ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS GIVE $1.5 MILLION TO HONOUR DIVISION FOUNDER

MORE INSIDE
The power of philanthropy to open the eyes of Western students to a world of new experiences and possibilities is evident in the stories profiled in this issue of Impact Western.

For instance, your generosity has enabled law student Katerina Minaeva to intern at the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law in Vienna, Austria, solidifying her interest to pursue a career in international law.

Donors are helping to bring a world-class professional experience to the classroom through the Don Wright Faculty of Music’s masterclass program, which invites internationally-renowned artists, such as Francesco Milliotto, to campus where they work directly with students to refine their performance techniques.

And we continue to advance our research in wind engineering by looking for the most effective ways to harness the wind’s energy and mitigate the destruction caused by tornadoes and downbursts.

Every gift is important in enabling Western to deliver an exemplary university experience. To attract the best and brightest students, faculty and researchers, it is critical that we provide them with the strategic resources needed to achieve global standards of excellence. We are very grateful and fortunate to have alumni and friends who are moved to give in support of higher education and the development of tomorrow’s global citizens and leaders.

Thank you for making a difference through your continued support and generosity.

Amit Chakma
President & Vice-Chancellor
Orthopaedic surgeons give $1.5 million to honour division founder

Western is attracting and investing millions of dollars into a matching endowed chairs program that will provide sustained leadership in strategic areas of teaching and research.

The latest investment is a $3-million chair funded by a group of 25 orthopaedic surgeons at The University of Western Ontario’s Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry. Their $1.5-million commitment will honour Dr. J.C. Kennedy, the first Professor and Chair of Orthopaedic Surgery at Western, who died in 1983.

“Western’s Division of Orthopaedic Surgery has expanded and flourished under the strong leadership of prior division chairs including Drs. Kennedy, Harvey Bailey, Cecil Rorabeck and Robert Bourne,” says Dr. James Roth, current Division Chair. “The J.C. Kennedy Chair ensures that the division will be able to compete for the best possible leaders in perpetuity.”

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– Dr. James Roth

This is the third chair to be announced under the matching fund program. The University has committed $12.5 million to match private gifts of $1.5 million to create the first eight permanent endowed chairs, valued at $3 million each.

“The J.C. Kennedy Chair in Orthopaedic Surgery will not only strengthen our collaborative partnerships across the community in education, research and clinical care, but will take our orthopaedic division’s national reputation for excellence to a global level,” says President Chakma. “We appreciate the vital role our alumni and private sector partners play in this exciting opportunity.”
Improving strategies and policies to support Canadian newcomers

Western psychology professor Victoria Esses believes the way Canada handles immigration is vital to the future success of our country. And work she’s doing at Western could help improve Canadian immigration practices.

“Our Canadian population is not growing and we need skilled workers and entrepreneurs to contribute to our labour market. Immigrants energize our society with diverse skills and backgrounds and we need that to compete in the world market,” says Professor Esses, who has been Director of Western’s Centre for Research on Migration and Ethnic Relations since 2008.

With financial support from The Harold Crabtree Foundation Award in Public Policy, Professor Esses is contributing to the effectiveness of immigration and integration policy and practice in Canada.

“Immigration is fundamental to Canada – socially, economically and culturally,” says Professor Esses. “We are so grateful for the support from The Harold Crabtree Foundation. It has made a huge difference for our program, our students, and the work we are doing in this area.”

Established in 1951 with funds from Harold and Louisa Crabtree, The Harold Crabtree Foundation supports areas including education, health and social services in Ontario, Quebec and the Atlantic Provinces.

The Foundation has donated $395,000 to Western since 1992, including $20,000 last year, to support a number of initiatives such as Professor Esses’ research on how media portrayals influence people’s attitudes towards refugees.

“Canadians are generally quite favourable toward our immigration policy but they are not so favourable toward our refugee policy,” notes Professor Esses. Her goal is to provide strategies for more positive portrayals of refugees and intends to have results by the fall.

Working with Professor Esses, PhD student Caroline Bennett-AbuAyyash also received a portion of the funding to examine how religious bias impacts the discounting of immigrants’ skills.

The Foundation’s donation also supports public presentations regarding immigration, integration, and multiculturalism in Canada during the fall and winter terms. Additionally, the funding supported two keynote addresses at the first bi-annual Western Migration Conference Series in April. Hosted by the Centre for Research on Migration and Ethnic Relations, in partnership with Western’s Canada-U.S. Institute, the conference theme is Taking Stock of a Turbulent Decade and Looking Ahead: Immigration to North America 2000-2010.

Professor Esses says the conference will strengthen links among policy makers, researchers, and community members from non-governmental organizations.

“It will get Canadians and Americans talking to one another about the immigration policies in our two countries and tell us about what is going on in other places, which informs the research we are doing here.”
Proud graduate supports next generation to honour brother

For the Ng siblings, Western enhanced their lives immeasurably. And that is why youngest brother, Wilfred Ng, BA’85, is donating $1.8 million HKD (approximately $228,000 CAD) to his alma mater, while paying tribute to his late brother, Harvey.

“Harvey loved Canada,” recalls Mr. Ng. “Amongst our siblings, he was the only one who chose to stay in Canada after graduation.”

Harvey Ng, BESc’86, started his own business not long after he graduated. He was confident that the education he received at Western prepared him well for the challenges ahead. He later diversified his business by expanding the family business into Canada. In 2009, he died of cancer at the age of 47.

“We established an international continuing student scholarship to help those high school students in Hong Kong who wish to further their education in Canada yet are financially incapable of doing so,” says Mr. Ng who is currently Director of Fidelity Garment Manufactory Ltd. in Hong Kong and will be receiving an honorary degree, Doctor of Laws, honoris causa (LLD) from Western in May. “We have fond memories of the times we spent at Western and value the great education we received. By establishing an international continuing student scholarship, we are giving back to the Hong Kong community and at the same time promoting the University in this part of the world.”

Not only is the scholarship a way for Mr. Ng and his sisters Serena, BA’81, MA’82 and Grace, BA’85, to show their appreciation for a school they love and also help future students, it is also a meaningful way for them to honour their brother.

“Harvey enjoyed his university days thoroughly at Western. I am sure that Harvey would take great satisfaction in knowing that our contributions will ultimately support the education of our next generation.”

We have fond memories of the times we spent at Western and value the great education we received. By establishing an international continuing student scholarship, we are giving back to the Hong Kong community and at the same time promoting the University in this part of the world.

– Wilfred Ng

The Harvey Ng International Continuing Student Scholarship will be awarded to a student who is a permanent resident of Hong Kong but may have completed secondary school elsewhere. Students are eligible if they are entering the first year of any full-time undergraduate degree program at Western and are chosen based on their final admission average. The scholarship will be worth $56,000 HKD or approximately $7,000 CAD each year with the first recipient chosen this fall.

Mr. Ng hopes this donation will plant the “giving” seed for future alumni so that they will give back to Western one day.

“Western’s student population is made up of many international students. I hope to remind our international alumni of the quality educa-

In 2010, Wilfred Ng received the Silver Bauhinia Star from the Chief Executive of Hong Kong, Donald Tsang.
Western’s Dean of Engineering, Andrew Hrymak, has worked alongside faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends to set a new direction for the Faculty. The ultimate goal: to become internationally recognized for the excellence and impact of its research and for providing students with high quality, enriched undergraduate and graduate programs.

“The Faculty is already known for offering students more than a traditional academic engineering experience,” explains Hrymak, who joined Western as the Dean of Engineering in 2009. “We offer our undergraduate students unique opportunities such as dual degree programs with the Richard Ivey School of Business, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western Law and other Faculties across campus, plus voluntary co-op and internships, and opportunities to travel overseas with the Civil Engineering and International Development Program and WE Go Global certificate program.”

Over the next decade, Western Engineering will continue to develop globally-minded leaders by expanding related curriculum offerings, internationalization activities, and enriched education outside the classroom.

Home to ten Canada Research Chairs, Western Engineering offers students at the undergraduate and graduate level the opportunity to study alongside some of the best faculty members in Canada. One such area is power systems, where researchers are working to increase the reliability and security of the electrical grid while other researchers are creating opportunities for greener sources of energy. Other areas of research strength include biomedical, environmental, nuclear power, advanced robotics and controls, and wind.

Faculty members and students conduct research in one of 18 leading-edge research centres within the Faculty, including the Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Laboratory, the Geotechnical Research Centre, and Institute for Chemicals and Fuels from Alternative Resources. Yet there are still opportunities for growth.

For example, building on Western’s 45 years of wind engineering expertise, the Faculty is developing the world’s first large, hexagonal wind dome – WindEEE (Wind Engineering, Energy and Environment) Dome – to study, for the first time, three-dimensional effects of wind in catastrophic circumstances such as tornados, downbursts, and gusts.

“The continued support of our alumni and friends through scholarships, awards, infrastructure and multi-faceted partnerships is crucial to help us meet our goals,” says Hrymak. “Since joining Western I have been overwhelmed by the support of our community. I look forward to continuing these efforts to build Western Engineering’s international reputation.”

For more information on initiatives such as WindEEE, the Western Engineering Fund, International Development Initiatives, Undergraduate and Graduate Engineering Scholarships, and more please contact Alumni & Development Officer, Virginia Daugharty, at 519-661-2111 ext. 84209 or vdaughar@uwo.ca
Miniature tornadoes are swirling in the Faculty of Engineering, with the completion of a functional small-scale model of the Wind Engineering, Energy and Environment (WindEEE) Dome.

“We’ve only done numerical simulations and now we can check those with a physical model,” says lead WindEEE researcher and Engineering professor, Horia Hangan. “These mini-dome tests will confirm that the type of flows we said we will generate, are there, and help us ensure the installation works the way it was designed to work. They will also help us understand how to create different wind flows such as tornadoes and storm bursts, which we plan to replicate in the large dome.”

The large dome Hangan is referring to is the $23.6-million 40-metre hexagonal WindEEE Dome, to be located at the Advanced Manufacturing Park in London, Ontario. Funded in part through the Canada Foundation for Innovation ($9.5 million) and the Ontario Research Fund ($9.5 million), the remaining $4.6 million will be raised through private donations. The WindEEE Dome will be the most advanced wind-research facility in the world when it is completed in the summer of 2012.

WindEEE will be the first facility in the world that can simulate local storm systems that cause more than 65 percent of the damage in interior North America.

“We are trying to tackle two sides of wind – the good part and bad part,” notes Hangan. “The bad part is tornadoes and storm bursts that create destruction. So we want to understand what they do to buildings and structures and mitigate those aspects. We will also look at the good part, which is wind farms, and how we can improve their efficiency and output.”

Reducing vulnerability and risk to buildings and natural habitat while also improving green energy efficiency will have a huge impact on society, says Hangan.

Building on Western’s 45 years of excellence in wind engineering, the WindEEE Dome will join the Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Laboratory and the Insurance Research Lab for Better Homes to create a critical mass for wind research. Hangan notes the collaboration and research done amongst the three facilities will make Western the leading wind university in Canada and has already captured great interest internationally.
UN experience solidifies career aspirations for law student

A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to work at the United Nations has confirmed Katerina Minaeva’s passion for international business law.

The second-year Western law student’s realization came after spending last summer on an international exchange to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) in Vienna, Austria.

Katerina says she would never have been able to participate in the internship without the generous support of Larry J. Innanen who donated $50,000 to create the Larry J. Innanen International Student Internship in Economic Law. The award supports summer internship placements in an organization with an interest in economic law issues such as UNCITRAL or the World Bank.

Initially intimidated to intern at the UN, Katerina soon became confident in her role. Her work with UNCITRAL included researching materials for the Secretariat’s legal officers and compiling memos referenced at a panel discussion on the Rule of Law at the UN General Assembly held in New York. She also prepared a report on prevention and sanctions of corrupt practice found in government procurement.

"The internship was an amazing chance to learn about the behind-the-scenes work that goes into the creation of UN conventions, model laws and guidelines of international trade law," says Katerina. "I also worked alongside brilliant legal officers and interns from around the world. These networks and friendships are invaluable to a career path in international law."

This year, Western Law will offer 13 international internships and 31 exchange opportunities. International internships enable students to access a global network, a unique work experience and a potential career path in the international sphere. Students who live abroad also gain cross-cultural awareness and build greater independence and confidence.

Katerina, who speaks Ukrainian, Russian, French and conversational Spanish, was motivated to pursue Law at Western for its broader opportunities for internships and exchanges. She will graduate in 2012 following an exchange semester at the National University of Singapore and hopes to embark on a career with international organizations such as the United Nations, the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund.

Katerina Minaeva stands in front of the Vienna International Centre where she interned with the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law during the summer of 2010.

Katerina Minaeva

Katerina had a chance to draft UNCITRAL’s contribution to a legal publication, called the Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs, that will feature analytical studies of decisions taken by principal organs of the United Nations over the last ten years.

“... The internship was an amazing chance to learn about the behind-the-scenes work that goes into the creation of UN conventions, model laws and guidelines of international trade law,” says Katerina. “I also worked alongside brilliant legal officers and interns from around the world. These networks and friendships are invaluable to a career path in international law.”
Lyrical opera singer Natalie Donnelly has already shared her passion for music with well-known international artists without leaving Western’s campus.

The second-year masters student in the Don Wright Faculty of Music participated in the masterclass program, which brings world-class artists to campus to work with selected students on their performance techniques.

“Many students won’t have the exposure of going to New York or Paris and hearing these world-renowned artists, conductors, lecturers and performers. The fact they come here to Western and work with us is just incredible,” says Natalie who started studying music at the age of three.

“Visiting artists and scholars are a key element in offering our students the best university music experience and education,” says Robert Wood, Dean of the Don Wright Faculty of Music. As a current priority for the Faculty, a goal has been set to raise at least $1 million for visiting artists and scholars. Funding will be used to help attract an internationally-recognized performer and master clinician each year to serve as an Artist-in-Residence. This program will provide further opportunity for students to learn from musicians who are at the height of their craft.

Masterclasses are funded through private donations as well as operating funds from the Faculty, bringing approximately 100 international visiting artists to Western each year. Past guests have included Adrianne Pieczonka, Phyllis Bryn-Julson, Stephan Moccio, Ben Heppner, Salvatore Rabbio, June Millington and Berlin Philharmonic Wind Quintet.

Most recently, Natalie worked with Chicago conductor and pianist, Francesco Milioto, BMus’96. She says his no-nonsense approach was particularly helpful in developing her vocal technique.

Milioto, who credits Western for starting his career, says that masterclasses enhance education with real-world experience, giving students a taste of what it will be like when they step out beyond the Western gates.

“To be a successful artist you have to open yourself to other people’s ideas. You need to be able to see and hear and do and absorb from everywhere,” he says.

Natalie couldn’t agree more.

“I’ve grown as an artist in every sense. I am a better singer and performer and am more confident in my abilities. After I graduate, I hope to perform on international stages.”

“I’ve grown as an artist in every sense. I am a better singer and performer and am more confident in my abilities. After I graduate, I hope to perform on international stages.”

— Natalie Donnelly
Donors making a difference

Responding to mental health issues in the classroom

One in five children and adolescents in Ontario is struggling with a serious mental health issue including depression, anxiety and eating disorders. Last year alone, 150 young people in Ontario committed suicide. And it’s teachers who often find themselves on the frontlines of a mental health crisis.

Now thanks to the generosity of the late Walter M. Lobb, BA’76, BEd’78, MEd’93, teachers will be able to obtain the knowledge to better equip themselves to respond to their students’ mental health needs.

Mr. Lobb, a former educator, left a generous bequest of $470,000 to the Faculty of Education to establish the Walter M. Lobb Mental Health for Educators program within the Centre for Inclusive Education. As well, a portion of the funds will be used to endow an Ontario Graduate Scholarship for a graduate student working in the area of mental health for educators.

Professor Alan Leschied, one of the Centre’s leaders, says teachers are often the first and sometimes the only ones to whom a child or adolescent will disclose a personal issue. He says the bequest from Mr. Lobb “will enable us to provide knowledge to teachers of mental health issues that they will encounter with their students and know how to respond.”

Professor Leschied said this gift will also provide support to teachers in dealing with their own mental well-being.

New gifts for Ivey’s Campaign for Leadership

The Richard Ivey School of Business has recently received the following gifts:

- Mark Wellings, MBA’96, has committed $100,000 to Ivey’s highest priority needs. Mr. Wellings is Head of Investment Banking at GMP Securities in Europe. He has been a loyal donor to the Richard Ivey School of Business since he began as a student at Western in 1994.
- National Bank Financial Markets, donated $195,000 to the National Bank Financial Markets Case Competition and the National Bank Financial Markets Speaker Series. The gift will create a new three-day case competition that will be part of the core finance curriculum for all first-year HBA students, as well as bring in speakers who are leaders in risk management across the business community. The inaugural Competition was held in January.
- McKesson Canada has given $100,000 to the Ivey Centre for Health Innovation and Leadership. McKesson Canada serves the health care industry, and specifically retail pharmacies and hospitals, health-care institutions, manufacturers, governments and patients.

For more information on Ivey’s Campaign for Leadership, visit: www.ivey.uwo.ca/campaign

Mustangs alumni support a new crop of athletes

More than 950 Western alumni, business partners and friends teamed up this year to support the University’s student-athletes.

Almost $278,000 was raised for the 2010-2011 Adopt A Mustang program, which helps fund the ongoing expenses of advanced training required for student-athletes to compete and win medals. This surpassed the fundraising goal and benefitted all men’s and women’s varsity teams.

The Adopt A Mustang program strengthens Western’s efforts to:

- Recruit and retain outstanding student-athletes.
- Compete at the provincial, national and international level.
- Ensure continuous growth through team-building experiences.
- Support student-athletes in their pursuit of excellence.

“As a former coach and as a director, I am proud to lead such exceptional student-athletes,” says Thérèse Quigley, BEd’77, Director of Sports and Recreation Services. “As a Western graduate, I am honoured to stand among fellow alumni who believe strongly in supporting outstanding young people in their pursuit of vigorous academic and athletic goals. I thank all of those donors for being a part of our team through the Adopt A Mustang program.”

For more information about the Adopt A Mustang program, visit: http://www.westernmakeadifference.ca/priorities/mustang.html
We would like to recognize the following individuals for their gifts of $25,000 or more and corporations, foundations and organizations for their gifts of $100,000 or more to Western between November 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011. We also wish to thank those donors who have chosen to remain anonymous.

This list reflects those gifts made during the specified time frame; please note that it does not reflect cumulative giving to Western. Individual donors who have given $25,000 or more cumulatively and organizations that have given $100,000 or more cumulatively are recognized in The 1878 Societies. In addition, those individuals who have made a commitment to Western’s future through their Wills, life insurance policies and gifts of residual interest are recognized in the Helen M.B. Allison Legacies Society.

Thank you to our newest donors

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