to get Brandon University's institutional access code for WorkopolisCampus, which will allow you to access the postings being directed by employers to Brandon University students and grads.

But always remember, it's easier to look for a job while you are employed. It may seem appealing to start your job search fresh without your current job weighing you down, but remember that your current job is providing you with an income, a purpose for getting up each morning, and most important, a multitude of potential networking opportunities.

Please contact me if I can be of assistance with any career related issues. 

For more information, please contact **Doug Pople**, Brandon University Career Planning and Placement Officer at [pople@brandonu.ca](mailto:pople@brandonu.ca) or 204.727.9651.

All services are available to current students and alumni of Brandon University and are provided free of charge and treated with complete confidentiality.



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# 2007

A year long celebration...

[www.brandonu.ca/125](http://www.brandonu.ca/125)

# 125

**BRANDON**  
1882-2007

Visit our web-site for:

- Dates and information on 2007 birthday celebration events throughout the year.
- Information on registering your event as a 125<sup>th</sup> event.
- Register as a volunteer to help out with major events planned.
- Information on registering for the Homecoming Weekend.
- Information on Legacy Projects.
- Tell us your story.
- Links to related sites – City, Tourism, Riverbank.

**LAUNCH OF THE LIGHT PARK  
AND KICK-OFF CELEBRATION  
TO THE 125<sup>TH</sup> YEAR**

December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006

**ACTUAL BIRTHDAY EVENT**

May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007

**HOMECOMING WEEKEND/  
CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS**

June 29<sup>th</sup>, June 30<sup>th</sup>, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007

# celebrate

## Your Privacy is Important to Us

PIPEDA: Protecting Your Information

Personal Information Protection and  
Electronic Documents Act

On January 1, 2004, the Federal *Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA)* came into force for all organizations across Canada.

Brandon University Alumni Association collects information about its alumni and friends and is committed to the protection and privacy of this information. We make every effort to comply with applicable laws such as the *Manitoba Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA)* and the *Federal Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA)*.

In order for us to offer you affinity programs and services and to strengthen relationships between graduates and BU, personal information such as your name, address, phone number, and other relevant data is used for the purpose of sending you the *Alumni News* magazine, informing you about alumni events, affinity programs and services, alumni surveys and fundraising initiatives. Except for the purposes set out above, we will not sell, barter or lease our alumni database information to any external agencies.

We want to ensure your personal information is treated according to your wishes. We will assume we have your consent to keep you connected to your *Alma Mater*, Brandon University and the Brandon University Alumni Association, unless otherwise indicated below.

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- Brandon University Alumni Association
- Third-party business partners of Brandon University or the Brandon University Alumni Association (i.e. insurance or affinity cards program information) and do not consent to the disclosure of any personal information to such third parties.

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270 – 18th Street, Brandon, MB R7A 6A9

Fax: 204.727.4674 E-mail: [alumni@brandonu.ca](mailto:alumni@brandonu.ca)  
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\*\*If you have any questions or concerns regarding our privacy policy or the use of your personal information, please contact our Privacy Officer at 204.727.9723.

# Display your Success

CHOOSE A PRESTIGIOUS QUALITY FRAME



A lifelong academic achievement deserves a frame for a lifetime. Don't relegate your diploma to the bottom of a drawer. Frame it in a distinctive, high quality frame and present it with pride.

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If this issue is addressed to someone no longer a permanent resident of your home, please notify us so we can properly forward future issues. If any reader has comments or questions about this publication (or would like to submit story ideas), call 204.727.9697 or email alumni@brandonu.ca, or write us at the above address. Thank you.

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