



University  
College  
Alumni  
Magazine

SPRING 2018



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# **UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

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**RENEWING**  
a University Icon

**A MEANINGFUL**  
Exchange

**BILL SOBEL**  
Attorney to the Stars

# U of T ALUMNI REUNION

May 30 - June 3, 2018



## SO MANY BEGINNINGS FOR UC GRADS

UC was a time of new experiences for so many grads. The first professor to expand your mind, your first all-nighter, the first shy moments of friendships that have lasted a lifetime. Come relive your UC firsts and create new ones, catch up with friends and meet interesting people. U of T is planning special events for 2018's honoured alumni—anyone who graduated in a year ending in 3 or 8. But all alumni are welcome. With over 130 events to choose from across campus, including two specially designed for UC alumni, there's something for every UC grad at Alumni Reunion 2018.



### Stress Free Degree at UC

#### Estrogens and the Brain: What is known about their role in healthy aging?

Hormones help shape brain circuits and may play a role in women's healthy brain aging. In this talk Dr. Gillian Einstein will discuss estrogens and their effects on the body, their role in premenstrual syndrome, estrogen loss and cognition in young women, and her current studies looking at estrogen loss and memory.

**Thursday, May 31, 2018**

6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

University College, Room UC140



### UC Class of 1968 Reception

Reunite with your UC classmates to celebrate the 50th anniversary of your graduation, before the U of T medal ceremony in Convocation Hall.

**Friday, June 1, 2018**

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

University College, Bissell House

# BUILDING A LEGACY

## UC REVITALIZATION UPDATE

BY DONALD AINSLIE



**F**ive-and-a-half years in the making! The plans for University College's Revitalization first crystallized in mid-2012 as a group of faculty, staff, students, and alumni considered how to make our core UC building serve students more fully. From the outset, our objectives for the revitalization project were clear: to enhance the heritage values of this national historic site, ensure that UC live up to its role as the iconic building for the University of Toronto, and update the building so that all members of the UC community have access to the revitalized spaces, regardless of their physical ability.

In total, six projects were identified:

- returning the UC Library to East Hall at the front of the building, where it had originally been located prior to the devastating fire of 1890;

- adapting West Hall into what will be called—thanks to a generous lead donation from Edmund (UC '69) and Frances Clark (UC '69)—the Clark Reading Room;
- creating a conference centre in the southwest sector of the building, to be named the Paul Cadario Conference Centre at the Croft Chapter House in recognition of Paul Cadario's lead donation;
- constructing a café in the third-floor loft of UC's central tower;
- establishing a sUCcess Commons that unites the UC Writing Centre with various co-curricular advisors; and
- updating two classrooms in partnership with the Faculty of Arts & Science.

These spaces will be fully accessible, with new entrance ramps at the front of the building and an elevator at the back of the main rotunda.

In late 2015, we hired John Shnier and his team at Kohn Shnier Architects, in partnership with Graeme Stewart at the heritage architecture firm, ERA to work in consultation with the UC community to create plans for these projects. Construction started in January and the new spaces are slated to open in the summer of 2019.

In March 2016, the project also received a significant boost when UC's students held a referendum and voted in favour of paying an annual building levy for 20 years. This contributed nearly \$2.1 million to the revitalization in support of better UC student spaces. This far-sighted generosity again inspired the Clarks, who just recently made a second lead gift that matched the student contribution. All told, these funds will enable us to renovate the UC quadrangle in 2019, immediately after we finish the indoor spaces.

While I opened by saying this project has been five-and-a-half years in the making, perhaps 52 years in the making is more accurate—dating back to the creation of the quad when the Laidlaw Wing opened in 1964. Or 126 years in the making, after the College re-opened in 1892, having quickly rebuilt after the devastating fire. Or 159 years in the making, given the original completion of the building in 1859.

In any case, UC as a physical entity clearly would not be possible without the tremendous support and generosity of our benefactors, most recently Edmund and Frances Clark, Paul Cadario, UC's students, and the many other alumni and friends who have stepped up to ensure that UC remains a vital and iconic contributor to the University of Toronto.

By coming together in this way, UC has shown itself to be something more than a historically significant building. UC is a community committed to providing students, generation after generation, with the best learning experiences.

Thank you to everyone for your support. It is helping us write another inspiring and ambitious chapter in our institution's story.

## CONTRIBUTORS

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### DAN FALK

Dan Falk is a science journalist with a long-standing interest in the mind, the brain, and consciousness; he also writes frequently about physics and the universe. His books include *The Science of Shakespeare: A New Look at the Playwright's Universe* and *In Search of Time: Journeys Along a Curious Dimension*.



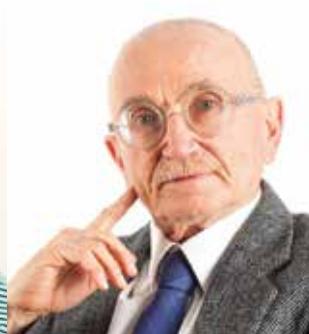
### SHELDON GORDON

Sheldon Gordon is a freelance writer based in Toronto. He served in the parliamentary press gallery with the *Toronto Star* and *Financial Post*, was an editorial writer and columnist with the *Globe and Mail*, and a current affairs producer with CBC-TV.



### TRACY HOWARD

Tracy Howard is a writer, editor and content director. She specializes in profiles, lifestyle, health and travel. She's contributed to *Today's Parent*, *Flare*, *mindbodygreen*, the *Toronto Star*, and *The Globe and Mail's* *Globe Edge* content marketing group. Tracy was also previously the editor of *CAA Magazine*. For this issue, she enjoyed delving into UC's past, present and future for a story on its revitalization, as well as writing about the College's new course, Indigenous Health and Healing in the Six Nations: Experiential Learning and Dialogue. When not poised over her laptop, Tracy relishes travel, yoga and *The New York Times* crossword.



### NELSON WISEMAN

Nelson Wiseman ("Ontario's Coming Election," page 18) is a Professor in the Department of Political Science and Director of the Canadian Studies program at University College. A specialist in Canadian government and politics, elections, voting, and political parties, he is a frequent commentator on national affairs.

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Attorney to the Stars

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**UC**  
University College  
Alumni Magazine

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# CALENDAR

# APR

# MAY



## **ALUMNI REUNION STRESS FREE DEGREE AT UC PROFESSOR GILLIAN EINSTEIN**

**Thursday, May 31, 2018  
at 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm**

Estrogens and the Brain: What is known about their role in healthy aging?  
Presented by Professor Gillian Einstein  
Room UC140, University College,  
15 King's College Circle  
[www.alumnireunion.utoronto.ca](http://www.alumnireunion.utoronto.ca)

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## **THE S.J. STUBBS LECTURE IN ENGLISH LITERATURE PROFESSOR JACK HALBERSTAM**

**Thursday, October 11, 2018 at  
4:30 pm - 6:00 pm**

Department of English and Comparative Literature, and the Institute for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality  
Columbia University  
Room UC 140, University College,  
15 King's College Circle  
For info: (416) 978-7416



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# BC ΔG

# 19

## BONHAM CENTRE AWARDS GALA

Thursday, April 19, 2018 at  
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

The annual awards gala will focus this year on global LGBTQ refugee and migration issues.

Great Hall, Hart House, 7 Hart House Circle  
\$125 individual | \$1000 group of 10

For info: (416) 978-6276  
[lucas.loizou@utoronto.ca](mailto:lucas.loizou@utoronto.ca)  
[my.alumni.utoronto.ca/bcag2018](http://my.alumni.utoronto.ca/bcag2018)

# UN

## UC CLASS OF 1968 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY LUNCH

Friday, June 1, 2018 at  
11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Reunite with UC classmates to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of your graduation, before the U of T medal ceremony in Convocation Hall  
Bissell House, University College, 15 King's College Circle  
[www.alumnireunion.utoronto.ca](http://www.alumnireunion.utoronto.ca)

## F.E.L. PRIESTLEY MEMORIAL LECTURES IN THE HISTORY OF IDEAS

**PROFESSOR LAURA DASSOW WALLS**

October 16, 17 and 18, 2018 at  
4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

William P. and Hazel B. White Professor of English  
Graduate Program in History and  
Philosophy of Science

University of Notre Dame  
University College,  
15 King's College Circle, Room UC 140

For info: (416) 978-7416



## N. GRAHAM LECTURE IN SCIENCE

**PROF. DR. DR. H.C. ANGELA D. FRIEDERICI**

Thursday, November 1, 2018 at  
4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

Director, Max Planck Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience  
Vice-President, Max Planck Society  
Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive  
and Brain Sciences

Room UC 140, University College,  
15 King's College Circle

For info: (416) 978-7416

## 7TH ANNUAL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ALUMNI OF INFLUENCE AWARDS GALA

Thursday, November 15, 2018

Time and Location TBD

# Nv

# RENEWING A UNIVERSITY



## UC KICKS OFF REVITALIZATION PROJECT

BY TRACY HOWARD

**I**t's not every evening you witness University of Toronto Chancellor Michael Wilson boot a balloon off a stage with the fervour of FC Barcelona forward Lionel Messi. But December 7, 2017, wasn't any regular night. Wilson's athletic flourish served as a literal kickoff to the construction phase of the University College Revitalization, underway since the start of January.

University College students, alumni, faculty, and staff gathered at the reception in East and West Halls, which a day prior had been filled with students writing immunology exams.

Both halls and the building's exterior were lit dramatically in blue. A crowd-pleasing balloon drop blanketed East Hall's floor with white and gold orbs, while West Hall featured an impressive hologram displaying donor names.

But the evening's biggest surprise arrived when David Palmer, Vice-President, Advancement, announced that former TD Bank Group CEO Edmund Clark (BA 1969 UC) and his wife, Frances (BA 1969 UC), had just committed \$2.1 million to refurbish the UC Quad into

what will become the Clark Quadrangle. This donation followed the \$2.5 million they'd contributed to create the Clark Reading Room, part of the new UC Library.

"This new gift will allow University College to revitalize this important green space, a source of quiet contemplation enjoyed by generations of students, staff, and faculty," Palmer stated.

Palmer also lauded Paul Cadario, a former senior manager at the World Bank, who had provided \$3 million to transform the iconic Croft Chapter House into a full-service conference centre.

In addition, Palmer praised UC students, who in a 2016 referendum voted to increase ancillary fees by \$2.1 million over 20 years to improve student spaces around the College. The students were represented by University College Literary and Athletic Society (UC Lit) President Albert Hoang and Vice-President Victoria Kourtis.

While UC looked lovely in the evening glow, U of T President (and UC Professor) Meric Gertler described the College in frank terms.

"When Donald Ainslie became Principal in 2011, he made a habit of taking university leaders on a tour of the College, to show them how a once proud building had slipped gradually into a state that was far below its potential," advised Gertler. "Those of us treated to this referred to it as the 'Shock and Awe' tour."

A day before the reception, in an interview in his office and during a subsequent tour of UC, Ainslie reflected on the Revitalization's genesis.



"Many of the hallways, offices, and classrooms were looking their age," he said. "I took administrators to review the situation and saved one basement office for last—it had water damage and a squirrel had taken residence."

Ainslie, who became Principal exactly 100 years after his grandfather, Donald S. Ainslie (BA 1915 UC), started studying at UC, spoke about it with both affection and clear-sightedness.

"Though our building is an impressive piece of architecture, it's not serving our students very well right now," describing, as an example, the limited use of East and West Halls (both seemingly custom-made for Hogwarts) as exam spaces.

**ABOVE** Rendering of the new Paul Cadario Conference Centre at the Croft Chapter House Kohn Shnier Architects **LEFT** Exam in session **RIGHT** Rendering of the Clark Family Reading Room Kohn Shnier Architects

In addition, UC, which opened in 1859 as the non-sectarian, founding College of the University, isn't fully accessible.

"It's a building that's very difficult if you can't climb stairs," stated Ainslie. "Those of us who are able to navigate them don't even notice how often we change one or two levels."

About five-and-a-half years ago, Ainslie met with alumni, students, faculty, and staff, and together developed a set of principles that helped inform the new plans created by John Shnier of Kohn Shnier Architects and Graeme Stewart of heritage-specialist ERA Architects.

The principles included prioritizing undergraduates, focusing on heritage (befitting UC's status as a National Historic Site), accessibility, and ensuring that the renowned teaching and research mission of U of T was embodied in the design.

The most headline-making transformations will likely be converting East Hall back to its original library function, and turning West Hall (initially used as a museum) into the Clark Reading Room. A new café will be built in the third-floor space between the two halls. (UC Vice-Principal John Marshall hatched the idea for moving the library from the Laidlaw wing, where it's been underused.)

The Revitalization will preserve the halls' structural bones, while updating them with 21<sup>st</sup> century amenities and a clean aesthetic. Stacks supporting a mezzanine will create alcoves, referencing the design of the original space that was destroyed in the 1890 fire. A circular staircase and ramping will connect the library's levels.

When queried, Ainslie's vote for the most surprising feature of the Revitalization was the new elevator, which will be located in the back of the south wing of the building. He spoke admiringly about its copper flashing and zigzag pattern echoing motifs throughout UC, and lighting to animate the Quad at night.

He also delineated the various areas of the College where ramping will be added to augment accessibility, as well as a new entrance at the front of the building to replace the current circuitous route people with mobility issues are required to use.

A tour highlight was a stop at the future Paul Cadario Conference Centre at Croft Chapter House, originally Canada's first chemistry lab. Ainslie praised the circular room's bones, but also pointed out its peeling paint, retro acoustics, and inferior lighting, all of which will be modernized to meet the needs of future symposia.

Visits were also made to a suite of rooms on the second floor that will become the sUCCESS Commons and bring together the Writing Centre with multidisciplinary co-curricular advisors, and to one of the classrooms that will be made accessible and updated with conferencing technology, while restoring its traditional appearance.

Back at the reception, Edmund Clark, a longtime U of T benefactor and volunteer, who met his wife, Frances, at UC when both were undergrads at the College, seemed delighted to support both the Reading Room and the Quad. (Both Clarks come from multigenerational families of UC alumni.)

"They're both gorgeous, but, the way I put it is, in the winter you come read in the Reading Room and in the summer you can read in the Quad," Clark stated.

Edmund shared that when he told Frances about being approached about the Quad, she responded: "That was a pretty meaningful place for us, so why don't we do that."

Paul Cadario, another tireless U of T supporter and volunteer, who is affiliated with multiple University departments, also appeared thrilled, even though as a U of T Engineering grad he didn't attend UC.

"I'm delighted for the revitalization of an iconic building for the city and the province and the country, and such a vital





**ABOVE** Rendering of new accessibility ramp  
Kohn Shnier Architects **LEFT** Rendering of new cafe on the third floor Kohn Shnier Architects



part of U of T's life," said Cadario. "And with the learning and debate, and hopefully people changing their mind due to what they learned or heard at the Conference Centre, I think that's just wonderful."

Victoria Kourtis of UC Lit, in her fourth year of Environmental Studies, cheered the increased accessibility. "As past [organizer] of Fireball, the annual student formal, it's really nice to know all our students are going to be able to attend our events," Kourtis declared.

With state-of-the-art technology, top-notch design that honours the past and works for all students, it would seem this beloved 19<sup>th</sup> century building has a bright future in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and beyond.

## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT MILESTONES

**1859**

UC opens its doors

**1890**

Fire destroys south and east wings of UC

**1892**

Through the efforts of alumni and other supporters, UC is rebuilt

**1964**

The Laidlaw (north) wing opens, and the Quad is created

**1970s**

UC undergoes a major renovation, led by architect Eric Arthur

**2013**

Edmund and Frances Clark provide funding for the Clark Reading Room

**2015**

Paul Cadario provides a gift to create the Paul Cadario Conference Centre at Croft Chapter house

**2016**

UC students vote to increase their ancillary fees toward improving student spaces around the College

**2017**

Edmund and Frances Clark make a gift to refurbish the UC Quadrangle

**2018**

Construction starts

**2019**

Estimated interior project completion

**2020**

Estimated UC Quadrangle completion

# THANK YOU

for Coming  
Together for UC

The University College Revitalization is possible thanks to you, our alumni and friends. The entire UC community rallied behind this project, with more than 400 individuals donating a total of \$7 million. Special thanks to our lead donors, below, who each generously gave more than \$25,000.

Betty and Chris Wansbrough Family Foundation at the Toronto Community Foundation

Diana Bennett and Spencer Lanthier

Paul Cadario

John and Vera Chau

Frances and Edmund Clark

Jim and Cindy Coccimiglio

Michael B. Cruickshank in memory of

Mimi Gould-Cruickshank

Robert and Ellen Eisenberg

Joseph Heath

Victoria Hurliey

Eva Klein and Leonard Waverman

H. Ian and Dorothy Macdonald

Frederick Marker

Donald I. McCaw

Leslie A. Noble

Paul Rainsberry

Joan R. Randall

John A. Rothschild

Robert D. Sloan

Ho K. Sung

Richard S. White

Rose Wolfe

# SNAP SHOT

On December 7, 2017, over 250 members of the University College community gathered for the highly anticipated UC Revitalization launch, and to recognize lead donors who have made the project possible. The celebratory event, cohosted by UC Principal Donald Ainslie, U of T Chancellor Michael Wilson, and U of T President Meric Gertler marked the beginning of an exciting new era in the College's history.



**BACK ROW** U of T VP Advancement David Palmer, lead donors Frances Clark, Edmund Clark and Paul Cadario, U of T Chancellor Michael Wilson. **FRONT ROW** U of T President Meric Gertler, UC Lit VP Victoria Kourtis, UC Lit President Albert Hoang, UC Principal Donald Ainslie



Lead donors Edmund and Frances Clark, and UC Lit Vice President Victoria Kourtis



Dean of Forestry Robert Wright and UC Alumni Association Chair Ho K. Sung (BSc 1980 UC)



UC Lit Vice President Victoria Kourtis, Kerrie Stambler (BA 2016 UC), students Delrina Nguyen, and Dede Akolo



Fang Zhang (R), Drama Centre Professors (L-R) Antje Budde, Tamara Trojanowska and Pia Kleber.



UC Lit President Albert Hoang and lead donor Paul Cadario



U of T Chancellor Michael Wilson and UC Principal Donald Ainslie



Daniel Gordon, Paul Cadario, U of T President Meric Gertler



UC students



Karin Macpherson (BA 1979 UC) and Thomas Tampold



Current UC Principal Donald Ainslie and former UC Principal Paul Perron



UC Librarian Margaret Fulford and Professor Jeffrey Rosenthal (BSc 1988 UC)



Sharda Angl (BSc 2010 UC), Kendra Knoll (BA 2010 UC), Arman Hamidian (BA 2010 UC) and Dishan Wijesinghe (BSc 2008 UC)



Students Daman Singh and Kaitlyn Ferreira



Balloons drop from the ceiling to celebrate



UC Principal Donald Ainslie



Laboni Islam (BA 2002 UC) and Ann Sutton (BA 1958 UC)



UC Lit Vice President Victoria Kourtis, Kerrie Stambler (BA 2016 UC), and student Mahzeb Ashraf



Ruth Baumal Muskat (BA 1961 UC) and Esta Pomotov (BA 1961 UC)



Carol Nash (BA 1980 UC)



UC Lit Vice President and President Victoria Kourtis and Albert Hoang



Students Sara Mandia and Sameer Rai



Michael Cruickshank (BA 1964 UC) and UC Principal Donald Ainslie



UC Principal Donald Ainslie, Daniel Gordon, lead donor Paul Cadario, U of T President Meric Gertler, and U of T Chancellor Michael Wilson

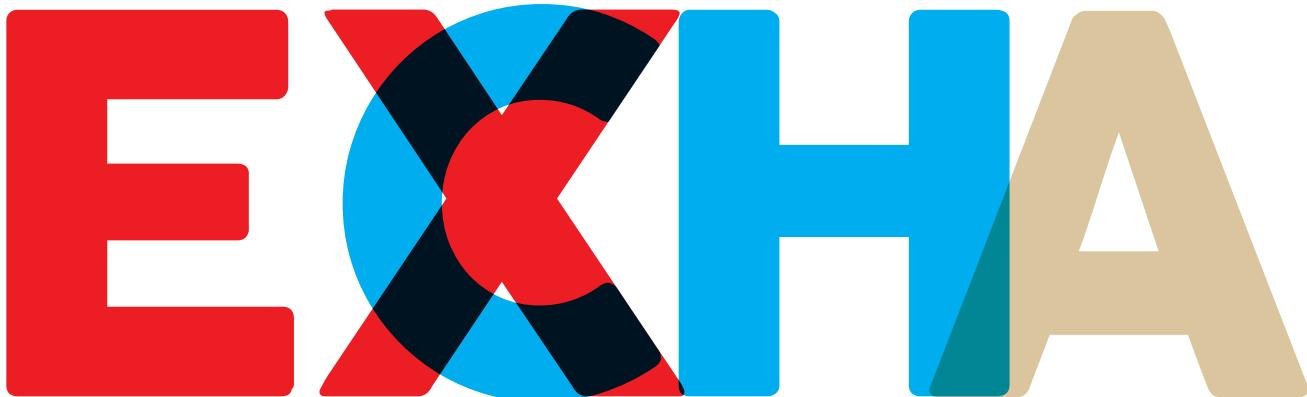


Students Moesha Smith, Tua Hytonen and Aster Gerard

WITH A DONOR'S HELP,  
AN INNOVATIVE NEW  
COURSE ENLIGHTENS  
STUDENTS TO  
INDIGENOUS HEALTH  
AND HEALING IN THE  
SIX NATIONS

## A MEANINGFUL

BY TRACY HOWARD



**A** law firm in downtown Toronto may not seem the most poetic setting for students to share their profound experiences from a trip to the Six Nations of the Grand River reserve. But the venue's logic becomes clear when considering that Cathy Lace, the lawyer with whom the students met this past January, helped to fund the five-day excursion, which was part of a new third-year course, Indigenous Health and Healing in the Six Nations: Experiential Learning and Dialogue—a joint offering between University College's Health Studies program and the Centre for Indigenous Studies.

Lace made the gift to honour her late mother, Barbara Lynne (Caldwell) Lace (BA 1936 UC), who passed away in 2014 at age 98. Beyond

donating to her mother's alma mater, Lace, who practises labour, human rights and equity law, explained she was drawn to Health Studies because her mother had been very interested in women's interaction with the health system.

Additionally, Lace said the gift dovetailed with her own interests in social justice and Indigenous issues.

"I think the situation of Indigenous people in Canada is one of the most important issues that our generation has to address," she said.

Lace has spent her career advancing equity issues and is a leader in the field of pay equity law. She was the first female partner at her firm, Goldblatt Partners LLP (formerly Sack Goldblatt Mitchell LLP), and led the development of progressive maternity leave policies to help keep younger women in the profession. (The firm is also focused on social justice work and has an Aboriginal law group.)

Cornhusk doll being created by a student under the guidance of Mohawk artist Elizabeth Doxtater. Image credit Krista Montgomery

# NCF

"I THINK THE SITUATION OF  
INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN  
CANADA IS ONE OF THE MOST  
IMPORTANT ISSUES THAT OUR  
GENERATION HAS TO ADDRESS."



An on-campus memorial to honour missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and two-spirit people, designed and constructed by U of T Engineering students to mark the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

Image credit Sarah Wakefield



During the meeting with Lace, Professor Sarah Wakefield, director of UC's Health Studies program, explained that the purpose of the course was to introduce Indigenous concepts of health, including perceptions of what makes people healthy.

Additional goals were to connect Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth and raise awareness about how health challenges faced by First Nations communities are ingrained in structural issues, such as the relationship between Canadian institutions and Indigenous peoples.

Twelve students from Health Studies and Indigenous Studies—equally divided between Indigenous and non-Indigenous backgrounds—participated in the course.

Six Nations of the Grand River is made up of Mohawk, Oneida, Cayuga, Seneca, Onondaga and Tuscarora nations. The most populous First Nation in Canada, it's located approximately 25 kilometres southwest of Hamilton, Ontario, between Brantford, Caledonia and Hagersville.

"It isn't something that's up North, only accessible by a \$2,000 plane ride," said Stephen Pepler, a student specializing in Indigenous Studies. "It made me think how, in my mind, a lot of Indigenous communities are removed from my own space, and so when I went there, I thought 'this isn't some faraway place.'"

The excursion, which took place during the November 2017 reading week, was planned in partnership with Canadian Roots Exchange (CRE), a national charitable organization of Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth. CRE creates exchanges



Temporary sweatlodge built by Rodger Hill and his sons.  
Image credit Krista Montgomery

and other programming to help bridge the gap between Canada's peoples.

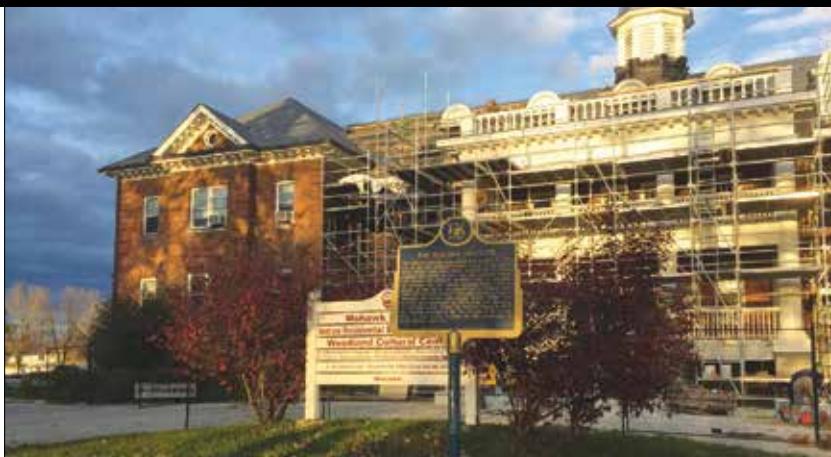
The CRE was established in 2008, or as Co-Executive Director Max Fineday says, "longer than reconciliation has been sexy."

Prior to the trip, Fineday who's from the Sweetgrass First Nation in Saskatchewan, discussed with the students reconciliation within a national-framework and a historical context, providing references from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The intent was to inform students "so they go into the community with a good understanding of the past of the country, the challenges, the difficulties," explained Fineday. "But they also come into it with an understanding of their roles and responsibilities as non-Indigenous or Indigenous people to advance the cause of reconciliation."

Fineday's colleague Leslie VanEvery, a program coordinator at CRE, is

**Exterior of the Mohawk Institute residential school (a.k.a. "the Mush Hole"), being restored as part of the Woodland Cultural Centre's "Save the Evidence" campaign.**

Image credit Krista Montgomery



Haudenosaunee from Six Nations. She tapped into her background and personal connections to facilitate much of the exchange.

VanEvery took a broad view of the wellness theme. She included traditional Indigenous healing practices like visiting a sweat lodge, but also organized a social, a session on making corn husk dolls, and playing lacrosse in Kana:ta Village.

"In Six Nations, there's a lot of ways to be healthy," she said. "I chose Lacrosse because it's a medicine game, and we learned it also helps to keep you fit, and a long time ago it helped keep you agile so you could hunt and do everything you needed to do."

Mohawk-language lessons also expanded the wellness theme, as re-learning traditional language is seen as a healing practice among Indigenous people, who were often forced to abandon their language during the residential-schools era.

During the exchange, students saw the Brantford's Mohawk Institute residential school, but only from the outside—it's being renovated into a memorial centre. However, speakers and community members spontaneously shared their stories about the cruelty and neglect children were exposed to and the legacy of that trauma on subsequent generations.

Dayna Towers, an Indigenous Studies minor, discussed the impact of the survivors' stories. "It's shocking to hear it from a person and not just read it in a book," she stated. "We learned about how they are trying to incorporate culture into healing because so many have lost their cultural identity, and how hard it must be. But to see how

## **"I EXPECTED TO COME HERE AND LEARN ABOUT INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CANADA AND ABOUT THE SIX NATIONS, BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT TO LEARN SO MUCH ABOUT MYSELF."**

hard they work with their community to try and take care of themselves was really inspiring."

The students clearly felt honoured by the sharing of sensitive memories. "I felt like I should put on my best listening," said Pepler.

But they also expressed concern that some of the traditional practices, such as the Thanksgiving Address or starting the day with a Good Mind, may be misunderstood.

"My biggest fear would be for what we learned to be represented as some kind of mystical ceremony," declared Isabel Carlin, also in Indigenous Studies. "It's just as much medicine as getting an IV drip, it's got very real implications for all aspects of health."

Students appreciated the generosity of the wide variety of presenters and their willingness to share their time, including Six Nations Chief Ava Hill and her senior administrators in health and social services.

Another highlight was visiting Ogwadeni:deo ("Taking Care of Our Own"), a Six Nations organization that has recently received designation to provide its own child welfare for the community. VanEvery explained that Ogwadeni:deo's vision is to keep children with family or extended

family whenever possible. She advised that the organization's coordinator distilled the 12 weeks of cultural training normally provided to alternative caregivers into a half-day session for the students.

Wakefield told Lace that her support helped pay for these activities as well as remunerate the Elders and other presenters for their time.

While the students agreed that the full and emotional week was fatiguing, they heartily recommended the course. "It was such a transformative week," said Carlin.

Wakefield shared that in both the written reflections that were part of the course work and in general comments, she repeatedly heard: "I expected to come here and learn about Indigenous People and Canada and about the Six Nations, but I didn't expect to learn so much about myself."

Lace seemed moved by what her gift helped create. "What was poignant was those lessons of listening, and understanding, and questioning, and respecting, really materialized," she related. "And those things the students learned will help them not only with their studies of Indigenous people and healthcare for Indigenous people, but in life in general. It was pretty powerful."

BY NELSON WISEMAN  
PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND DIRECTOR OF THE  
CANADIAN STUDIES PROGRAM AT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

# ONTARIO'S COMING ELECTION

Predicting election outcomes is a mug's game; one is likely to be wrong. Think back to the 2015 federal election. The polls and the pundits had the NDP leading and the Liberals a distant third when the election was called. We know what happened: 36 days later on election night Justin Trudeau's Liberals swept into office with a commanding majority and the NDP lost more than half its seats, relegated to a weak third place.

As this is read in late spring (but written in February in the aftermath of Patrick Brown's

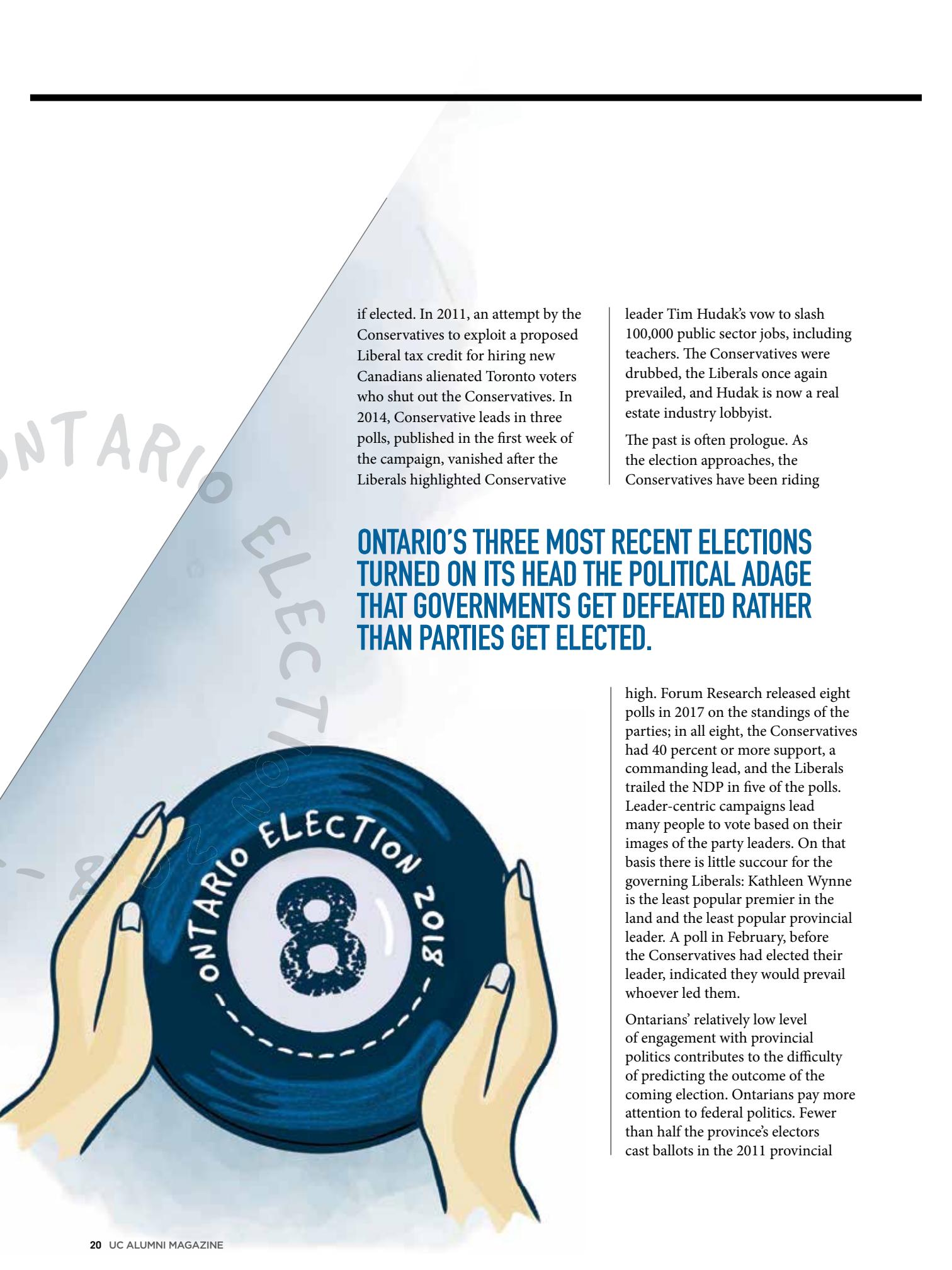
resignation as the Conservative leader and before the party elects its leader), Ontario's election of June 7 is but weeks away. There are indications that the Conservatives will prevail but the last three Ontario elections, like the 2015 federal contest, remind us that election campaigns can be unpredictable affairs; it would be foolish to predict the outcome and the issues that will drive the coming election beyond suggesting some likely scenarios: the NDP will run third (it usually does), the Greens will fail to win a seat (they never have), no Independents will be elected (only one has been in our lifetimes), and the other 13 parties registered with Elections Ontario—they include the Vegan



Environmental Party, the None of the Above Party, the Equal Parenting Party, and the Stop the New Sex-Ed Agenda Party—will leave no mark beyond appearing on some ballots.

Prognosis requires diagnosis and here history may be instructive. Ontario's three most recent elections turned on its head the political adage that governments get defeated rather than parties get elected. In those contests, the opposition Conservatives defeated themselves. As evidence of the Liberals' vulnerability in 2007, the Liberals had lost 8 of the 10 by-elections held since the 2003 election that had brought them to power, some in seats

they had won with commanding majorities. If the Liberals were to be re-elected, it seemed they could only hope to eke out a minority. Admitting weakness, Premier Dalton McGuinty mused that he could live with such a result. However, Conservative leader John Tory's proposal to extend public funding to all religious schools proved toxic to his party, rescuing the flailing Liberals. They turned Tory's position against him, knowing much of the public and some members of his caucus found his proposal unpalatable. Implicitly admitting defeat even before election day Tory changed his position, promising a free vote on the issue



if elected. In 2011, an attempt by the Conservatives to exploit a proposed Liberal tax credit for hiring new Canadians alienated Toronto voters who shut out the Conservatives. In 2014, Conservative leads in three polls, published in the first week of the campaign, vanished after the Liberals highlighted Conservative

leader Tim Hudak's vow to slash 100,000 public sector jobs, including teachers. The Conservatives were drubbed, the Liberals once again prevailed, and Hudak is now a real estate industry lobbyist.

The past is often prologue. As the election approaches, the Conservatives have been riding

## ONTARIO'S THREE MOST RECENT ELECTIONS TURNED ON ITS HEAD THE POLITICAL ADAGE THAT GOVERNMENTS GET DEFEATED RATHER THAN PARTIES GET ELECTED.

high. Forum Research released eight polls in 2017 on the standings of the parties; in all eight, the Conservatives had 40 percent or more support, a commanding lead, and the Liberals trailed the NDP in five of the polls. Leader-centric campaigns lead many people to vote based on their images of the party leaders. On that basis there is little succour for the governing Liberals: Kathleen Wynne is the least popular premier in the land and the least popular provincial leader. A poll in February, before the Conservatives had elected their leader, indicated they would prevail whoever led them.

Ontarians' relatively low level of engagement with provincial politics contributes to the difficulty of predicting the outcome of the coming election. Ontarians pay more attention to federal politics. Fewer than half the province's electors cast ballots in the 2011 provincial

election but over two-thirds voted in the 2015 federal election. A *Globe and Mail* reader can go for weeks if not months without encountering in its pages the name of an Ontario backbench MPP. This is inconceivable in the newspapers of other provinces. Furthermore, compared to residents of the other provinces, Ontarians

of their policies including energy and electricity prices.

Controversies have also hounded the Conservatives. Complaints of interference in more than a dozen party nomination meetings and alleged breaches of the party's rules sparked mass resignations from a number of Conservative

leaders' debate will be pivotal to the party's fortunes.

What role will the NDP play in the June election? Unlikely to win or become the official opposition, the party may nevertheless gain powerful leverage. Its most realistic hope is to hold the balance of power in a minority government

## A *GLOBE AND MAIL* READER CAN GO FOR WEEKS IF NOT MONTHS WITHOUT ENCOUNTERING IN ITS PAGES THE NAME OF AN ONTARIO BACKBENCH MPP. THIS IS INCONCEIVABLE IN THE NEWSPAPERS OF OTHER PROVINCES.

are less likely to know or meet their MPP, since an Ontario MPP currently represents an average of 133,000 people, more by far than in any other province. In contrast, a Quebec MNA represents an average of 65,300 people, an Alberta MLA 49,000, a New Brunswick MLA only 15,000.

Various investigations by the Ontario Provincial Police have tarnished the provincial Liberal brand. Since the police are much more popular than politicians, when voters hear of the police investigating a political party or the government, many conclude there must be malfeasance. Police probes and in some cases charges related to the deletion of e-mails surrounding the gas plants boondoggle, the ORNGE air ambulance scandal, the Liberal nomination fiasco in a Sudbury by-election, and the deletion of documents related to a wind power company, have wounded the governing Liberals. So too have some

riding associations. However, the Conservatives are not the government and to most people such kerfuffles are the party's, not the public's, business. There is good reason for the Conservatives to be upbeat. The party said it signed up 17,000 members for a nomination contest in one constituency alone, Mississauga – Malton. According to one party official, the party counted only 12,000 members in the whole province a few years ago. Brown claimed the party had over 200,000 members, a number that proved to be fraudulent.

Allegations of Brown's and Conservative party president Rick Dykstra's sexual misbehaviour led poll respondents to say they were still more likely to vote Conservative than to vote Liberal. How the Conservative leader whoever it may be conducts himself or herself on the hustings and in the televised

situation. Leader Andrea Horwath is liked by the public but her party is often a victim of strategic voting. Many, including labour unionists whose sympathies are with the NDP, often vote Liberal for fear of a Conservative victory. (There are of course exceptions to any generalization: Brown's father twice ran unsuccessfully for the NDP).

As the 2018 Ontario election begins to take shape the Liberals are embattled, the Conservatives are best-positioned despite their setbacks, and the NDP is drifting. Ontario, compared to other provinces, is relatively easy to govern. It is wealthy, unlike Atlantic Canada's beseeching supplicant governments, and it does not experience the resource-dependent boom and bust cycles of the Western provinces. Of course, Ontario has also managed to avoid the type of never-ending identity debate that has plagued Quebec.

COGNITIVE SCIENCE  
GIVES STUDENTS A TASTE  
OF COMPUTER SCIENCE,  
LINGUISTICS, PHILOSOPHY,  
AND PSYCHOLOGY—AND  
THE CHANCE TO BUILD  
LEGO ROBOTS

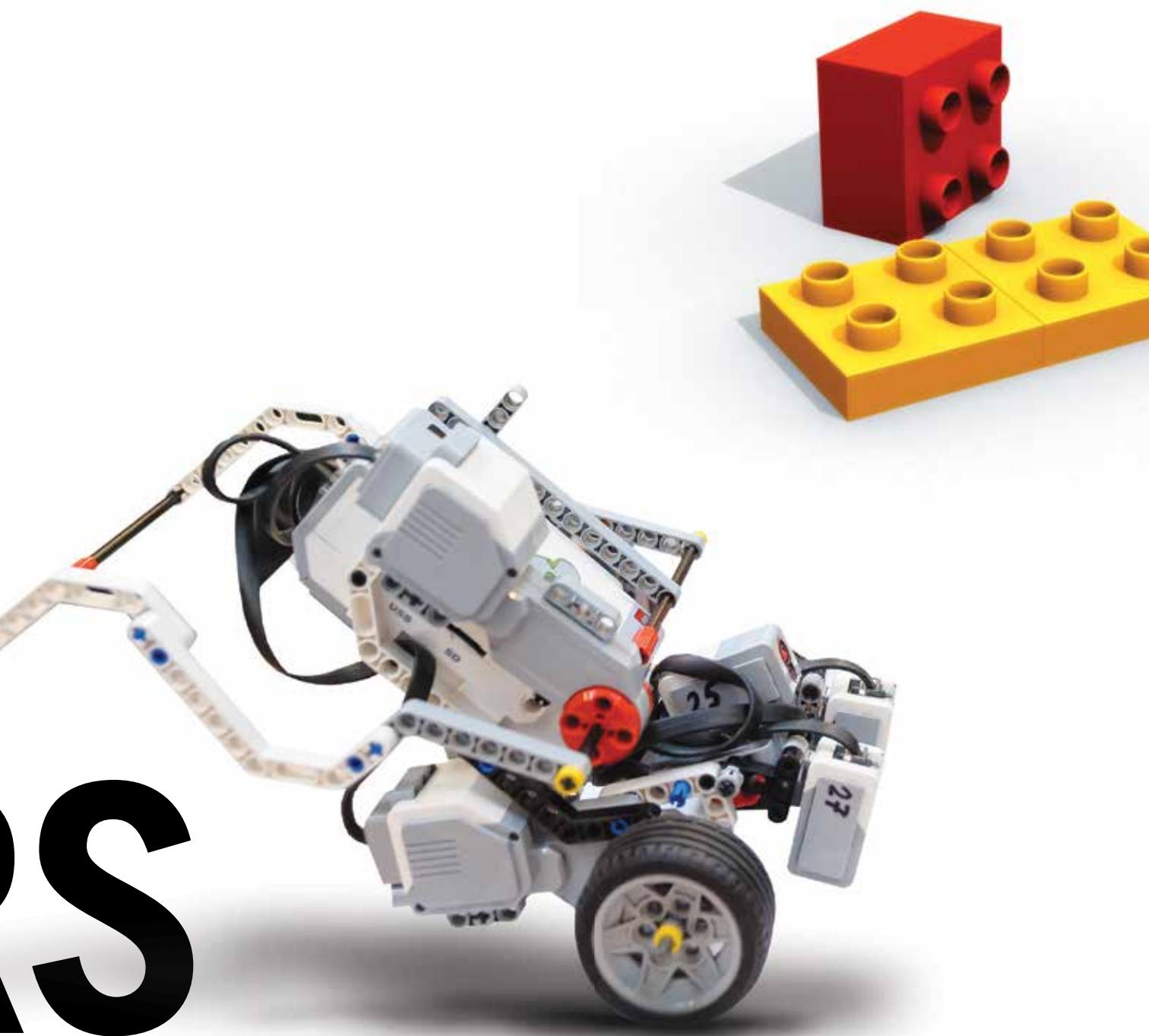
BY DAN FALK

# MIND MATTER



**Y**es, the robots are made of Lego—but they're more than mere toys. Every spring, students enrolled in the course Issues in Cognitive Science II, work with Lego Mindstorms EV3 robots, miniature rovers whose sensors allow them to discern light and colour, and judge shapes and distances; the students get the bots to follow tracks, avoid obstacles, and even play soccer (or at least tend goal). For the students, it's a chance to investigate the nuts and bolts of perception, pattern recognition, mental representation, and more. These are issues that they've studied in the classroom, and now they get to see how they work in the real world, explains the course instructor, Professor James John, who also teaches in the Philosophy Department.

# rs



"I thought that would be a really cool thing to do, to teach a course on foundational issues in cognitive science, where there's a lab component in which the students have to tackle robotics assignments that deal with the foundational issues covered in the course," he says.

The combination of hands-on learning and comprehensive exploration of theoretical issues is just part of the reason that students are flocking to the Cognitive Science program (with about 360 students currently enrolled, the program is the College's largest). The program's popularity also parallels the explosion of interest in closely related technologies, like machine learning and artificial

intelligence, which seem to be in the headlines almost daily. Toronto is poised to play a key role in the next phase of AI research, with the city hosting the newly-created Vector Institute for Artificial Intelligence. University Professor Emeritus Geoffrey Hinton, a UC Emeritus faculty member, is the Institute's Chief Scientific Advisor, while Ed Clark, a UC graduate (BA 1969) is Chair of the Board of Directors. There's also a renewed scientific interest in the key questions posed by cognitive scientists—questions about the workings of the mind and the brain that have engaged philosophers since at least the time of Plato, but which have sparked rigorous scientific examination only in the last few decades.



**TOP** students Oksan Sokoloski, Jida Jaffan and Blair Bouchard **MIDDLE** students Kristina Knox and Jida Jaffan (sitting) **BOTTOM** student Shaila Sardar Image credit Yvonne Palkowski

The Cognitive Science program started in 1983 as an interdisciplinary effort in partnership with four key U of T stakeholder departments—Psychology, Philosophy, Linguistics, and Computer Science. There have been occasional hurdles; for several years the College

wasn't able to support the program, and it functioned as a stand-alone entity within the Faculty of Arts & Science. Then, in 2013, the College renewed its commitment to the program, with new courses and a new financing structure. The program now

boasts a flexibility that lets students enroll in either of two streams, as science majors or as arts majors.

Ana Pérez-Leroux, a professor in the Department of Linguistics, noticed that there's something special about the college's cognitive science students even before she took over as the program's director in 2014. A decade earlier, she sat in on a conference organized by Cog Sci undergraduates, which she remembers as "very exciting"; the students "wanted to argue; they had such a sharp understanding of the issues." (Every second year, cognitive science students organize a major conference, the University of Toronto International Symposium on the Mind, as well as an undergraduate symposium, "Confluence.") Pérez-Leroux had another chance to see what the program was all about when her son, Michel, enrolled; he often invited her to sit in on his classes. "Because of its interdisciplinary nature, students who might not be a perfect fit in a more specialized field can flourish in Cognitive Science," she says. As the program's website puts it, students "are encouraged to excel in the field's traditional sub-disciplines: they learn how to program like computer scientists, analyze language like linguists, argue like philosophers, and research like psychologists." (They get to do a bit of everything in their second year, when they take, the compulsory—and very popular—Introduction to Cognitive Science course, taught by Professor John Vervaeke, who is cross-appointed to the Department of Psychology.)

Students in cognitive science tend to be "connectors," Pérez-Leroux says—"people who see something in one area, and want to connect the lines." Sometimes they've taken classes in neuroscience, but seek a broader understanding of mind and thought; sometimes they've had classes in philosophy, but want to try approaches more rigorously rooted in measurement



and experiment; sometimes they've had a class in linguistics, but want to learn how machines process language. Above all, Perez-Leroux says, the students are driven by curiosity: "they're serious about these questions." Adds Professor John: "What hooks them, I think, is this interest in thinking about what mind and thought and consciousness are, and how mind and thought and consciousness relate to the physical world."

For students, the interdisciplinary nature of cognitive science—as well as the way it allows for hands-on approaches to deep and difficult problems—is a huge part of the program's appeal. "The Cognitive Science program is unique in the widespread, genuine enthusiasm that the students have for their studies," says current student Alex Fung. "This is because we aren't just being taught about others' work in Cog Sci; we're given the opportunity to do that work for ourselves." Another student, Sarah Thickett, adds: "The Cognitive Science program seems to cultivate a natural curiosity and intrinsic motivation in the students. This is largely because of the accessibility of the instructors and to the extent in which they encourage their students. Moreover, students also play a massive role in inspiring other students."

Perez-Leroux traces her own interest in cognitive science back to her childhood in the Dominican Republic. When she was in kindergarten or first grade, a teacher mentioned that children in China don't speak Spanish—they speak Chinese. She remembers being shocked by this revelation. "I was really worried about these Chinese kids," she recalls, figuring that they would have to learn Spanish in order to be understood. (As she imagined language to work, "Spanish was automatic, and other languages had to be learned.") Ever since then, she's been fascinated by the relationship between language and thought. And she's hardly alone: Computer science pioneer Alan Turing, in a famous

paper in 1950, developed what he called the "imitation game" (we now call it the Turing test) as a probe for machine intelligence. As Turing saw it, the question "can a machine think?" was too ill-defined to be useful; a better approach would be to simply try to have a conversation with a machine. Language is, of course, fundamental to our experience as human beings; but it is also cognitively demanding—so much so, Turing argued, that a machine that masters language deserves to be considered intelligent. Meanwhile, computer scientists have struggled for decades with "natural language processing"—the automated conversion of spoken language to text (or vice versa), and automated translation from one language to another. For years, little progress was made; now such systems are finally beginning to rival human translators, thanks to breakthroughs in neural network engineering and ever-increasing computer processing power. Professor Yang Xu, a new hire cross-appointed to University College and Computer Science, shares Perez-Leroux's interest in language; one of his areas of research looks at how the meanings of words can change over time, and how the same idea can be expressed in different languages. He also aims to bring a renewed focus on computational methods in his cognitive science teaching. "I want to bring computational thinking and computational approaches to human cognition, primarily using tools from machine learning," he says.

Ever since the computer revolution got underway some 75 years ago, people have speculated on the relationship between machines and minds. Does the human mind function like a computer? In some ways, perhaps, but the analogy has always sparked controversy. For many decades, scientists leaned toward the "computational theory of mind." The idea "that the mind functions in something like the way a digital

computer functions," Professor John says. Later, in the 80s and 90s, this gave way to so-called "connectionist" theories inspired by the study of neural networks. In this view, instead of comparing the brain to a digital computer, mental processes can be thought of as a "massively parallel, sort of brain-like networks, processing information in a distributed way," he says. That view has seen a resurgence in recent years, with the work of Hinton and his colleagues. Other researchers, meanwhile, have focused on "embodied cognition," looking at the relationship between minds and their physical environments (something that the young roboticists in the course Issues in Cognitive Science II get to take a close look at).

And yet, says John, many questions remain. Part of the challenge of cognitive science, he says, is that it forces the mind to turn inward. While astronomers and microbiologists study the far away or the very small, cognitive scientists have to make sense of... well, making sense. "The fact that it's through consciousness that we are investigating our own consciousness—that poses methodological problems and puzzles," he says. No wonder that someone trained in philosophy, like Professor John, finds the problems of cognitive science compelling: some of the questions he and his colleagues tackle have challenged the world since the scientific revolution of the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

"To what extent is mind, or consciousness, reducible to the kinds of things that physics describes? Or is there some element in mind, in consciousness, that is fundamental, that is not otherwise reducible?"

Those are deep questions, and the answers may not become fully clear in a few years or even a few decades. But the eager young thinkers who make their way through the Cognitive Science program are more than willing to have a go at them.

BY SHELDON GORDON

# ATTORNEY *to the* STARS

HOLLYWOOD LAWYER BILL SOBEL  
HAS A LONG LIST OF A-LIST CLIENTS

**W**ell before Harvey Weinstein was publicly branded the personification of sexual harassment in Hollywood, entertainment lawyer Bill Sobel (BA 1984 UC) had butted heads with the high-profile movie executive. “I would say ‘no’ to Weinstein [in representing clients] when he wanted things in business that I didn’t think were appropriate. He didn’t like to hear the word ‘no.’ But I stand up to bullies.”

Actor Mickey Rourke was urged to fire Sobel as his lawyer if he ever wished

to work for Weinstein again. Rourke refused. When Rourke spoke at his Hollywood Walk of Fame hand-print ceremony in 2011, he thanked Sobel for helping him with his movie career and added: “I love him to death. And Harvey Weinstein hates his guts.”

William (Bill) Sobel, 59, negotiates contracts for many of the biggest names in music, movies, and television. He has been “repping” talent since 1986, when he joined the entertainment-law boutique now known as Laird & Sobel. “I’m a lawyer but my job isn’t just giving advice,” he explains. “People call me a manager, a producer.... Often I give advice and then I make the decision. It’s not

classic lawyering.”

Sobel is, in effect, the CEO of a number of closely-held companies centered around his famous clients. “I create value for people who are busy being passionate about their creative craft,” he says. “I always put my name last, but the whole thing begins and ends with what I do in putting projects together.”

What he doesn’t have to do is raise money for his clients’ show-biz projects. “Whether it’s a studio or other institution that wants to touch my clients, the money is freely flowing, so I don’t have to go search for it,” says Sobel. “When you represent career long ‘one-name clients’—artists



Bill Sobel in The Voice Chair

# "UNIVERSITY COLLEGE GAVE ME AN EXPERIENCE AND A BACKGROUND THAT LET ME PURSUE MY DREAMS AND REALLY HELPED DETERMINE WHO I AM TODAY."

who are known by one name such as Miley (Cyrus), Dolly (Parton), Bette (Midler), or Whoopi (Goldberg)—everybody comes to you, you don't have to go to them."

Over the years, Sobel has repped rock and roll pioneer Little Richard, Michael Jackson's tours, Bon Jovi, and Prince, as well as film director Martin Scorsese and hockey great Gordie Howe. Current long-term clients include Julianne Moore, Salma Hayek, Don Johnson, and Jason Momoa (star of the 2018 Warner Bros. feature film superhero tentpole *Aquaman*).

Sobel negotiated for Goldberg to be the highest paid film actress in Hollywood in the mid-1990s. For Haley Joel Osment, who has been Sobel's client since age six, he negotiated the then-highest acting fee ever for a minor when Osment starred in Steven Spielberg's *A.I. Artificial Intelligence* in 2001. For Dakota Johnson, he negotiated the three-picture deal around *Fifty Shades of Grey*.

Sobel's roots are in Willowdale. He enrolled at UC because his mother was an alumna. "I was devoted to my studies," he recalls. "University College gave me an experience and a background that let me pursue

my dreams and really helped determine who I am today." Before even completing his BA, he was accepted at Osgoode Hall Law School. He alternated semesters between Osgoode Hall and University of Southern California Law School in Los Angeles, where his brother was working as a director.

Although licensed to practice in both Ontario and California, he decided to stay in LA, where he was gaining the kind of experience he wouldn't have in Ontario. He got his big break when a former Osgoode Hall law professor gave him an internship at Wyman, Bautzer which was then the pre-eminent LA entertainment law firm. "Whereas in Toronto you would have to wait until later in life to handle exciting cases, in Los Angeles, a fresh 24-year-old lawyer would be handling the biggest files imaginable. It was unbelievable."

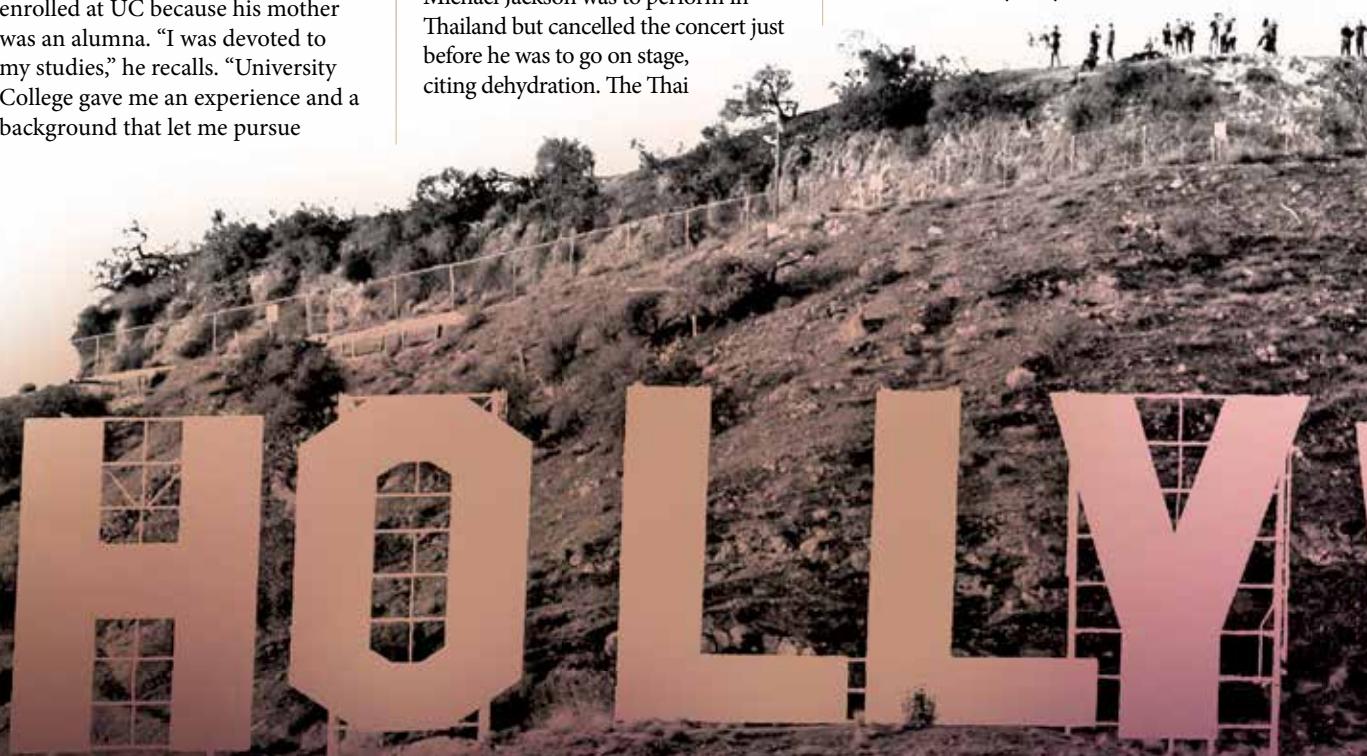
Sobel has had a career full of memorable experiences. In 1993, Michael Jackson was to perform in Thailand but cancelled the concert just before he was to go on stage, citing dehydration. The Thai

government confiscated the passports of the entire crew, forbidding everyone from leaving the country until Jackson performed.

Sobel was at his home at 11 p.m. LA time on three different phones simultaneously, speaking to artist management in LA and Thailand, the promoter in Thailand, and Thai authorities to try to sort out the dispute. "It was exhilarating to be the person trying to resolve a global issue," says Sobel. "Michael performed the next day and the passports were returned."

Last May, Sobel was called by the US Secret Service seeking to interrogate his client, comedian Kathy Griffin, after she was photographed holding a bloody, severed effigy of President Donald Trump's head. "I needed some time to consider the request, waited three days, and then hired a criminal lawyer," he says.

While the Secret Service investigation ended quickly, Griffin suffered immediate career repercussions. She hired TV-friendly lawyer Lisa Bloom



## "IN LOS ANGELES, A FRESH 24-YEAR-OLD LAWYER WOULD BE HANDLING THE BIGGEST FILES IMAGINABLE. IT WAS UNBELIEVABLE."

for damage control. After Griffin exacerbated the situation with a disastrous news conference, Bloom recommended a joint nationwide media tour to rehabilitate the comic's image.

Griffin later described how she vetoed Bloom's proposal on the advice of Sobel and her First Amendment lawyer during a contentious conference call with all of them. "In this situation, I didn't think a media tour was appropriate," says Sobel. "Sometimes, less is more."

Dealing with law enforcement is by no means a rarity in Sobel's practice. In 2009, he called in the FBI after receiving an email from a Michigan couple who were trying to extort \$680,000 from his client, actor and musician John Stamos, by threatening to sell compromising photos of Stamos to the tabloids.

"I pretended to negotiate with the extortionists while the FBI monitored the emails," recalls Sobel.

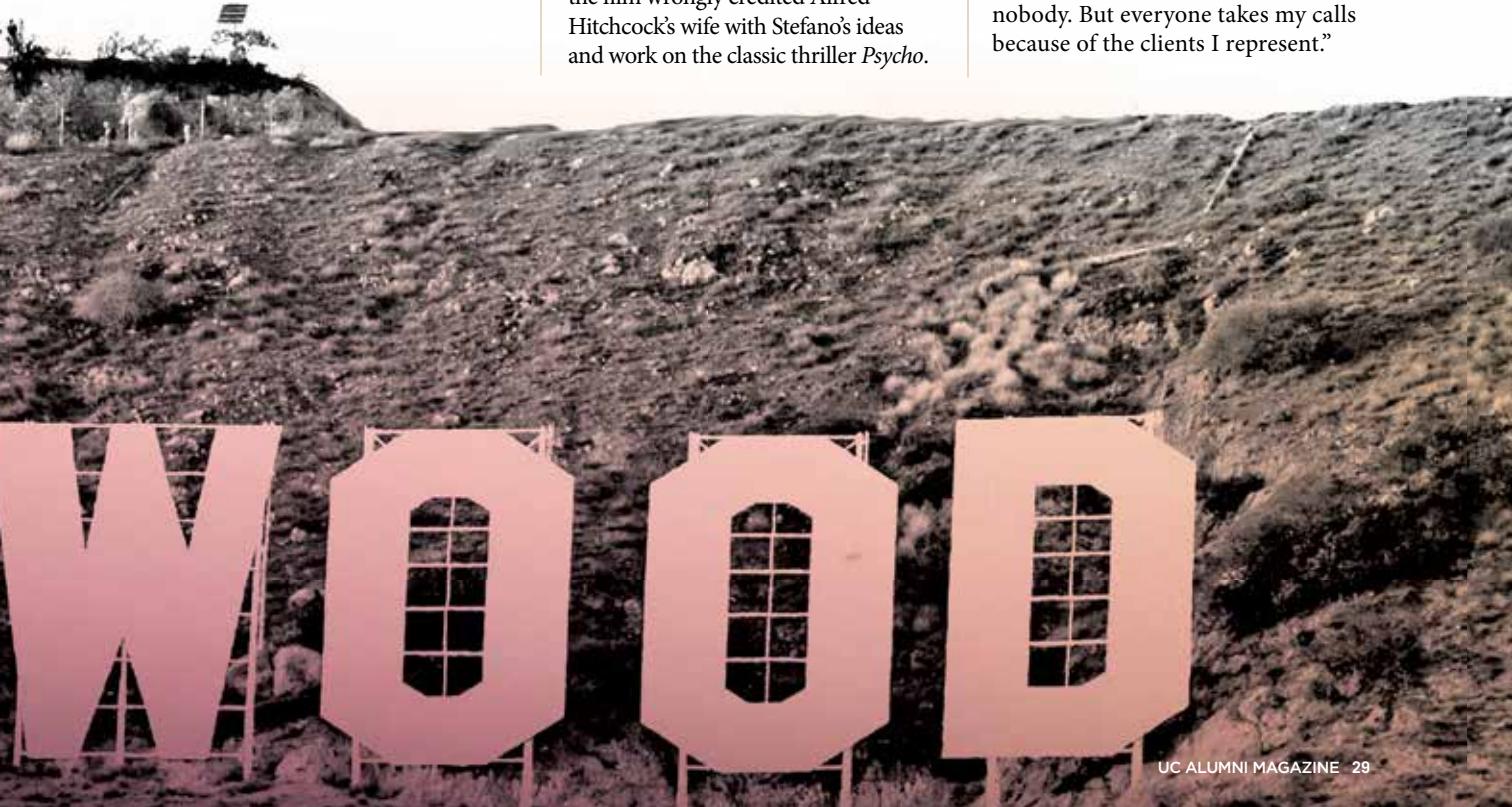
"I was ready to fly to Michigan to do the money drop. But the FBI sidelined me at the last minute and had an FBI agent pose as me." (The couple was convicted of extortion and served four years in prison.)

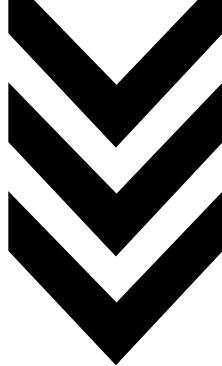
Working with Toronto-born client Howie Mandel also had its unusual moments. Mandel was interested in developing a television show around psychic medium George Anderson. So he and Sobel met with him to discuss the project; before long, Anderson turned the meeting into an impromptu séance, channeling Mandel's departed loved ones. "I was paranoid that Anderson was going to summon one of my relatives in the afterlife," says Sobel; "I didn't want to talk to anyone at that time."

Sobel has even protected the interests of clients who have passed on. He acted for the estate of screenwriter Joseph Stefano in settlement talks with Fox Searchlight Pictures over the depiction of Stefano in the 2012 bio-pic *Hitchcock*. Stefano's widow and son claimed the film wrongly credited Alfred Hitchcock's wife with Stefano's ideas and work on the classic thriller *Psycho*.

Sobel's job has its perks, too. Salma Hayek asked him to go to the Dominican Republic with her on a private jet sent by Sammy Sosa to celebrate the baseball slugger's 38<sup>th</sup> birthday. Gordie Howe invited him to attend the Winter Classic in Detroit between the Leafs and Red Wings on New Year's Day, 2014. He has travelled the world on concert tours with Miley Cyrus. And every April, he would go to Dollywood (Parton's family amusement park in Tennessee) and walk beside the car carrying Dolly in the opening day parade. "My sense of awe never ceases," he says. "My clients are the most fascinating people I know."

Not that their instant recognition has rubbed off on him. In various media photos taken by paparazzi, Sobel has often appeared at the side of female celebrities but identified only as the "mystery man," "male companion," or similar suggestive descriptions. "My wife laughs," says Sobel. He prefers the anonymity. "I'm a nobody. But everyone takes my calls because of the clients I represent."





IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO SAY

# THANK YOU

BY YVONNE PALKOWSKI

UC ALUMNUS TRACKS DOWN THE STAFF MEMBER WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE, NEARLY 30 YEARS LATER.

**W**hen Dave Cieslowski (BCom 1993 UC) was a first-year student at University College in 1988, he suffered a serious neck injury playing Varsity Blues

Football. Despite a long and intense recovery period, he was determined to complete all his courses, even if it meant repeating them the following year to improve his grades. But unbeknownst to him at the time, this had the opposite effect of lowering his GPA so that it was just shy of the cut-off for acceptance into the Commerce program.

Devastated, the aspiring accountant wrote a detailed letter explaining his circumstances and submitted it—along with supporting documentation from his doctors—to Tracy Wood, who worked for the Commerce program at the time. She carefully

reviewed his case and, after much deliberation, granted him entry into the program.

Fully recovered, Cieslowski excelled at his studies and became one of a handful of Commerce students hired for a summer job at a major accounting firm. That role led to a full-time position upon graduation, and eventually he became a Chartered Professional Accountant, passing the exams with flying colours and going on to earn a number of additional professional designations.

Throughout his successful career, Cieslowski never forgot Wood's gesture of faith in him. In fact, it inspired him to give back by helping students at the Rotman School of Management, which he has done for the past 10 years, and for which he was recognized with U of T's Arbor Award for volunteerism. And while he tried for years to locate Wood and personally thank her, his attempts were to no avail—until winning the award caused him to try once more.

## **"IT'S AMAZING HOW ONE EXPERIENCE CAN HAVE SUCH AN IMPACT ON ONE'S LIFE THAT THEY ALSO SEE THE NEED TO INVEST IN OTHERS— AND THAT'S WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT"**

This time, he contacted University College, where Wood had worked after her time at Commerce. "I want to let her know that, if later she ever happened to wonder if she made a mistake by accepting me, knowing how my career has transpired, she would feel she did the right thing," he wrote.

Within a matter of days, UC Principal Donald Ainslie had located Wood, who now works at the Faculty of Arts & Science Registrar's Office, and arranged for them to meet for lunch. It was an emotional reunion.

"I felt a bit overwhelmed that someone would take the time to share their experience after so many years," Wood says. "It's amazing how one experience can have such an impact on one's life that they also see the need to invest in others—and that's what it's all about."

When faced with cases like Cieslowski's, Wood says its her job to look carefully at the whole picture: "Being an administrator, one needs to take the time to evaluate a situation and recognize that life does happen and how can one make a difference."

For his part, Cieslowski says, "I owe everything to Tracy, because if she didn't have faith in me it would have been almost impossible for me to enter the CA profession without a BCom at that time." He remains forever grateful for her judgment.



NEWS FROM CLASSMATES NEAR AND FAR

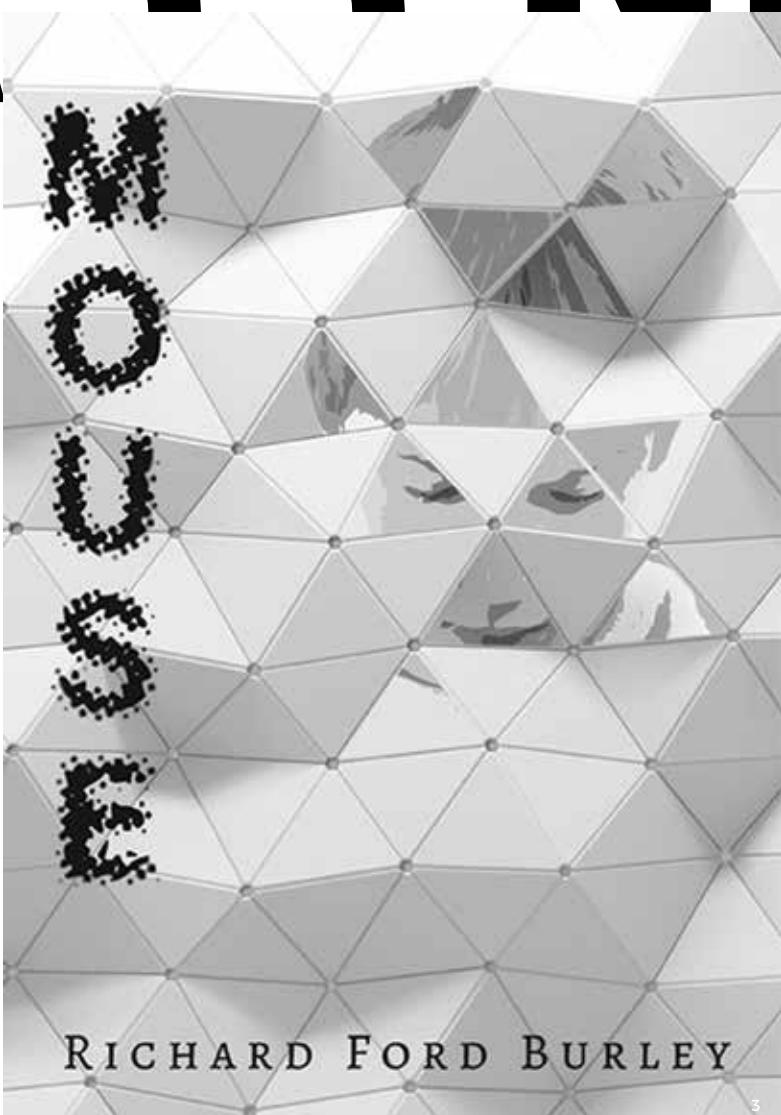
# CLASS NO'



**BRENDA ANDREWS** (BSc 1980 UC) was appointed to the Governing Council of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. She is a Professor of Molecular Genetics and Director of the Terrence Donnelly Centre for Cellular and Biomolecular Research at the University of Toronto.



Mining executive **CAROL BANDUCCI** (BCom 1982 UC) was named one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women 2017. She received the UC Alumni of Influence Award in 2016.



**MARK BONHAM** (BA 1983 UC), the patron and namesake of the Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies at University College, was named to the *Financial Times'* list of OUTstanding's Top 100 LGBT+ Executives. He received the UC Alumni of Influence Award in 2012.

**RICHARD FORD BURLEY** (BA 2007 UC) published *Mouse*, a novel about an autistic teen.

# TESTIMONIALS

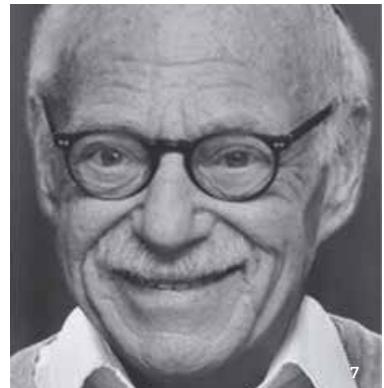
1 Brenda Andrews Image credit Calvin Thomas 2 Carol Banducci 3 Mouse Cover  
4 Heather Jamieson 5 Daniel Jay 6 Donald Ainslie and Naomi Klein Image credit Stephanie Coffey  
7 Shel Krakofsky 8 Chiling Lin



Dr. **HEATHER JAMIESON** (BSc 1976 UC) was recognized with the Peacock Medal from the Mineralogical Association of Canada, for her contributions to environmental mineralogy.



No Logo, the influential 1999 book on anti-branding by **NAOMI KLEIN** (1989 UC), was named to *The Guardian's* list of best nonfiction books of all time. She received the UC Alumni of Influence Award in 2017.



**SHEL KRAKOFSKY** (BA 1966 UC) published his fourth poetry collection, *Stanley Cup Seder* (Parchment Press, 2018).



**DANIEL JAY** (BSc 1979 UC), a Professor of Developmental, Molecular, and Chemical Biology at Tufts University, was appointed Dean of the Sackler School for Graduate Biomedical Sciences at Tufts.



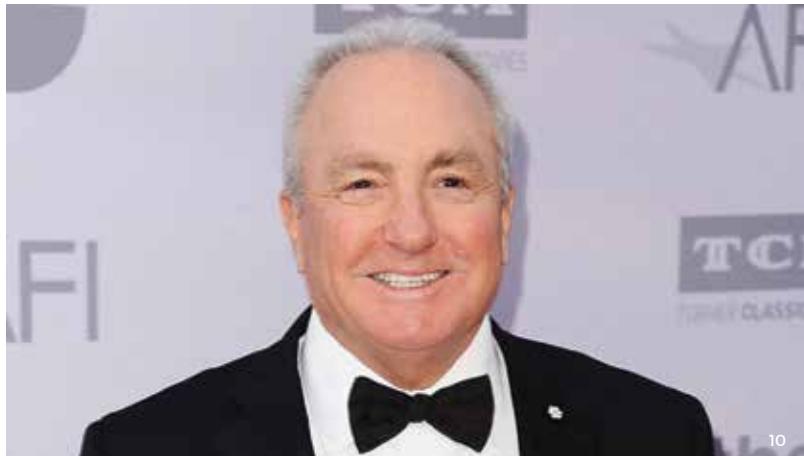
Taiwanese model **CHILING LIN** (BA 1997 UC) received the 2017 UC Alumni of Influence Award, but was unable to attend the gala. Instead, the award was delivered to her in Taiwan and she received it on what happened to be her birthday. Her response? A picture on her Facebook page with the message: "Thanks to my university that has given me the best birthday gift which allows me to continue to be a positive influence."

## NEWS FROM CLASSMATES NEAR AND FAR

[REDACTED]

*Birds Art Life* by **KYO MACLEAR** (BA 1992 UC) was nominated for the 2017 Writers' Trust Awards – Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Fiction.

York University President Emerita **LORNA MARSDEN** (BA 1968 UC) was nominated for a Heritage Toronto Award for Historical Writing for *Leading the Modern University: York University's Presidents on Continuity and Change*. She received the UC Alumni of Influence Award in 2012.



**LORNE MICHAELS** (BA 1966 UC), creator and executive producer of Saturday Night Live, accepted the 2017 Emmy for Outstanding Variety Sketch Series for that show. He received the UC Alumni of Influence Award in 2012.

Diversity consultant Dr. **KAREN R. MOCK** (BA 1967 UC) was named a Member of the Order of Canada for her contributions to the promotion of human rights, notably through her work on cultural integration and strengthening of Jewish-Muslim relations in Canada.

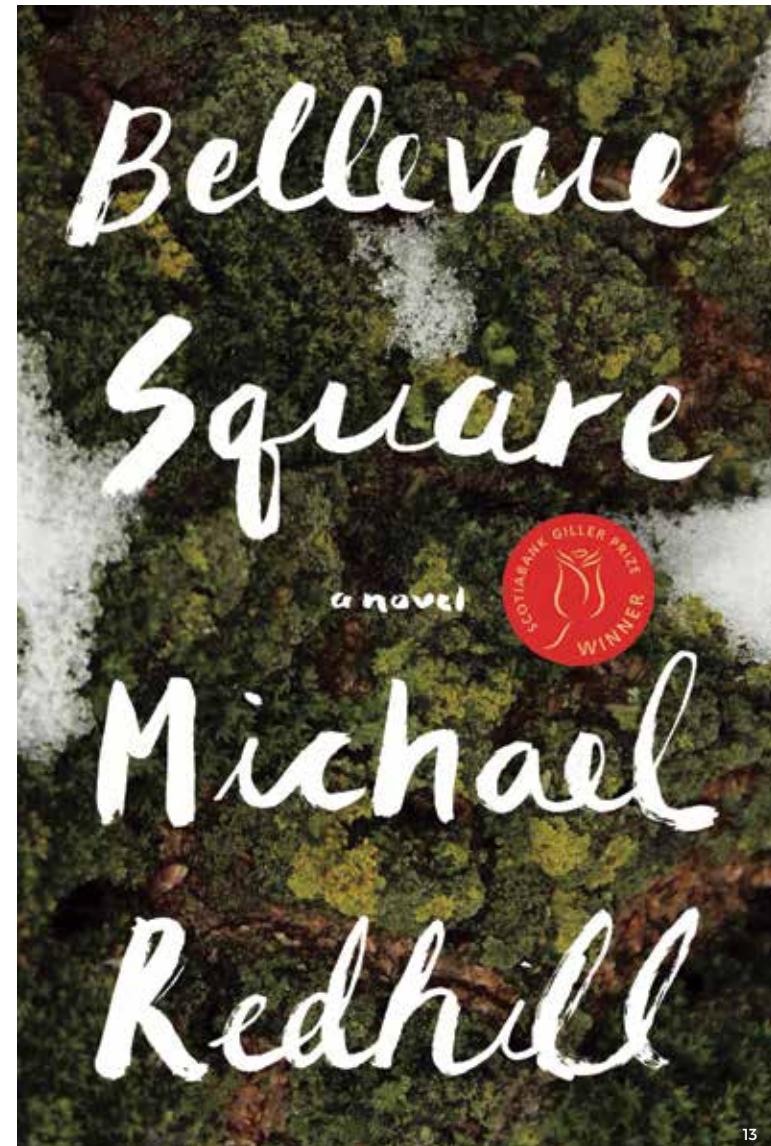


Author **ANNE MICHAELS** (BA 1980 UC) published a new book of poetry, *All We Saw* (McClelland & Stewart, 2017). She currently serves as Toronto's Poet Laureate and was the Barker Fairley Distinguished Visitor at UC in 2014-15. She received the Alumni of Influence Award in 2012.

**NAVINDRA PERSAUD** (BSc 2002 UC), a physician at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto and Assistant Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at U of T, was named one of Canada's Top 40 Under 40.

Former Ontario premier **BOB RAE** (BA 1969 UC) was appointed Canada's special envoy to Myanmar by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. He received the UC Alumni of Influence Award in 2014.

**9** All We Saw **10** Lorne Michaels  
**11** Navindra Persaud **12** Georgiana Uhlyarik  
**13** Bellevue Square Cover



13

Author **MICHAEL REDHILL** (BA 1992 UC) received the 2017 Giller Prize for his novel, *Bellevue Square*.

**LEONARD WAVERMAN** (BCom 1964 UC) has been reappointed Dean of McMaster's DeGroote School of Business. He received the UC Alumni of Influence Award in 2012.

More than 250 members of the UC community gathered for the 6th annual **UC ALUMNI OF INFLUENCE AWARDS** gala on November 16, 2017 at The Carlu in Toronto. The evening kicked off with a 1920s themed dance performance, followed by a 3-course dinner service and the awards presentation. Seated among the 16 recipients recognized as leaders in their fields and communities were 55 current students whose tickets were sponsored by alumni and friends of the College.

The Art Gallery of Ontario appointed **GEORGIANA UHLYARIK** (BA 1996 UC) its Fredrik S. Eaton Curator, Canadian Art.



# NOTA BENE

**ALAN BEWELL**, a Professor in the Department of English, UC faculty member, and expert in British Romanticism, was elected Distinguished Scholar by the international Keats/Shelley Association.

The University of Toronto **ART MUSEUM** at UC received the Ontario Association of Art Galleries 2017 Exhibition of the Year Award, and Exhibition Installation Award, for *Shame and Prejudice: A Story of Resilience* by artist **KENT MONKMAN**.



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**1** Artist Kent Monkman and Minister of Canadian Heritage, Mélanie Joly at Shame and Prejudice: A Story of Resilience by Monkman Image Credit Dominic Chan, Art Museum at the University of Toronto **2** The honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario; Kent Monkman; Lee Maracle; Mark Bonham; Candy Palmater; Teddy Syrette; Chancellor Michael Willson Image credit Stephanie Coffey **3** Tania Li Image credit Diana Tyszko **4** Joseph Heath **5** Geoffrey Hinton Image credit Johnny Guatto

The University College **ADVANCEMENT OFFICE** was honoured with a Gold award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education for the event “Bonham Centre Awards Gala 2017: Indigenous Leadership in Sexual Diversity.” The event honoured Indigenous LBGTQ leaders **LEE MARACLE, KENT MONKMAN, CANDY PALMATER, and TEDDY SYRETTE** for their contributions to the advancement of human rights issues surrounding sexuality.

**BARBARA FISCHER**, a UC faculty member and curator of the University of Toronto Art Museum at UC, created Talking to the Streets, an exhibition of eight installations around campus and Queen’s Park that dazzled visitors at Nuit Blanche on September 30, 2017.

University College faculty members **PROF. JOSEPH HEATH** (Philosophy) and **PROF. TANIA LI** (Anthropology) have been awarded Jackman Humanities Institute Faculty Research Fellows for 2018-2019. Li’s project is entitled “Plantation Life” and Heath’s “The Arc of History.”

University College Emeritus faculty member, Google Engineering Fellow, and University Professor Emeritus of Computer Science, **GEOFFREY HINTON** was appointed Chief Scientific Advisor of the Vector Institute, a new hub for artificial intelligence and machine learning in Toronto.

## NOTA BENE



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Acting UC Vice-Principal **CHRISTINA KRAMER** was awarded an honorary doctorate from Saints Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Macedonia. A linguist and Professor in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, she was recognized for her work on the development of the Macedonian language, culture, and literature at the global level.

University College students were at the top of the podium at The Ontario University Athletics (OUA) championships this fall. **WENSI LIU**, **IAN MACDONALD**, **GARRETT SMITH**, and **ADRIAN TYRRELL** of the Varsity Blues Mountain Biking Team took the honours at the provincial university championship, while golfer **ELLICE HONG** helped propel the Varsity Blues Women's Golf Team to the top; she was also named an OUA Team All-Star.

Students enrolled in the University College course Digital Tools in a Canadian Context, led by Dr. **SIOBHAN O'FLYNN**, received the Lieutenant-Governor's Award for their class project, Kensington Market: Hidden Histories, an augmented reality app that guides users through the iconic Toronto neighbourhood. The app is complemented by an interactive online map available at [uoft.me/CDN355map](http://uoft.me/CDN355map).



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**6** Christina Kramer **7** Siobhan OFlynn with student Natalie Simonian **8** Gabriele Scardellato gives Pugliese-Zorzi lecture Image credit Stephanie Coffey **9** Donald Ainslie chats with Olga Pugliese at the Pugliese-Zorzi lecture Image credit Stephanie Coffey **10** Sobey Art Award Gala Image credit Dominic Chan **11** UUfie, Installation view of *Wa-Wa*, 2017. Art Museum at the University of Toronto Image credit Dominic Chan

University College launched the **PUGLIESE-ZORZI** initiative in Italian Canadian Studies with a lecture series. In October 2017, Associate Professor **GABRIELE SCARDELLATO**, Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics and Mariano A. Elia Chair in Italian-Canadian Studies at York University presented “The Future of an Immigrant Past: Italians in Canada Since Confederation.” The second lecture, “Italian Canadian Writing: The Difference a Few Decades Make,” by University Professor Emeritus **LINDA HUTCHEON** (BA 1969 UC), Department of English at the University of Toronto and Alumni of Influence

2012 Award recipient, took place on February 1, 2018. The Italian Canadian Studies initiative includes a new addition to the Canadian Studies curriculum: a course in Italian Canadian history, made possible through a generous donation by **PROF. OLGA (ZORZI) PUGLIESE** (BA 1963 UC), to be offered for the first time in the 2018-19 academic year. Pugliese is an expert on the Italian Renaissance and she received the UC Alumni of Influence Award in 2017.

The gala for the prestigious **SOBEY ART AWARD**, which recognizes a Canadian artist aged 40 and under, was held in the University College Quadrangle on October 24, 2017. The winner—**URSULA JOHNSON**, a Mi’kmaq performance and installation artist from Nova Scotia—was

announced at the event, which was held in a transparent-roofed tent that showcased UC’s architecture. The Sobey Art Awards Exhibit, which displayed works by nominated artists, was also held at the University of Toronto Art Museum at UC.

Last fall, the Sir Daniel Wilson Quadrangle at UC was the site **Wa-Wa**, an art installation composed of 130 convex mirrors forming a circle. Created by the architecture studio Uufie, it was the winning entry in the University of Toronto Art Museum’s Making Models exhibition, which invited artists to transform the quad under the theme of “meet me there.”

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UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

# IN MEMORIAM

Notices of death published in this issue were received between July 1 and December 31, 2017. Date of death, last known residence, and maiden name (if applicable) are noted where possible. Friends and family of the deceased can help by sending information to [address.update@utoronto.ca](mailto:address.update@utoronto.ca).

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## 1930s

**Mrs. Audrey L. Livingston** (BA 1936 UC)  
of Stratford, ON; Sept. 17, 2017

## 1940s

**Mr. Gordon Atlin** (BA 1949 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Sept. 9, 2017  
**Mrs. Betty H. (Hodnett) Bain** (BA 1948 UC)  
of Mississauga, ON; Sept. 18, 2017  
**Miss Edith M. Cornett** (BA 1949 UC)  
of Mississauga, ON; Jul. 11, 2017  
**Mr. J. D. Cowan** (BCom 1942 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Aug. 3, 2017  
**Mr. Maurice Fagan** (BA 1948 UC)  
of North York, ON; Jul. 25, 2017  
**Mr. Edward J. Glover** (BCom 1948 UC)  
of Danville, CA; Dec. 5, 2017  
**Ms. Helen Gurney** (BA 1940 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Oct. 28, 2017  
**Dr. Frances G. Halpenny**  
(BA 1940 UC) of Toronto, ON; Dec. 25, 2017  
**The Rev. Canon David E. Lemon** (BA 1948 UC)  
of Don Mills, ON; Aug. 9, 2017  
**Mrs. Joan E. (Fall) McKeen** (BA 1948 UC)  
of London, ON; Nov. 22, 2017  
**Mr. I. R. McLean** (BA 1947 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Oct. 8, 2017  
**Dr. Cathleen (Syngle) Morawetz**  
(BA 1945 UC) of New York, NY; Aug. 8, 2017  
**Mrs. Anne (McCarter) Pepino**  
(BA 1947 UC) of Greensboro, ON; Sept. 4, 2017  
**Mrs. Elizabeth L. (Galbraith) Pollard** (BA 1945 UC)  
of Willowdale, ON; Jul. 8, 2017  
**Mr. R. B. Stapells** (BA 1946 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Nov. 21, 2017  
**Mrs. Joyce E. Studdy** (BA 1948 UC)  
of Newmarket, ON; Nov. 11, 2017  
**Mrs. Dorothy J. (Gangbar) Swerling**  
(BA 1945 UC) of Toronto, ON; Nov. 28, 2017  
**Mr. William M. Wadley** (BCom 1948 UC)  
of Brantford, ON; Oct. 28, 2017  
**Mrs. Sheila E. (Hiller) Whitton** (BA 1949 UC)  
of Collingwood, ON; Nov. 26, 2017

## 1950s

**Mrs. Barbara J. (Pezim) Axelrad** (1956 UC)  
of Don Mills, ON; Jul. 4, 2017  
**Dr. Harvey Brooker** (BA 1954 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Oct. 24, 2017  
**Mr. Calvin C. Caldwell** (BA 1954 UC)  
of Seaforth, ON; Dec. 20, 2017  
**Dr. Lino Canzona** (BA 1958 UC)  
of Oakville, ON; Aug. 4, 2017  
**Mr. Donald L. Cornick** (BA 1952 UC)  
of Etobicoke, ON; Sept. 13, 2017  
**Mr. Ralph O. Cunningham** (BA 1954 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Nov. 10, 2017  
**Mrs. Bernye (Edelstein) Dick** (BA 1950 UC)  
of Don Mills, ON; Oct. 12, 2017  
**Dr. Gerald Dunlevie** (BA 1951 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Oct. 27, 2017  
**Ms. Mary S. Fulton** (BA 1955 UC)  
of Newmarket, ON; Sept. 4, 2017  
**Mr. Harvey Futerman** (BA 1952 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Aug. 10, 2017  
**Dr. Marvin Goodman** (BA 1956 UC)  
of Willowdale, ON; Sept. 5, 2017  
**Mr. B. T. Grasser** (BA 1951 UC)  
of North York, ON; Jul. 28, 2017  
**Mr. Arthur A. Griffin** (BA 1951 UC)  
of Vancouver, BC; Sept. 28, 2017  
**The Hon. Mr. Justice E. G. Hachborn** (BA 1954 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Nov. 2, 2017  
**Dr. Byron G. Lane** (BA 1956 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Nov. 27, 2017  
**Mrs. H. J. Lee** (BA 1953 UC)  
of North York, ON; Nov. 12, 2017  
**The Hon. Mr. Justice Allen M. Linden** (BA 1956 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Aug. 22, 2017  
**Mrs. Margaret D. (Haultain) Littlejohn** (BA 1950 UC)  
of Ottawa, ON; Aug. 21, 2017  
**Mr. Kenneth A. MacKenzie** (BCom 1952 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Oct. 20, 2017  
**Mr. Allan G. McPhail** (BA 1951 UC)  
of Cannington, ON; Aug. 1, 2017  
**Mrs. Edith (Bogomolny) Monson** (BA 1953 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Sept. 11, 2017

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**Mrs. Norma A. Poulter** (BA 1951 UC)  
of Etobicoke, ON; Aug. 2, 2017

**Lorraine M. Scott** (BA 1953 UC)  
of Victoria, BC; Jul. 23, 2017

**Mr. Gordon M. Sillers** (BA 1953 UC)  
of Mississauga, ON; Sept. 25, 2017

**Mr. Nathan D. Starkman** (1955 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Oct. 5, 2017

**Dr. Robert Teghtsoonian**  
(BA 1954 UC) of Northhampton, MA; Jul. 1, 2017

**Dr. Albert Tucker** (BA 1951 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Oct. 26, 2017

**Mrs. Eleanor D. (Baily) Woods** (BA 1952 UC)  
of Ridgeway, ON; Jul. 11, 2017

**Mr. James T. Dutfield** (BA 1977 UC)  
of Mississauga, ON; Nov. 30, 2017

**Ms. Anne (Tammemagi) Kubjas** (BSc 1972 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Nov. 27, 2017

**Mrs. Susanne M. (Englert) Watson** (BA 1976 UC)  
of Mississauga, ON; Nov. 21, 2017

#### 1980s

**Ms. Elizabeth P. Woods** (BA 1982 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Sept. 25, 2017

#### 1990s

**Mr. Arnold G. Chan** (BA 1990 UC)  
of North York, ON; Sept. 14, 2017

#### 1960s

**Mr. Luther P. Chambers Q.C.** (BCom 1960 UC)  
of Orleans, ON; Sept. 25, 2017

**Mr. John M. Fuke** (BCom 1960 UC)  
of Creemore, ON; Nov. 8, 2017

**Mrs. Deborah H. (Crocker) Gans** (BA 1964 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Aug. 29, 2017

**Dr. Merle E. Grant** (BSc 1961 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Jul. 15, 2017

**Mr. Andrew C. Grodzinski** (BSc 1964 UC)  
of Richmond Hill, ON; Oct. 7, 2017

**Mr. Vincenzo A. Manuele** (BSc 1963 UC)  
of Don Mills, ON; Sept. 9, 2017

**Ms. Sandra (Pape) Monteath** (BA 1965 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Oct. 7, 2017

**Mr. Bernard A. Snodofsky** (BA 1963 UC)  
of Scarborough, ON; Nov. 5, 2017

**Dr. Ikuko E. (Kamitakahara) Teshima** (BSc 1961 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Nov. 17, 2017

#### 1970s

**Mr. Michael C. Attwell** (BSc 1972 UC)  
of Etobicoke, ON; Dec. 7, 2017

**Mrs. Esther L. Burnett** (BA 1971 UC)  
of Toronto, ON; Aug. 25, 2017

**Mr. Christopher R. De Freitas** (BA 1971 UC)  
of Auckland, New Zealand; Jul. 5, 2017



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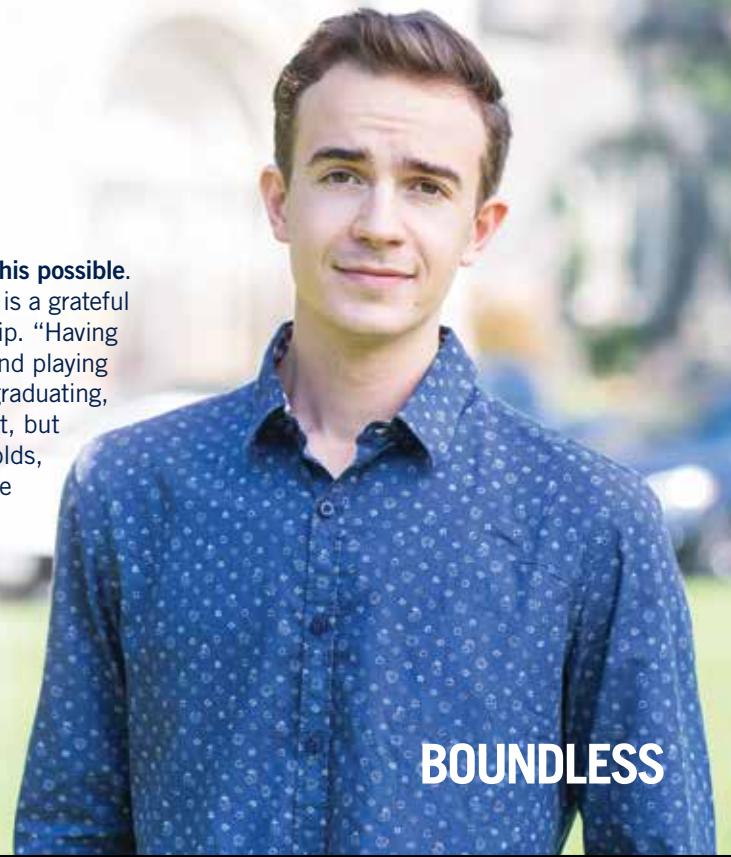
# ELLIOT IS ACING HIS COURSES. AND FINDING TIME TO MAKE MUSIC.

A bequest from William Alexander Beverly (UC '49) made this possible. University College math and physics student Elliot Jarman is a grateful recipient of the Anna and Alex Beverly Memorial Scholarship. "Having this support means I can channel my energy into classes and playing music," says Elliot, who is an accomplished pianist. After graduating, Elliot plans to work as a physics researcher or data analyst, but hasn't ruled out a career in music. Whatever the future holds, Elliot will always appreciate the boost he received from the Beverly Scholarships.

Find out more: [michelle.osborne@utoronto.ca](mailto:michelle.osborne@utoronto.ca)  
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