



University  
College  
Alumni  
Magazine

Spring 2012

# Hire Education

WHAT ARE THE PROSPECTS  
FOR RECENT GRADUATES?

20.

VOLUNTOURISM  
ENTREPRENEUR  
DAVID BERKAL  
24.

**Camilla Gibb**

FULL CIRCLE

16.

IN MY BACKPACK  
14.

**William B. Davis**

SMOKE AND MIRRORS

28.





# Come home

to **University College** for the weekend.

## *The Women of* Whitney Hall Reunion

A reunion bringing together the women of Whitney Hall, once an all-female residence. Join your UC friends for fine teas and delicate finger sandwiches.

**RSVP by May 28**

Email: [uc.rsvp@utoronto.ca](mailto:uc.rsvp@utoronto.ca) or  
416-978-7416 or at  
[www.springreunion.utoronto.ca](http://www.springreunion.utoronto.ca)

**Friday, June 1, 2012**

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Whitney Hall Quadrangle  
University College,  
15 King's College Circle, Toronto, ON  
Cost: Free of charge

*(Rain location:  
University of Toronto Art Centre Lounge)*

**JOIN  
US**

## THE MEN OF SIR DAN'S PUB

A reunion for the men who lived in Sir Daniel Wilson Residence, once an all-male residence. Return to campus to fraternize with your fellow residence friends. Enjoy some scotch on the rocks, stand-up comedy, and photos from a time gone by.

**RSVP by May 28**

Email: [uc.rsvp@utoronto.ca](mailto:uc.rsvp@utoronto.ca) or  
416-978-7416 or at  
[www.springreunion.utoronto.ca](http://www.springreunion.utoronto.ca)

**Friday, June 1, 2012**

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Junior Common Room  
University College,  
15 King's College Circle, Toronto, ON  
Cost: Free of charge



## University College Spring Reunion 2012

# Registration Form

I would like to attend the:

- ☐ Women of Whitney Hall Reunion:  
Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Men of Sir Dan's Pub:  
Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Lit Reunion Coffee House:  
Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Principal's Brunch:  
Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_

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

Class of: \_\_\_\_\_

Former (maiden) Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s) Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Province/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Options

(for Lit Reunion and Principal's Brunch)

- ☐ Cheque  
(Payable to University College - U of T)

☐ Credit Card ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMEX

Card No: \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

Expiry: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name (as it appears on card) \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature (Please sign for validation) \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail cheques, made payable to  
University College, to:

University College Advancement  
15 King's College Circle, Room D105  
Toronto, ON M5S 3H7  
Tel: 416-978-7416 | Fax: 416-978-3802  
uc.rsvp@utoronto.ca

**Sign up for the  
Spring Reunion 2012  
online!**

[www.springreunion.utoronto.ca](http://www.springreunion.utoronto.ca)

**JUNE  
1-3  
2012**

## LIT REUNION COFFEE HOUSE

A reunion for all council members, past and present of the University College Literary and Athletic Society. In true Lit Coffee House style, enjoy coffee with/out liqueurs and entertainment from your talented colleagues.

**Saturday, June 2, 2012**

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
Junior Common Room  
University College,  
15 King's College Circle, Toronto, ON  
Cost \$18.54

**RSVP by May 28**

Email: [uc.rsvp@utoronto.ca](mailto:uc.rsvp@utoronto.ca) or  
416-978-7416 or at  
[www.springreunion.utoronto.ca](http://www.springreunion.utoronto.ca)



## principal's brunch

Sip a UC mimosa with our newly installed Principal, Professor Donald Ainslie, as you enjoy brunch in University College's historic quad.

**RSVP by May 28**

Email: [uc.rsvp@utoronto.ca](mailto:uc.rsvp@utoronto.ca) or  
416-978-7416 or at  
[www.springreunion.utoronto.ca](http://www.springreunion.utoronto.ca)

**Sunday, June 3, 2012**

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
UC Quad  
University College,  
15 King's College Circle, Toronto, ON  
Cost: \$18.53

(Rain location:  
Howard Ferguson Dining Hall)



# features

## CAMPUS



16.

### FOCUS

Acclaimed novelist Camilla Gibb on her return to UC as writer-in-residence

BY CAMILLA GIBB



20.

### REPORT

What are the prospects for recent bachelor's graduates in this economy?

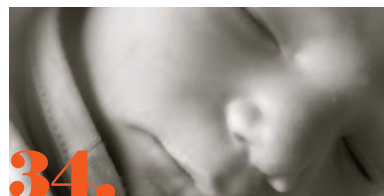
BY CHRISTINE KRUPA & KIRK SIBBALD



14.

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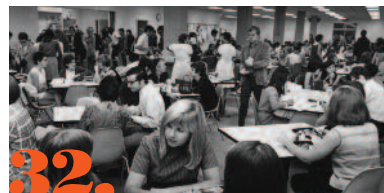
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UC Ephemera



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Voluntourism entrepreneur David Berkal

BY JENNIFER MCINTYRE



28.

### CONVERSATION

The X-Files William B. Davis on his memoir and why he doesn't believe in ghosts

BY YVONNE PALKOWSKI



# University College Alumni Magazine

EDITOR

**Yvonne Palkowski** (BA 2004 UC)

SPECIAL THANKS

**Donald Ainslie**

**Alana Clarke** (BA 2008 UC)

**Keenan Dixon** (BA 2011 UC)

**Naomi Hood**

**Jim Lawson**

**Lori MacIntyre**

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ART DIRECTION & DESIGN

**[www.typhoterapy.com](http://www.typhoterapy.com)**

PRINTING

**Flash Reproductions**

CORRESPONDENCE AND

UNDELIVERABLE COPIES TO:

**University College Office  
of Advancement**

15 King's College Circle  
Toronto, ON, M5S 3H7

*University College Alumni Magazine* is published twice a year by the University College Office of Advancement and is circulated to 26,000 alumni and friends of University College, University of Toronto.

PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT  
**40041311**



UNIVERSITY OF  
**TORONTO**



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**IN MEMORIAM**

*Alumni Passed*

**IMAGE 01.**

Robert Giard  
(American, 1939-2002)  
Mary Meigs, 1992  
gelatin silver print on  
paper, printed 1999  
40.64 x 50.80 cm  
Gift of Jonathan Silin,  
2010 — University  
College Collection 761  
*Page 12.*

# Contributors

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**VICTORIA HURLIHEY** (BA 2000 UC)

Victoria Hurlihey is the President of the University College Alumni Association. Every morning, she braves public transportation to travel from her home near the Scarborough Bluffs to work at the University of Toronto's School of Graduate Studies, where she tries her best to help graduate students navigate their way through their degrees. When she's not working or writing articles for *UC Magazine*, she is spending quality time with her two energetic Huskies, Yukon and Kiwi.



**YVONNE PALKOWSKI** (BA 2004 UC)

Born and raised in Toronto, Yvonne Palkowski studied English and French at University College, U of T. Three days after convocation, she hopped on a plane and spent six months travelling independently for a different kind of education. Upon her reluctant return, she enrolled in Ryerson University's publishing program. She works as the communications officer for UC and the editor of *UC Magazine*, a fine alternative to the figure skating career of her childhood aspirations.

**CAMILLA GIBB** (BA 1991 UC)

Camilla Gibb is the author of four novels—*Mouthing the Words*, *The Petty Details of So-and-so's Life*, *Sweetness in the Belly*, and *The Beauty of Humanity Movement*. She was the winner of the Trillium Book Award in 2006, a Scotiabank Giller Prize short list nominee in 2005, and winner of the City of Toronto Book Award in 2000. Her books have been published in 18 countries and translated into 14 languages and she was named by the jury of the prestigious Orange Prize as one of 21 writers to watch in the new century. She served as Barker Fairley Distinguished Visitor in Canadian Studies at University College in fall 2011.



**JENNIFER MCINTYRE**

Toronto writer and editor Jennifer McIntyre is much happier profiling others, so turned to a trusted friend for her biography: "Jennifer's activities include running, cycling (once, memorably, with a broken arm), yoga, and spin classes. She plays several instruments, speaks a couple of languages, and draws cartoons—all with the skill one would expect from a member of MENSA, and marred only slightly by an uncontrollable tendency to pun everyone else under the table."



# Briefly

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EDITOR  
*Yvonne Palkowski (BA 2004 UC)*

**LAST FALL, A NEW AND REVITALIZED TEAM** at University College came together to tackle some big questions. What are the values that define our community? What is the College's mission and vision for the future? How can UC reconnect and engage with its 40,000 graduates around the world?

The subsequent conversations with alumni, students, and faculty have helped shape the newly redesigned *UC Magazine*. While the magazine continues to tell your stories, it endeavours to relate them to the issues of the day, and to present them in a style that is as visually sophisticated as its namesake, the magnificent University College.

The responses to our identity exercise had a common refrain: we are all proud of UC's rich heritage, but we mustn't rest on our historic laurels. The new *UC Magazine* reflects this sentiment, and I truly hope you enjoy it.

## Errata

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The article "Hart Hanson: TV Writer's Story Begins at UC" (Fall 2011) erroneously stated that Paul Shaffer graduated in 1970. In fact, Shaffer graduated in 1971.

Apologies to Rosalyn M. Verny, who was erroneously listed as deceased in "In Memoriam" (Fall 2011). Thanks to the anonymous friend who called to inform us that Ms. Verny is very much alive.

*UC Magazine* regrets the errors.

SEND YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS TO  
[UC.MAGAZINE@UTORONTO.CA](mailto:UC.MAGAZINE@UTORONTO.CA)

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# Keynote

THE FOLLOWING IS AN EDITED VERSION OF THE ADDRESS GIVEN BY PROF. DONALD AINSLIE UPON HIS INSTALLATION AS THE SIXTEENTH PRINCIPAL OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE. THE INSTALLATION CEREMONY, HELD ON DECEMBER 1, 2011 IN UC'S EAST HALL, WAS ATTENDED BY OVER 200 COLLEGE ALUMNI, FRIENDS, STUDENTS, AND FACULTY.

AUTHOR  
*Donald Ainslie*

PHOTOGRAPHER  
*Lisa Sakulensky*

NAVIGATING THE HALLWAYS OF UC is always something of a challenge, but I hope that some of you reached the East Hall today using the stairs in the centre of the east wing of the building. You'll find there a wooden staircase with a carved beast atop the newel. I call him a "beast" because, with the head of an eagle, the body of a lion, and the tail of a lizard, no one is quite sure what the carving represents. The stairs are often called the "dragon staircase" though dragons normally have wings and are not usually thought to be composite animals. A pamphlet produced by one of my



eminent predecessors as Principal, Peter Richardson, says that it's a griffin, and UC calls its sports teams "the Gryphons." But, while mythological griffins have, like our beast, the head of an eagle and body of a lion, our beast's reptilian hindquarters mean that it's no griffin. I think it is probably best described as a chimera—originally a mythological three-headed fire-breathing creature, part goat, part snake, and part lion, but now used broadly to describe any composite animal, be it in contemporary genetics or in poetry or prose.

I dwell on our chimera because, not only is he a physical symbol of our College, he also embodies its spirit, and he does it in at least three ways.

First, the fact that we cannot seem to agree on what exactly our beast is speaks to the tradition of open inquiry that is at the heart of University College and is thereby at the heart of U of T. For, after an intense period of political struggle in mid-nineteenth-century Toronto over the place of religion in higher education, UC was founded as a nonsectarian College. In this wonderful building, generations of students have had the opportunity to pursue ideas, not needing to worry if those ideas might offend the powers that be, whether religious, ideological, or financial. It was this opportunity for free thought that attracted my grandfather, Donald Stuart Ainslie, to UC in the fall of 1911, one hundred years before I started my principalship. It is this spirit of open inquiry that has continued to attract the waves of students to UC from an ever-diversifying Toronto, be they Jewish, Christian, Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist, Confucian, or atheist. Our chimera—our griffin, our dragon—welcomes any student who wants to be challenged to think creatively, learn expansively, and grow as a person.

Second, this beast also speaks to our perseverance and constant reinvention. For he was not a resident of the building when it first opened its doors in 1859. Rather he joined us when the College was brought back to life after the devastating fire on Valentine's Day, 1890. The students, faculty, and staff, along with Toronto's leading citizens, wanted not simply to rebuild the College but to add to its already significant aesthetic merits. I'm not sure

that our chimera was intended to be fire-breathing like his ancient Greek predecessor, but he does embody our recovery from the fire and the spirit of community support that has sustained UC for over a century and a half.

Other parts of the building have also been repurposed over our long history: the bedrooms of the cloisters wing are now offices for faculty who teach their students in our historic classrooms and who engage in groundbreaking research in disciplines ranging from English, History, and Art, to Mathematics and Anthropology. The College kitchen has been partly incorporated into Bissell House, formerly the College steward's rooms and now the Principal's residence, where my partner, Mike, and I moved in only a few weeks ago. The original dining room is now the Junior Common Room, inscribed with the names of executives from the Literary and Athletic Society—"the Lit"—and the other organizations that eventually merged with it: the Women's Undergraduate Association and the Women's Literary Society. You'll see there, in gold, the names of Ontario Premiers, Howard Ferguson, Bill Davis, and Bob Rae; of Supreme Court Justices, Rosalie Abella, Lyman Duff, and Bora Laskin; and of many others, some of whom are here today. These College leaders took what they learned in these halls, and shared it with the larger society, embodying the culture of leadership that has come to define UC.



# “In my ‘other’ life, I am a philosophy professor.”

The walls of the Junior Common Room remind us that, though the building itself seems unchanging in its Romanesque Revival splendour, the constant flux of students, staff, and faculty means that the College is never static. Just this year, we have launched a new suite of special courses for first-year students, *UC One: Engaging Toronto*, that takes its inspiration from the student leaders whose names are printed on our walls. Students in *UC One* enrol in a small seminar that approaches the theme of civic engagement from an interdisciplinary perspective grounded in one of the four programs that the College sponsors: Drama, Canadian Studies, Health Studies, or Sexual Diversity Studies. *UC One* helps students acquire the skills they'll need to succeed in whatever academic field they ultimately choose to specialize in at the same time as it equips them with the tools that will allow them to apply what they learn at U of T to the world around them.

My third reflection inspired by our beast concerns the metaphorical use of “chimera:” something that is a mere fantasy, something that doesn't or couldn't exist. Our beast, in contrast, is irrefutably real. His hide has been worn smooth by tens of thousands of students, faculty, and staff who have given him a rub as they climbed the stairs or walked down the east hallway. The accumulated impact of all of these people is what makes UC the place it is today: the students in residence, those commuting from their family home or sharing an apartment downtown with friends from the College; the staff who devote countless hours to ensuring that the students have the best education that we can provide, both inside and outside of the classroom; and the faculty, who have joined this College because they want to learn from those in different disciplines and to connect with students in a robust and engaged intellectual community.

In my “other life,” I am a philosophy professor. My research focuses on British and European Enlightenment thought. It seems apt, then, to end my comments today by invoking the words of Jean-Jacques Rousseau, who in a letter to the great *encyclopédiste* d'Alembert, encouraged us “not [to] seek for the chimera of perfection but [instead for] the best possible according to the nature of man and the constitution of Society.” I take our own UC chimera as a personal reminder to work as hard as I can to help make this College into the best it can be. As Rousseau reminds us, we must start with what we are given when trying to improve an institution. University College's great history and the legacy bequeathed to us by our alumni and friends over the past 158 years have put us in excellent stead already. We shouldn't be so naive as to aim for perfection, but our potential remains boundless. I look forward to working with you all—faculty, staff, alumni, friends, and especially students—to fulfill this potential over the next five years.

# Calendar

## MARCH

### UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO GUITAR ENSEMBLE

*March 28, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.*

Directed by Jeffrey McFadden  
U of T Art Centre, northeast  
corner of UC.

For info: (416) 978-1838 or  
[www.utac.utoronto.ca](http://www.utac.utoronto.ca)

### MARKS OF EXISTENCE & MASTER OF VISUAL STUDIES

*Exhibition Opening Receptions  
March 29, 2012 at 6:00 and  
7:00 p.m., respectively*

Student exhibitions opening at  
the U of T Art Centre, north-  
east corner of UC.

For info: (416) 978-1838 or  
[www.utac.utoronto.ca](http://www.utac.utoronto.ca)



01.

## APRIL

### U OF T BAROQUE ENSEMBLE

*April 3, 2012 at 12:00 p.m.*

Lunchtime concert at  
the U of T Art Centre,  
northeast corner of UC.  
Directed by Ivan Taurins.

For info: (416) 978-1838 or  
[www.utac.utoronto.ca](http://www.utac.utoronto.ca)

### TON BEAU QUARTET

*April 4, 2012 at 12:00 p.m.*

Lunchtime concert at  
the U of T Art Centre,  
northeast corner of UC.

For info: (416) 978-1838 or  
[www.utac.utoronto.ca](http://www.utac.utoronto.ca)

### UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DRAMA PROGRAM ANNUAL END-OF-YEAR CABARET

*April 10, 2012 at 8:00 p.m.*

Helen Gardiner Phelan  
Playhouse, 79 St. George Street.

For info: (416) 978-8099 or  
[uc.drama@utoronto.ca](mailto:uc.drama@utoronto.ca)

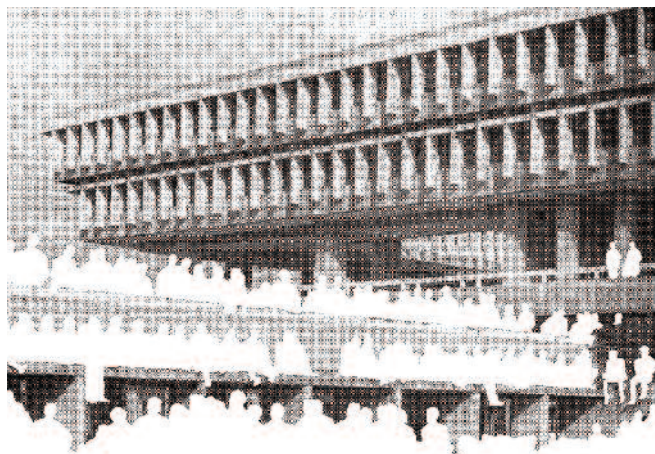


02.

### UNSEEN TORONTO: THE SHADOW WORLDS OF GIRLS FALL DOWN

*April 26, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.*

Dr. Andrew Lesk lectures on  
Maggie Helwig's *Girls Fall Down*,  
selected by the Toronto Public  
Library as the novel for the city  
to read in the month of April  
as part of One Book Toronto.  
University College, Room 179.  
For info: (416) 978-8083 or  
[www.uc.utoronto.ca](http://www.uc.utoronto.ca)



03.

### PUBLIC

*Exhibition*

*April 28 to June 30, 2012*

*Opening Reception*

*May 1, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.*

Framing issues and events  
central to current social and  
political discourse, the U of T  
Art Centre and the Museum of  
Contemporary Canadian Art  
present *Public* as the focal point  
of the Scotiabank CONTACT  
Photography Festival 2012.  
Ranging from images that  
capture synchronicity to  
ones that depict conflict,  
this international group  
show explores photography  
as a key nexus in the public  
performance of identity and  
civic expression of authority.  
U of T Art Centre,  
northeast corner of UC.  
For info: (416) 978-1838 or  
[www.utac.utoronto.ca](http://www.utac.utoronto.ca)

#### IMAGE 01.

Courtesy of the  
U of T Art Centre

#### IMAGE 02.

*Girls Fall Down*  
Courtesy of  
Coach House  
Books

#### IMAGE 03.

Sabine Bitter /  
Helmut Weber,  
*Templeton Five  
Affair*, March 1967,  
2010.



#### PHOTOGRAPHERS

Robert Giard  
Christopher Dew  
Jason Krygier-Baum

#### IMAGE 04

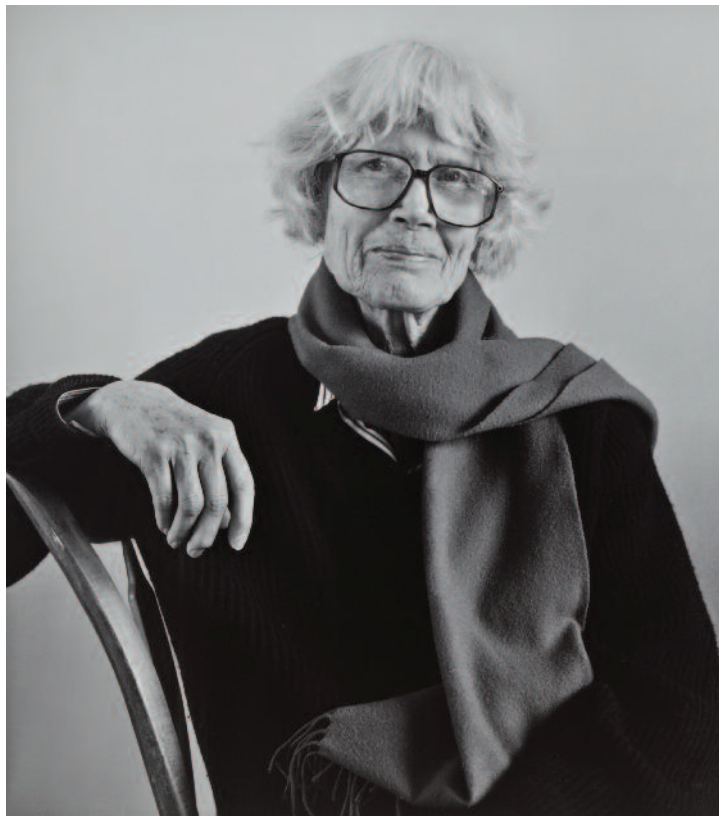
Robert Giard  
(American, 1939-2002)  
*Mary Meigs*, 1992  
gelatin silver print on  
paper, printed 1999  
40.64 x 50.80 cm  
Gift of Jonathan Silin,  
2010 — University  
College Collection 761

#### IMAGE 05

Robert Giard  
(American, 1939-2002)  
*Beth Brant*, 1990  
gelatin silver print on  
paper, printed 1992  
40.64 x 50.80 cm  
Gift of Jonathan Silin,  
2010 — University  
College Collection 765

#### IMAGE 06

Robert Giard  
(American, 1939-2002)  
*Daryl Hine*, 1993  
gelatin silver print on  
paper, printed 1997  
40.64 x 50.80 cm  
Gift of Jonathan Silin,  
2010 — University  
College Collection 768



04.

#### MAY

#### ROBERT GIARD RETROSPECTIVE

*Exhibition Opening Reception  
and Panel*

*May 4, 2012 time TBA*

A panel of psychoanalysts  
discuss Robert Giard's photo-  
graphs in conjunction with an  
exhibition of his works.

Presented in collaboration with  
the Mark S. Bonham Centre for  
Sexual Diversity Studies.

U of T Art Centre, northeast  
corner of UC.

For info: (416) 978-1838 or  
[www.utac.utoronto.ca](http://www.utac.utoronto.ca)



05.



06.

#### JUNE



#### UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CONVOCATION

*June 18, 2012 at 4:30 p.m.*

Reception for UC graduates  
and their guests.

UC Quadrangle.

For info: (416) 978-7416 or  
[uc.alumni@utoronto.ca](mailto:uc.alumni@utoronto.ca)

#### OCTOBER



#### 34TH ANNUAL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE BOOK SALE

*October 12 to 16, 2012*

Proceeds support students  
and UC's Laidlaw Library.

University College, East  
and West Halls.

For info: (416) 978-0372 or  
[www.uc.utoronto.ca/booksale](http://www.uc.utoronto.ca/booksale)

# In My Backpack

A RANDOM SURVEY OF WHAT UC PEOPLE ARE READING SHOWS THERE IS NO CORRELATION BETWEEN AREA OF STUDY AND GENRE SELECTION.



**02.**  
**EMILY GILBERT**  
PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY  
AND DIRECTOR, CANADIAN  
STUDIES

*Half-Blood Blues*  
by Esi Edugyan

"The novel offers a fascinating exploration of the Nazi racism endured by Black jazz musicians in WWII France and Germany. Edugyan's writing is crisp and poetic. There are so many insights in the novel and beautiful turns of phrase that I am already reading it for a second time. It's easy to understand why it is winning lots of awards."

**01.**  
**NATALIE BAMFORD**  
THIRD-YEAR STUDENT IN  
BIOCHEMISTRY

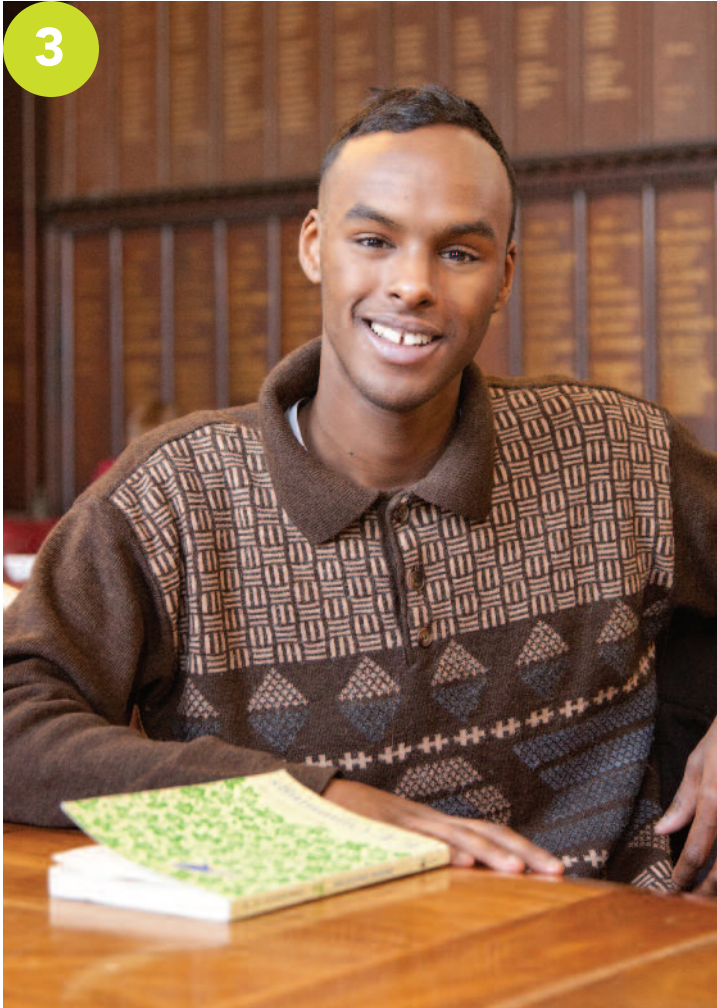
*A Game of Thrones*  
by George R. R. Martin

"I've only just started it, but I've heard it's really good. HBO has created a show based on the series of books."





3



**03.**  
**OSMAN YUSUF**  
FOURTH-YEAR STUDENT IN  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

*Selected Poems of E.E. Cummings*  
edited by Richard Kennedy

"I love it. I've actually read this collection before. I went to a friend's house the other night, saw this on the shelf and had to borrow it."

**04.**  
**RITA EZEAKONOB**  
FIRST-YEAR STUDENT

*uTOpia: Towards a New Toronto*  
edited by Alana Wilcox & Jason McBride

"There's an article in *uTOpia* entitled 'Stripping Away Stereotypes: Toronto's Retail Plazas.' It's brilliantly written... Torontonians can enjoy their ethnic foods because retailers can afford the low rents in these old plaza buildings, allowing them to serve their diverse communities."



4

**PHOTOGRAPHERS**  
Jason Krygier-Baum  
Diana Tyszko  
Jason Krygier-Baum  
Christopher Dew







# FULL CIRCLE

"IT'S AMAZING TO ME TO LOOK AT WHO WE WERE AT TWENTY, WHO WE WERE THEN AS STUDENTS AT UC, AND SEE THE INEVITABILITY OF OUR RESPECTIVE JOURNEYS."

## CAMILLA GIBB RETURNS TO UC AS WRITER-IN- RESIDENCE

AUTHOR  
*Camilla Gibb*

PHOTOGRAPHER  
*Jason Krygier-Baum*

I HAD NO RELATIONSHIP TO UNIVERSITY COLLEGE when I was an undergraduate here, from 1987 to 1991. I didn't live in residence, but in a one-bedroom attic apartment with my boyfriend on Brunswick Avenue. I worked at Robarts rather than Laidlaw, and I had the majority of my classes not in UC, but Sid Smith. I made one friend at UC; the first and only person I spoke to during a line-up for orientation. Not being a joiner, my orientation only lasted a day.

Who knew, then, that the College would subsequently be the site of so many life-changing experiences?

I took a year off after my undergraduate in order to make money so that I could afford to go to graduate school. The brave then-director of the UC Alumni Office, Cynthia Langille, hired me as a maternity leave replacement for the office assistant. I was not the office assistant type. Something about the Doc Martens and the nose ring. I borrowed a jacket from my mother for the interview. I got the job, ironically, because Cynthia was looking for someone who wouldn't be an admin lifer. I wasn't convinced I could even manage a year.



And yet I more than managed. I thrived. I discovered I had a work ethic (I had had my doubts), and developed a number of enduring friendships with older alumni involved in the Book Sale. We had immigrated to Canada when I was a child; I didn't have grandparents or older relatives here. These alumni—Ross Morrow, Mary Louise Gaby, Betty Mustard, Janet Fitzgerald, Anita Wilson, Genevieve Cowgill, Kay and Allan Bruce-Robertson, and the younger Shelagh Hewitt-Kareda among them—taught me much and offered me a great deal of support as I embarked on an academic, then later a writing career.

I made enduring friendships with faculty members and students too. Among the latter, Tashi Rabgey, then Lit president, and her sister Losang, two inspiring and incredible young women who now run a school for students on the Tibetan plateau through their organization, Machik. I went to graduate school the following year with Tashi and lived beside her in residence at Oxford. Her parents helped her move in and took care of both of us during those first few weeks—cooking for us both and ironing the crumpled clothes in my suitcase. This past Christmas, almost twenty years later, I went to visit them all in Lindsay, Ontario. They are beautiful people who are changing the world.

I also met Agitu Ruda that year in the Alumni Office, a student refugee from Ethiopia who worked with us part-time and who came to the College through the student-sponsored World University Service Program. She introduced me to some of the complexities of her country, a world beyond the media stereotypes of famine and refugees. She changed my perspective of the city and indeed, of the world beyond. As a graduate student I went to Ethiopia to do fieldwork as a result of meeting her. I later wrote a novel, I dedicated, in part, to her. Agitu now lives in California where she is the mother of two beautiful girls and a social worker who uses her own experience and training to counsel refugees and new immigrants.

It's amazing to me to look at who we were at twenty, who we were then as students at UC, and see the inevitability of our respective journeys. At UC, they had just begun. I committed myself to the idea of an academic career early. By my second year, I knew that I would embark on a PhD in social anthropology. And yet, I had another passion—writing fiction. My first published story appeared in the *UC Review*. I had been made aware in high school that being a writer wasn't something to dream about. It was unrealistic, punishing in its rejection, bound to make me miserable and poor. I focused on my academic work, pushed the fiction aside. But once the PhD was done, the desire came roaring back. I wrote and I wrote and the more I wrote, the more uncomfortable I became with the prospect of an academic career.

I sat in the quad at UC, where I was once again working part-time, and contemplated my dilemma. A man I knew, a friend of a faculty member who frequently dropped by UC to visit, sat down beside me one day and asked me why I looked so unhappy. I confessed to him my feverish secret desire. He asked me what was standing in my way. Expectation, time, money. The fact that I loved to write but who knew if I was any good at it. The fact that it was lunacy to even fantasize about it. I was writing in my spare time and the rejection letters were piling up. What would it take to know

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if you were any good? He asked me. I thought that if I had six months to dedicate exclusively to writing I'd know, or the world would tell me. How much money would you need to live for six months?

A week later he gave me six thousand dollars in cash in a box. My anonymous benefactor gave me the means and the permission to try. I didn't squander a second or a dollar. I have never looked back.

Now here I am back at UC fourteen years later as the Barker Fairley Distinguished Visitor in Canadian Studies. My life has come full circle. I am a writer-in-residence offering feedback to aspiring writers like the one I once was. I had no one to talk to about process and mechanics and inspiration and publication. I had never met a writer, never had a conversation about writing with anyone, never taken a creative writing class, never shared my work when I sat down to write for six months. I hope, beyond any practical advice I might be able to offer, that I can offer encouragement. It is possible, though everything in your life will conspire against you, to make that dream come true.

The fact that I meet students who are writing on the side in addition to all their academic work means I am meeting students who are already making the time to write. Like me, Tashi, Losang, Agitu, the evidence of who they are, will be, will become, is already there.

**Camilla Gibb** is the author of four novels—*Mouthing the Words*, *The Petty Details of So-and-so's Life*, *Sweetness in the Belly*, and *The Beauty of Humanity Movement*.

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# Hire Education

DESPITE A LEAN JOB MARKET, RECENT UC GRADS ARE FINDING THEIR WAY





# “It’s kind of a trade-off between career development and paying the bills.”

AUTHOR  
*Christine Krupa &  
Kirk Sibbald*

ILLUSTRATION  
*Christian Northeast*

**D.J. Sison (BSc 2011 UC)** is doing exactly what he wants to do... part time, at least.

Seventy-plus applications and two months into his job search, Sison was thrilled to finally land a job in the fundraising and member services department at Greenpeace last fall. After uncovering his passion for ecology and environmental biology while studying at University College, Sison was simply happy finding employment—part time or otherwise—in his chosen field.

Considering only one other interview materialized from those mounds of applications Sison sent out, he can hardly be blamed for jumping at the opportunity Greenpeace offered, even if it means that he has to also work at Starbucks to make ends meet. Sison hasn’t allowed a lean job market to dampen his enthusiasm

“It’s kind of a trade-off between career development and paying the bills,” he explained.

Sison is one of thousands of undergraduates across the country who were busy earning their degrees when the 2008 recession hit, markedly eroding their post-graduation job prospects. Sison’s “trade-off” is a microcosm of a nationwide trend, with increasingly more Canadians being forced to take on part-time and temporary jobs in lieu of the full-time and permanent ones that are in short supply.

**Aldeli Alban Reyna (BA 2010 UC)** is another case in point. A women and gender studies graduate, Alban Reyna recently accepted a contract position with the YWCA. Working as a receptionist and bilingual administrative assistant, she is happy to at least be working for an organization whose mission aligns with her personal values. As for her experience navigating the job market, however, it was hardly smooth sailing.

“I didn’t realize to what extent I would be scared about the market out there until I started looking for jobs,” she said.

## EMPLOYING PERSEVERANCE

The international economic meltdown has left its mark on nearly every age group throughout North America. Many baby boomers have been forced to rejig retirement plans, Generation Xers have watched once stable careers become fragile, and for many students attending university... well, the future suddenly doesn’t look so bright.

According to several experts, however, university education, even in the oft-scrutinized “liberal arts,” remains a worthwhile investment of both time and money.

“In times like these, the question often arises whether students are wise to do degrees in the liberal arts. I think it is still a wise choice,”

says **Joseph Heath**, a professor in the Department of Philosophy and the School of Public Policy and Governance, director of the Centre for Ethics, and author of *Filthy Lucre: Economics for People Who Hate Capitalism*, which addresses some of the popular misconceptions that surround economic debates.

Speaking from experience, Heath—who graduated into the recession of the early 1990s with a degree in philosophy—says he saw many of his liberal arts peers struggle initially. “But once they got a job, they typically moved up very quickly,” he said.

In his opinion, this was due largely to the skills they gained in the course of their studies, such as strong writing, effective communication, leadership, and time management. Heath notes that, while those skills might not net graduates their dream job fresh out of university, they generally pay dividends in time.

“The right time to judge the value of what you’ve acquired is not within a year of graduation. It’s 10 years later or further down the road,” he explained.

**Rick Salutin**, UC professor and a political and media columnist for *The Toronto Star*, also lauds the diverse skill set many students acquire at university.

“The students I see are really astute. They’ve got terrific communications skills, and are very good at presenting themselves and their opinions,” said Salutin, who teaches a capstone seminar for fourth-year Canadian Studies students.

They’re also skilled in “the things that really matter,” such as the ability to assess situations, social skills, and problem-solving abilities, all of which bring value in a range of situations.

“Their level of skills is much higher than it’s ever been, in my experience,” says Salutin. “But where are they going to market them? That’s the difficult paradox.”

In the field of media and communications, for example, Salutin touches on the role social media has in driving down the job market. While knowing one’s way around the social media stratosphere is certainly a marketable skill, many people out there are willing to do the work for free.

“Employers have little incentive to hire,” he points out, “so how do you make a living at it?”

This is also part of the problem with internships, Salutin adds, a phenomenon he finds demoralizing. Not only does it eliminate jobs from the marketplace, but, “everything (for the intern) is deferred for the promise of a better future which may not arrive or may arrive in very sparse form.”

Others, however, stress that sometimes students have to be willing to start on the ground floor and work their way up, particularly during a recession. **James Dunne (BA 1996 UC)**, a wealth advisor for high-end clients at Scotia McLeod, says that, while university grads are still highly attractive to employers, few students—now or ever—land their dream job directly out of school.

“The recession is what you make of it... Sometimes you have to put in your time at the entry level and work your way up,” he said. “There is a growing divide between people with and without skills. The compensation gap between these types of workers is growing, which is why post-secondary education is increasingly important.”

### **‘KNOW YOURSELF’**

A common refrain from the experts these days is for university grads to employ the three P’s: patience, persistence, and perseverance. **Ed Clark (BA 1969 UC)**, Group President and Chief Executive Officer of TD Bank Group, says that if you start with an end goal in mind and are willing to be flexible along the way, the details often take care of themselves.

“Know yourself. What kind of impact do you want to make? How do you want to be known? Make choices that allow you to pursue the path that fulfills you. Look for opportunities to work

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“The right time to judge the value of what you’ve acquired is not within a year of graduation. It’s ten years later or further down the road.”

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with people and organizations that share your values,” he says. “It may be challenging out there, but you can benefit from being resourceful, open-minded, and persistent. Build a network and tell your story. If a particular job doesn’t open up to you, seek alternative ways of doing what interests you. At the end of the day, be passionate, work hard, and have fun.”

**Annie Dang (BA 2012 UC)** is a fourth-year student who personifies the resilience and creativity that experts like Clark espouse.

“It’s not like we’re reaching the end of the world,” she quipped. “There are always opportunities out there.”

She should know. Dang started her own business at 14, organizing birthday parties for children of expat families in her native Vietnam.

Attending an international school for children from kindergarten to grade 12, many of Dang’s peers were children of diplomats, corporate executives, and otherwise affluent individuals. However, because most of her classmates’ parents didn’t speak Vietnamese or know where to go when it came to organizing birthday parties, Dang sensed a business opportunity and ran with it.

Her birthday party planning business caught on quickly and ran for five successful years until Dang moved to Canada to attend university.

“I learned a lot about sales and marketing from it, and the experience confirmed my passion for business,” says Dang, who began her studies in commerce before switching to economics and sociology.

Asked whether she has any words of wisdom to pass onto recent grads struggling to find a job, Dang’s message is simple.

“If you search for what you love doing and you do it well, there will be opportunities there for you,” she said. “And if you can’t find someone to hire you, then you can always be innovative and create something new yourself.”





01.

**IMAGE 01.**  
David Berkal  
at the Operation  
Groundswell office  
in Toronto.

# GROUNDING VOLUNTEER TOURISM ENTREPRENEUR DAVID BERKAL

AMERICAN SATIRIST AND PHILOSOPHER ELBERT HUBBARD ONCE SAID, "THE MAN WHO SAYS IT CAN'T BE DONE IS GENERALLY INTERRUPTED BY SOMEONE DOING IT" —A MOTTO THAT APTLY DESCRIBES YOUNG TORONTO ENTREPRENEUR AND ACTIVIST DAVID BERKAL (BA 2010 UC).

AUTHOR  
*Jennifer McIntyre*

PHOTOGRAPHER  
*Jason Krygier-Baum*

JUST TWENTY-THREE, Berkal already has an impressive CV: he is currently the Executive Director of Operation Groundswell, a not-for-profit volunteer travel company, and Program Director of Canadian Roots, an exchange program that builds relationships between Canada's aboriginal and non-aboriginal communities.

His hands-on experience with social justice issues, however, goes back to his teenage years and beyond. As president of North York's William Lyon MacKenzie high school, Berkal helped organize one of the first major Darfur rallies in Toronto in 2006. "I was really fascinated by what was going on," recalls Berkal. "It was just unfolding, the word *genocide* was just being used for the first time, and I wanted to do something in my school."

“That grew into connecting with student council presidents of other schools, and we built something that was much bigger than a school assembly. It was a real city-wide rally in front of Queen’s Park; we had politicians from every party, national media coverage. That was my first foray into wider issues.”

After graduation, Berkal decided to take a gap year and volunteer overseas. His parents, both of whom are passionate about social justice issues themselves—his mother is a public health nurse and his father, Harvey, worked for many years as an investigative reporter for CBC’s *Marketplace*—were supportive of his plans.

However, Berkal soon found himself frustrated by the limited opportunities offered by “faceless” for-profit organizations who demanded thousands of dollars from students wanting to volunteer overseas. “I was pretty disappointed with that,” he says.

Serendipitously, however, his friend Jonah Brotman (now Operation Groundswell’s Co-Executive Director), had just returned from a summer internship at a radio station in Ghana. “We got talking and we decided we could put something together ourselves,” says Berkal. Despite having “not much, just a few contacts,” Berkal headed off to Ghana alone in 2006. He spent several months there, networking with “amazing locals” to establish financial partnerships, and laying the foundations for what would eventually become Operation Groundswell.

Brotman, meanwhile, did the groundwork and outreach in Canada, and in May of the following year the fledgling organization conducted its first trip. “We had an overwhelming response to and interest in our program,” says Berkal. “There were 11 university-age students [on the initial trip], and we kept rolling from there.”

Now in its sixth year, Operation Groundswell has grown to encompass “a whole range of work,”

including a program called Big Kids, consisting of shorter projects for adults looking to “travel and make an impact.”

Also on the menu are “themed programs targeting engineers, educators, people interested in public health, for example,” says Berkal. “We get people who are interested in global health, say, but aren’t necessarily trained. Then [we find] partners on the ground, usually local NGOs, who need a group of short-term passionate volunteers. We’ve been working with most of our partners for a couple of years already, and we build on those relationships every year.”

Meanwhile, in 2009, during an Aboriginal Studies course that was part of his undergraduate work in Peace and Conflict Studies at University College, Berkal began wondering about creating a program similar to Operation Groundswell to reach out to Canada’s native communities.

“It was a pretty natural progression,” says Berkal. “We’d been running Operation Groundswell for a few years at that point, [but] you always think about the struggles back home, as well, so I met with a colleague of mine about [starting] Canadian Roots. We were very interested in engaging with Aboriginal issues in Canada in some capacity, although we didn’t really know what.”

The two approached their professor, Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux, about running an exchange program during reading week. “We said, ‘How do you feel about getting together a group of students, half native, half non-native? We’ll go out to a couple of reserves and find out about the issues for ourselves.’”

“She loved the idea,” Berkal recalls. “No hesitation. She’s kind of a firecracker,” he adds, grinning. “She was a champion in putting that program together. It turned out to be a much bigger undertaking



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ISSUES FOR  
OURSELVES.'"



02.

**IMAGE 02.**  
The Operation  
Groundswell team.  
**Top row (L-R):**  
David Berkal,  
Eyal Rosenblum,  
Jo Sorrentino,  
Taha Tabish.  
**Bottom row (L-R):**  
Kari Alvarado,  
Kali Burnell.  
**Absent:**  
Jonah Brotman.

than we had thought—we brought 20 students as opposed to 10. But it was a wonderful experience; we rented a bus, went to six communities across Ontario, and got really positive feedback. Over the next few years we ran exchanges from British Columbia to Newfoundland, and up in northern Ontario. We're planning one for the Northwest Territories right now."

Berkal's activities garnered him U of T's Faculty of Arts and Science Dean's Student Leadership Award, and in 2010 he was named one of The Next 36 by Canada's Entrepreneurial Leadership Initiative. "It's an incubator program designed to develop high-impact entrepreneurs," explains Berkal, who was (not surprisingly) selected by his peers as Valedictorian at the program's graduation last summer.

Currently, he is applying to MBA programs at Harvard, Stanford, and Columbia.

Characteristically, he is taking nothing for granted in terms of being accepted, as "US schools are usually looking for more full-time work experience."

"It's certainly been a very thoughtful period, weighing my options," he says. "One option is to keep on doing what I'm doing and eventually ... work for another company where I could learn a lot."

"Grad school, if I'm accepted, would mean taking on more of an advisory role in Operation Groundswell and Canadian Roots. The programs are much more stable now that we've had a few years of experience, and Operation Groundswell now has paid staff and office space."

And long-term?

"I'm not sure," says Berkal. "I guess I want to have a big impact in the world somewhere. I'm passionate about working in developing countries, and I love being an entrepreneur. "It'll be a mix of all those things."

OPERATION GROUNDSWELL  
[WWW.OPERATIONGROUNDSWELL.COM](http://WWW.OPERATIONGROUNDSWELL.COM)

CANADIAN ROOTS  
[WWW.CANADIANROOTS.CA](http://WWW.CANADIANROOTS.CA)

# SMOKE AND MIRRORS

WILLIAM B. DAVIS TELLS ALL  
IN NEW MEMOIR

AUTHOR  
*Yvonne Palkowski*

PHOTOGRAPHER  
*Kevin Clark*

**BEST KNOWN FOR PLAYING A CHAIN-SMOKING VILLAIN** on the '90s TV phenomenon *The X-Files*, actor and director William B. Davis (BA 1959 UC) recounts his life story—and in so doing, the history of Canadian theatre—in his memoir *Where There's Smoke: Musings of a Cigarette Smoking Man* (ECW Press, 2011). From performing in CBC radio dramas as a child, to stage directing in England and across Canada, Davis' take on his remarkable career is candid and measured—all mirrors, no smoke (sorry, conspiracy theorists). He discussed the book with *UC Magazine* editor Yvonne Palkowski from his home in Vancouver.

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**When you were a child, a theatre company used to rehearse in your parents' basement. Is it fair to say you fell into show business?**

Pretty much. The actors rehearsed in our basement, they hung around our living room, they used our telephone, in our city home and at the cottage. I just grew up with it.







### **And stuck with it, clearly.**

Yes. There was a time in university when I thought I should make a serious, intelligent decision about my future. I interviewed people in various professions so I could make a rational decision about what I was going to do with my life, and as I often say, I haven't yet made that decision.

### **People know you as the actor who played the mysterious Cigarette Smoking Man on *The X-Files*. Lesser known are your directorial credentials. Do you prefer to be behind the scenes or in the limelight?**

In some ways, I think of myself as a theatre director because that's where my roots are, that's what I did in my most formative years. And I still love to do it when I have an opportunity. I started acting as a child so that's pretty innate as well. I spent a lot of time teaching acting, studying acting, trying to understand what acting is. The only real answer I have to the question is it depends on the opportunity. To direct a wonderful play with wonderful actors is an amazing experience. To act in a lousy movie with terrible lines and not very good directors is not such a great experience. But you can reverse that as well.

They're both extraordinary experiences but quite different. When you're directing a play, you're 'on' the whole time. When you act in a movie or in TV, even if you're playing a major role, you spent a lot of time waiting. There's a saying among actors that they pay us for the waiting. The acting is the fun part. It's a very different rhythm of work. I like them both so I'm glad I don't have to choose.

### **What is your advice to young actors and directors?**

To both I would say the most important thing is to do it, take every opportunity you can to actually do it. See a lot of theatre and film, get good training. It's serious work so learn how to do it. What so often happens now is people think that if they do an audition class, then they can audition for a movie, then they can become a star, and it's as simple as that. Very few people become stars and celebrities, and if that's your goal, I think maybe you should just buy a lottery ticket. But if you want to work as an artist, that's what you should be doing. If that leads you to stardom,

so much the better, but hopefully you will find a productive life doing the work you want to do.

### ***The X-Files* is all about paranormal activity and conspiracy. But you are an outspoken sceptic. How did you reconcile your work on the show and your beliefs?**

The show is fiction and, hopefully, it's understood to be so. It's a complicated issue, because Richard Dawkins, who was my hero in science, started quite actively speaking against *The X-Files*, accusing it of promoting pseudoscience and paranormal thinking, denying critical thought and so on. This was a little bit of a matter of conscience for me because my career was just beginning to take off on this series that my hero was condemning. So what should I do as a matter of conscience? Perhaps I should withdraw from the series. Some people said if you do that, someone else is going to do it anyway. But that's not really a good excuse for betraying your beliefs, so I couldn't get out of it that way.

Then I realized that Dawkins had no evidence for what he was saying. He said the show promotes pseudoscience since, on each episode, a rational solution is proposed and a pseudoscientific solution is proposed, and the latter always wins. But you can turn that one on its head with *The X-Files* because every time a solution was proposed, a man said it was this, and a woman said it was that. And every time the man, Mulder, is right, and the woman, Scully, is wrong. So you could accuse the show of being sexist just as easily as you can accuse it of being pseudoscientific. And nobody ever complained about the show being sexist. In fact, Scully became a heroine to many women.

It's interesting, I've become involved with various organizations for sceptics, and they're full of *X-Files* fans.

### **So what do you make of the story that UC is haunted by the ghost of Ivan Reznikoff, a stone mason who was allegedly murdered during the construction of the building?**

Ghost stories may make nice fiction, but there's absolutely no possibility in my worldview that such a ghost could exist. Among my undergraduate companions at the time, I don't remember any of us ever discussing ghosts or believing in ghosts, or thinking there could be ghosts in the College.

That's weird; this is a university. Do people seriously believe there's a ghost in the university?

**You would be surprised.**

Then perhaps they should go to university and learn something! There is no scientific possibility for the existence of spirits independent of the body.

**What is your next project?**

A movie about parallel universes. After that, I'm doing a role in a television pilot that has to do with time-shifting.

**Do these themes fall into the realm of physics or science fiction as far as you're concerned?**

The topics are interesting for me because I played Niels Bohr in *Copenhagen*, so I'm somewhat familiar with quantum theory. It's always fascinating to stretch one's mind to try and imagine it, so I'm looking forward to getting back into those questions of theoretical physics. What they're doing in the film is extrapolating the microscopic into the macroscopic. I don't know if real science will allow that, but it's a good fiction story.



THE FOLLOWING EXCERPT FROM *Where There's Smoke: Musings of a Cigarette Smoking Man* HAS BEEN REPRODUCED WITH THE KIND PERMISSION OF THE AUTHOR AND THE PUBLISHER.

The Sir Daniel Wilson Residence at University College, one of the four arts colleges in 1955 making up the University of Toronto, was a modern yellow brick building on St. George Street at what was then the western edge of the campus, and was to be my home for the next four years. Prior to its opening in 1954, University College men lived in two residential houses. Of course, men and women were not in the same residences. After all, they had different needs and rules. The men needed maid service and were free to come and go at all hours. The women made their own beds in Whitney Hall and had an 11:00 p.m. curfew on weeknights. No one seemed to find these arrangements strange at the time.

The college clung to other traditions perhaps not fully appreciated by the students. Dinner at Sir Dan was intended to be a formal affair with a high table, the saying of grace, and waiter service. The students all arrived at 6:15 p.m. wearing the prescribed academic gowns and ties and entered the hall together. But what actually is a tie? Does a shoelace around the neck count as a tie? We followed the letter of that rule far more than the spirit. And sad to say, the quality of food seldom matched the pretension of the occasion. It was not unusual to finish dinner, return to the house, ditch the gown and tie, and head across the road to the local greasy spoon for an edible meal. This was in the days before McDonald's and Burger King, when you could still buy a decent meal at a low price in a family run local restaurant. Paradoxically the local greasy spoon was named McDonald's.

The students from the old 5 Wilcox residence had all moved into Jeanneret House, one of the six houses of the Sir Daniel Wilson Residence. They brought with them a sense of community and an intellectual curiosity that I was fortunate to share. Each student had a private room. It was the common room on the ground floor that provided a focus for the house. I think I learned almost as much in the common room as I did in the college next door. If you had to watch television there was one in the basement. No one did, except during the World Series.

... Many years later, in the heyday of *The X-Files*, I did speaking tours of North American universities. I was astonished and distressed to see how universities and university life had changed. For one thing, no one studied what we studied: English, philosophy, history, mathematics, science. I would ask students what subjects they were taking. Communications, women's studies, air conditioning—subjects that didn't exist in our day.

... We couldn't care less about preparing for a job market; we were there to learn, to think, to be "better people." It's not for me to say whether universities have improved in the intervening decades, but they certainly have changed. Does anyone still say, "They were the best years of my life?"

# Diversions

## UC Architecture Challenge



Congratulations to Margot Almond (*BA 1981 UC*), Rick Clow (*BSc 1974 UC*), and Linda Rothman (*BA 1981 UC*), winners of the fall 2011 Architecture Challenge, who correctly identified that this photo was taken at Reznikoff's Pub. A fixture of UC campus life in the early 1980s, the pub operated out of the Refectory in the lower level of the Laidlaw wing. The space is now part of the University of Toronto Art Centre.

## Separated at Birth



**ROBERT HUDEK**  
(BSc 1969 UC)



**SEAN CONNERY**



**ALANA CLARKE**  
(BA 2008 UC)



**KIRSTEN DUNST**

Have you ever been told you look like someone famous? Are you ready for your close-up? Send your photo and the name of your famous doppelganger to [uc.magazine@utoronto.ca](mailto:uc.magazine@utoronto.ca) and appear in the next Separated at Birth.

## UC Ephemera

A UNIQUE DISCOVERY WAS MADE IN THE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE QUAD LAST FALL DURING THE COURSE OF RENOVATIONS. EXCAVATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH WATER-PROOFING WORK UNCOVERED NOT ONLY THE COLLEGE'S FOUNDATION, BUT ALSO AN OLD WELL.

To shed light on the discovery, Anthropology Professor Ted Banning was called to the location. Banning speculates that the well may be up to fifty feet deep, and made of the same material as the main UC building. "The well was likely constructed

when the College was built," he says, noting that there is a pipe leading from the well into the building and the water may have been used by the residents. "Wells are extremely interesting to archeologists as they contain many artifacts that the original residents may have thrown in," he explains.

As it is a safety hazard, the well has now been covered once again. Further investigation and greater resources are required if the College community is to learn what lies beneath.

—VICTORIA HURLIHEY



# Impressions

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## All Night Fung

When you wish upon a Ruffle,  
Watch your language.  
Hang onto your yellow highlighter  
(The one with the velvet pants)  
While you're shuffling through your cards,  
You should take some ADD for that Ritalin.  
Feel a little sneezy and glare at the talkers,  
With premonitions of your favourite number, "A-"  
Setting back the circadian clock with Pizza Pops and Body Smarts,  
I'd sell my soul for concentration.

**DANIEL JAMES** (BSc 2005 UC) (BA 2008 UC)

I wrote this poem while studying (more probably procrastinating)  
in Howard Ferguson Dining Hall for exams back in 2001.

## Aviary

I keep my dreams small, with clipped wings.  
There's not enough space in my apartment  
or the corrugated chambers of my cardboard heart  
to release anything larger or more flight-hungry  
than a birth-wet, fumbling wren.

I'm skeptical of others' dreams, the way they gulp oxygen,  
penetrate layers of groundfog and low-lying clouds  
and burst into some higher realm – unknown  
to me – that's drenched in sunlight  
and close enough to God that some divine stamp

seems to keep them aloft  
or at least free from the fears of Icarus' father.  
No need for wax or stolen wings;  
others' dreams combine the visions of eagles  
with the tenacity of an idiot robin in spring.

I don't have grand wishes for my dreams.  
I don't need them to reflect  
the brilliance of a thousand white egrets  
settling in to roost in the setting sun,  
nor flash with a peacock's absurd vainglory.

I'm not looking for my dreams to carry  
the sagacity of owls, nor even hoping  
they lay claim (oh you larks,  
you nightingales, you turtledoves)  
to a voice that bleeds hearts.

All I hope for is hope sustained –  
that the canary that has been conscripted  
to keep watch in my coal-dark depths  
keeps gleaming yellow-gold  
each time I check for signs of life.

**ORA NITKIN-KANER** (BA 2005 UC)

## Conference, Troy, NY

Red banner black letters a pale bamboo staff  
"It reads Global Silk Road in Chinese" says the portly  
Professor from Scotland who carries it with him  
A slim Taipei woman concurs: it is so  
But a Scotsman in China? Why, it's our business school  
That opened up there, the proud Scotsman explains

The German from Taiwan concurs: it is so  
The Dane from Hong Kong agrees: where we go  
Is no longer restrained by the names in our passports

The Global Silk Road now exists, and for trade  
In cultural information it's made  
Not just goods that we give for the cash or past contracts

A boy from East London concurs: it is true  
A hundred acquaintances new we can make  
In a single short meeting; from which we may take

Back impressions, conclusions of how things can be;  
As the Scotsman professor from China repeats,  
"It says Global Silk Road in Chinese".

**LANCE NIZAMI** (BSc. 1982 UC)

This poem describes a conference I actually attended in 2010.

## Filial Cosmology

I sense the truth  
of the big bang theory,  
as my filial matter  
moves outward and away,  
glittering stars in their firmament,  
distant and cold lights,  
relentless in the path  
of their own evolution;  
Follow the tracings  
in the nocturnal sky,  
for there is origin revealed,  
of you from I.

**GERALD S. SWINKIN** (BA 1974 UC)

Submit your short fiction, photographs,  
and artwork to [uc.magazine@utoronto.ca](mailto:uc.magazine@utoronto.ca).

# Class Notes

## NEWS FROM CLASSMATES NEAR AND FAR



01.

Professor **ISAAC ABELLA** (BA 1957 UC) has retired from the University of Chicago's Department of Physics after 46 years of service.

**BENJAMIN BATHGATE** (BA 2001 UC) has been admitted to the partnership of McMillan LLP in its Toronto office. Ben is a commercial litigator with a wide range of experience and a diverse client base, with a specialization in real estate disputes, commercial fraud, and franchise disputes. He served as president of the UC Lit in 2000.

**JEAN RAE BAXTER** (BA 1955 UC) published *Scattered Light* (Seraphim Editions, 2011), her

second collection of short stories and fifth book since retiring from her career in education sixteen years ago.

Professor Emeritus of English **WILLIAM BLISSETT**, who taught at University College from 1965 to 1987, has published *Inward of Poetry: The Letters of George Johnston and William Blissett* (Porcupine's Quill, 2011). The book presents fifty years of letters between the poet Johnston and Blissett, his good friend and frequent editor. Blissett's publishers and the co-founders of Porcupine's Quill are **TIM INKSTER** (BA 1971 UC) and wife **ELKE INKSTER** (BA 1970 UC), who were awarded



02.

**IMAGE 01.**

Agnes Singleton, daughter of Andrea Iaboni and Antony Singleton

**IMAGE 02.**

Joan and Michael King at Senior Citizens of the Year Gala

**IMAGE 03.**

Jim Williamson (L) and Governor General David Johnston at the Michener Awards Gala

the Order of Canada in 2008 for their contributions to Canadian publishing.

**LEAH BOBET** (BA 2008 UC) has published her first novel, *ABOVE* (Arthur A. Levine Books, 2012).

Former UC faculty member Professor **STEPHEN CLARKSON** was appointed to the Order of Canada on June 30, 2010.

**ELIZABETH CLIFFORD** (BA 1990 UC) has co-authored *Immigration and Women: Understanding the American Experience* (New York University Press, 2011). She is professor of Sociology at Towson University in Maryland.

Professor **JOSEF EISINGER** (BA 1947 UC) published *Einstein on the Road* (Prometheus Books, 2011), an annotated narrative based on the travel diaries Einstein kept during his far-flung voyages from 1922 to 1933.

Award-winning artist **MARGARET LINDSAY HOLTON** (BA 1979 UC) has published *CANADADA: A Painter's Nature* (Acorn Press of Canada, 2011) a limited-edition, fine art book which details her evolution as a home-grown Canadian painter of international stature.

After three years with the National Bank of Canada, **CARI HOWARD (BA 2008 UC)** is in Pemba, Mozambique, on a fellowship with the Aga Khan Foundation working to develop First MicroBank, S.A., a micro-finance institution.

**ANDREA IABONI (BSc 1998 UC)** and Antony Singleton welcomed their first child, Agnes Singleton, on September 23, 2011.

**PATRICK M.A. JAMES (BSc 2002 UC)** completed his PhD at U of T's Faculty of Forestry in 2009, and has attained a tenure-track position at the Université de Montréal.

**JOAN LANGLOIS KING (BA 1951 UC)** and Dr. Michael R. King were named Senior Citizens of the Year by the Town of Englehart, Ontario, at a gala reception in June 2011. They were presented with a framed plaque signed by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, the Ontario Minister for Seniors, and the Mayor of Englehart. "Englehart in the beautiful District of Temiskaming has been our home for 55 years, says Joan. "We felt very honoured by this recognition."



03.

*Lost Passport: The Life and Times of Edward Lacey* (Bookland Press, 2011) is a new book about **EDWARD ALLAN LACEY (BA 1959 UC)**. Author Fraser Sutherland describes Lacey, who died in 1995, as "a traveller and misadventurer on five continents; translator from French, Spanish, and Portuguese; and Canada's first explicitly gay poet."

Journalist and activist **MICHELE LANDSBERG (BA 1962 UC)** published *Writing the Revolution* (Second Story Press, 2011), a collection of columns she wrote for *The Toronto Star* from 1978 to 2005.

**RICHARD LEBLANC (BSc 1984 UC)**, a Professor of Governance, Law and Ethics at York University, was awarded a Teaching Award from the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations in recognition of his outstanding contributions to teaching. He was also named among the National Association of Corporate Directors "Directorship 100: People to Watch."

**SOPHIE MALEK (BA 2007 UC)** and **MICHAEL WARNER (BA 2007 UC)** were married on September 24, 2011 in Toronto. The couple met at Whitney Hall in 2003.

Poet and novelist **SHARON MARCUS (BA 1955 UC)** has released *The Sound of Darkness* (The Sufi Press, 2011), her fourth book of poetry and eleventh book.

**ALEXANDRA MARSH (BA 2008 UC)** and Peter Jamieson have married. Alexandra recently completed an MA in theatre at Miami University, while Peter holds a doctorate in engineering from U of T.

Architectural historian **JENNIFER MCKENDRY (BA 1968 UC)** co-authored *Kingston and the Islands: Then and Now* (John McQuarrie Photography, 2011) with Peter Milliken and Arthur Milnes.

After a 35-year career with Canada's Foreign Service, diplomat **PAUL MEYER (BA 1974 UC)** has joined the Simon Fraser University Centre for Dialogue as a Fellow in International Security, and as a Senior Fellow with The Simons Foundation. He is currently teaching a



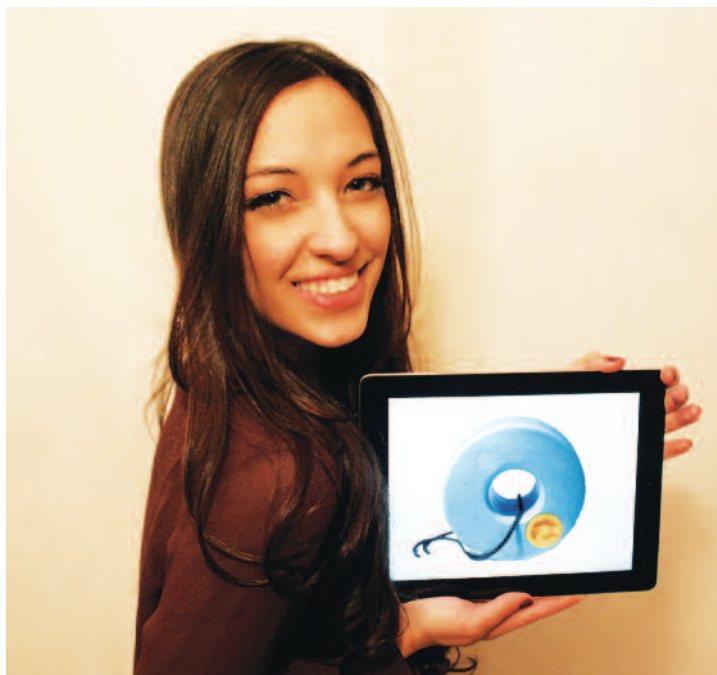
course entitled “Multilateral Diplomacy: A Practitioner’s Perspective” for SFU’s School of International Studies.

On September 2, 2011, **VIARA MILEVA (BSc 2004 UC)** trekked 30 kilometres, from the University of Toronto’s Mississauga campus to the St. George campus in downtown Toronto, to raise money for people living in drought-stricken Horn of Africa. She completed the journey in 10 hours with her six-month-old son, Raynor, in tow.

Writer, editor, and social commentator **HAL NIEDZVIECKI (BA 1994 UC)** published *Look Down, This is Where it Must Have Happened* (City Light Books, 2011), a collection of short stories. A former arts editor for UC’s *The Gargoyle*, Niedzviecki is the co-founder of *Broken Pencil*, a magazine about zine culture and independent art and music, as well as the author *Hello: I’m Special: How Individuality Became the New Conformity* (2006) and *The Peep Diaries* (2009), among other books.

**ANNA NYBURG (BA 1972 UC)** received a PhD in Exile Studies from the University of London. She is now teaching at Imperial College London.

Renowned Canadian artist **CHARLES PACHTER (BA 1964 UC)** was appointed to the Order of Canada.



04.

Attorney **STEVEN PEPA (BA 1996 UC)** runs his own law firm in south eastern Europe, which specializes in emerging market mergers and acquisitions, banking, finance, and energy. He has practiced in the region since 2004 and now lives in Bucharest, Romania. Pepa and economist Olga Osadci were married on September 2, 2011.

**STEPHANIE PROVATO (BA 2011 UC)** has founded The Q Project, which raises funds to distribute Q Drums to needy communities in developing countries. The Q Drum is a donut-shaped water container that makes collecting and transporting water easier and more efficient.

**ROBIN RIX (BA 1999 UC)** married fellow lawyer Lindsey Haig in Toronto on May 14, 2011. A former president and speaker of the UC Lit, he now works in strategy and policy at the UN climate change secretariat in Bonn, Germany.

**BOBBIE RUBEN (BSc 1963 UC)** moved to New York in 1967 after teaching for several years in Toronto. She married Walter Zweifler in 1969 and they have two sons, David and Jonathan, and two grandchildren, Ella and Ronan. She has had three careers, the first as a teacher, the second as a financial analyst, and the third as a Director of Development in the nonprofit world.

**MILDRED A. SCHWARTZ (BA 1954 UC)** is a Professor Emerita at the University of Illinois at Chicago and a Visiting Scholar at New York University. At the 2011 annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, she was awarded the Seymour Martin Lipset Best Book Award for *Party Movements in the United States and Canada* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2006).

**PETER SINGER (MD 1984 UC)**, a Professor in the Faculty of Medicine at U of T and Director of the McLaughlin-Rotman Centre for Global Health, was named to the Order of Canada in recognition of his contributions to health research and bioethics.

**STEVEN SKURKA (BA 1978 UC)** has published *Tilted: The Trials of Conrad Black, Second Edition* (Dundurn, 2011).



05.



06.

**HEIDI STOCK (BA 1993 UC)** is currently working as a freelance prospect researcher and grant writer. She is the creator of the Aspiring Canadian Poets Contest, which invites unpublished poets to submit their work for a chance to win online mentoring sessions with contest judge and poet Catherine Graham. Submissions are accepted at [www.aspiringpoetscontest.org](http://www.aspiringpoetscontest.org) through June 1, 2012.

**ROBIN TAUB (BCom 1987 UC)** published *A Parent's Guide to Raising Money-Smart Kids* (Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, 2011).

"I was delighted to fly from Vancouver to attend the 2011 spring reunion for the fiftieth anniversary of my graduation. God has given my wife, Bernace, and me very good health—our 50 years comes in August—and I'm finally retired after pastoring three Presbyterian churches, and then two hospital chaplaincies. I now serve as the non-stipendiary Stated Clerk of Western Canada Presbytery, and my wife and I have had fun over a number of

years giving English conversation classes at a beach resort in Mazatlan, Mexico, in return for meals at their all-inclusive restaurants." - **PAUL WALKER (BA 1961 UC)**

A passage from **SYLVIA MAULTASH WARSH'S (BA 1968 UC)** book *The Queen of Unforgetting* has been featured on a plaque in Midland, Ontario's Little Lake Park as part of Project Bookmark Canada. The organization installs plaques marking the physical settings described in Canadian literature. The first plaque was raised on Toronto's Bloor viaduct in 2009, with text from **MICHAEL ONDAATJE'S (BA 1965 UC)** *In the Skin of a Lion*.

**JIM WILLIAMSON (BA 1982 UC)** was awarded the Michener Award for meritorious public service journalism for his work as executive producer on CBC's *The Fifth Estate*.

**IMAGE 04.**  
Stephanie Provato  
and the Q Drum

**IMAGE 05.**  
Paul Walker in  
Mexico

**IMAGE 06.**  
Sophie Malek and  
Michael Warner on  
their wedding day

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### **GIFTS-IN-KIND**

John Hartman



#### PHOTOGRAPHY COLLECTED US

Works by some of the greatest names in photography were recently featured in a celebrated exhibition at the University of Toronto Art Centre at University College. *“Photography Collected Us”: The Malcolmson Collection* brought together 185 rare and beautiful photographs dating from the mid-nineteenth-century to the present, by photographers such as Gustave Le Gray, Margaret Bourke White, May Ray, and Paul Strand.

The collection, which belongs to Ann and Harry Malcolmson (BA 1957 UC), has been called the most important collection of historical photography in private hands in Canada. The title of the exhibition is in fact a play on the Malcolmson’s own admission that, “we did not collect photography, photography collected us.” Curator Heather Diack selected the works shown in order to consider the compelling relationships that are created between individuals and photographs and between individuals within photographs.

#### IMAGE

Robert Frank, *Chattanooga, Tennessee*, gelatin silver print, negative: 1956, print: 1970s. Collection of Ann and Harry Malcolmson.

# Donations

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## THE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HERITAGE SOCIETY

The University College Heritage Society is a special group of alumni and friends who have included the College in their estate plans. If you would like to learn more about making a planned gift to UC, please contact Jim Lawson at (416) 978-0271 or [jim.lawson@utoronto.ca](mailto:jim.lawson@utoronto.ca).

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### I wish to make a gift of:

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I want to join the President's Circle with my enclosed minimum gift of \$1,827 or \$152.25 per month.

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- ☐ Area of greatest need (0560002518)  
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## STEP 3: Select a Payment Option

- ☐ **CHEQUE** (Payable to University College - U of T)  
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Personnel No: \_\_\_\_\_

- Gifts processed after the middle of the month will be deducted from next month's payroll
- T4 slips act as tax receipts
- Monthly giving has no end date unless otherwise noted

☐ **CREDIT CARD:** ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Amex  
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☐ I have included UC in my will but have not yet notified the College.

☐ Please call me to discuss how to leave a gift for the College in my will.

☐ Please send me information on how to take advantage of tax savings for gift securities.

**NOTE:** Capital gains taxes have now been eliminated on gifts of securities and share options.

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Thank you!

☐ **ONLINE GIVING:** <https://donate.utoronto.ca/uc>

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## 1930s

**Mrs. Joan C. (Roman) Birnie** (BA 1937 UC)  
of London, ON; July 25, 2011

**Mrs. D. Jane (Patterson) Elliott** (BA 1939 UC)  
of Winnipeg, MB; July 22, 2011

**Dr. Harold Fine** (BA 1936 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; July 11, 2011

**Mrs. Noela M. Harvie** (BA 1939 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Aug. 10, 2011

**Mrs. Margaret E. (Diggins) Hunter** (BA 1933 UC)  
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**Mr. Bowden L. McLean** (BA 1939 UC)  
of Etobicoke, ON; Sept. 19, 2011

**Mr. Leonard G. Newell** (BA 1939 UC)  
of Sarnia, ON; Mar. 9, 2005

**The Rev. Harry Folinsbee Newman** (BA 1937 UC)  
Pickering, ON; July 27, 2011

**Mrs. Evelyn M. Rahilly** (BA 1939 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; July 8, 2011

**Mr. Louis Savlov** (BA 1937 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Nov. 29, 2010

**Mr. F. Bertram Schuch** (BA 1933 UC)  
of Huntsville, ON; Aug. 11, 2011

**Dr. Albert J. Solway** (BA 1937 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Sept. 22, 2011

**Mrs. Gwendolyn G. (Husband) Stockwell** (BA 1939 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Dec. 10, 2011

## 1940s

**Mr. Joel W. Aldred** (1949 UC)  
of Port Perry, ON; Oct. 12, 2011

**Miss Margaret L. T. Belcher** (BA 1947 UC)  
of Mississauga, ON; Nov. 19, 2011

**Mrs. Elsie Bradford** (1942 UC)  
of Etobicoke, ON; Oct. 12, 2011

**Mrs. Celia V. (Bojin) Busch** (1948 UC)  
of Mount Albert, ON; Nov. 2, 2011

**Dr. Roy Cairns** (BA 1949 UC)  
of St. Catharines, ON; Oct. 26, 2011

**Mrs. Jean C. Carrie** (BA 1942 UC)  
of Etobicoke, ON

**Mrs. Marion (Redfern) Cogdon** (BA 1943 UC)  
of York, ON; Dec. 17, 2011

**Mr. Saul Cohen** (BA 1944 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Feb. 25, 2011

**Miss Edith Cox** (BA 1949 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Sept. 4, 2011

**Mrs. Eileen M. (Taylor) Culham** (BA 1945 UC)  
of Orillia, ON; Dec. 17, 2011

**Mr. Thomas C. Daly** (BA 1940 UC)  
of Montréal, QB; Sept. 18, 2011

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**Mrs. Mary F. Fraser** (BA UC 1942)  
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**Mr. Andrew R. J. Gardner** (BA 1948 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Sept. 29, 2011

**Mrs. Mary F. P. (Eberhart) Gardner** (BA 1944 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Sept. 13, 2011

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of Etobicoke, ON; Sept. 20, 2011

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**Mr. John P. Hamilton** (BA 1949 UC)  
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**Mr. Solomon Kaiman** (BA 1942 UC)  
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**Mrs. Gladys (Brenner) Lebow** (BA 1944 UC)  
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**Mr. Elwy M. Yost** (BA 1948 UC)  
of West Vancouver, BC; July 21, 2011

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**1950s**

**Mr. Martin Stanley Alford** (BA 1951 UC)  
of Ottawa, ON; Sept. 23, 2011

**Mr. David Baum** (BA 1954 UC)  
of Willowdale, ON

**Mrs. Patricia M. Beach** (BA 1951 UC)  
of Ottawa, ON; Sept. 9, 2011

**Mr. Gerald Robert Burger** (BA 1955 UC)  
of Kitchener, ON; May 5, 2011

**Mr. John C. Corkill** (BCom 1952 UC)  
of Etobicoke, ON; July 22, 2011

**Mr. Cyrus W. Creighton** (BCom 1950 UC)  
of Scarborough, ON; Dec. 21, 2010

**Miss Mary A. Fitz-Gibbon** (BA 1950 UC)  
of Dorset, ON; 2010

**Mr. Donald R. Inch** (BA 1950 UC)  
of Dwight, ON; Oct. 14, 2011

**The Honourable Julius Alexander Isaac, Q.C.** (BA 1955 UC)  
of Ottawa, ON; July 16, 2011

**Mr. William Kaspro** (BA 1955 UC)  
of Thornhill, ON; Oct. 30, 2011

**Dr. Kristjan R. Kristjanson** (BA 1957 UC)  
of Edmonton, AB; Oct. 9, 2010

**Mr. Kenneth G. Macdonald** (BA 1952 UC)  
of Brampton, ON; July 23, 2011

**Dr. Donald R. Muir** (BA 1951 UC)  
of Calgary, AB; Oct. 19, 2011

**Ms. Margaret (Honderich) Penman** (BA 1957 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Dec. 22, 2010

**Mrs. D. Joanne (Stoddart) Philpott** (BA 1951 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Aug. 3, 2011

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of Thornburn, NS; Nov. 3, 2010

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of Sheffield, ON; July 26, 2011

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**Ms. R. J. Sky Sigal** (BA 1955 UC)  
Lake Country, BC; Aug. 30, 2011

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**Miss Maria R. Maniates** (BA 1960 UC)  
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**Mr. Mark Edgar Nichols** (1961 UC)  
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**Mr. Terrance I. Wills** (BCom 1960 UC)  
of Ottawa, ON; Dec. 3, 2011

**1980s**

**Mr. William A. Bartolini** (BCom 1982 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; May 5, 2011

**Dr. Jan M. Raczkycki** (BSc 1982 UC)  
of Clinton, ON; July 31, 2011

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BSc, 2013

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