



LAURENTIAN
ALUMNI
MAGAZINE

Andrew Baker

OUR MAN
AT PAN AM



CANADA



Ambitious Bold Driven

WE'RE NOT SHY ABOUT SUCCESS.
CHALLENGE IS KEY. THESE ARE
OUR ACHIEVEMENTS AND WE CAN'T
WAIT TO SEE WHAT'S NEXT.



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Laurentian Alumni Magazine welcomes readers' comments. Letters should include the writer's full name, address, school(s), degree(s) and year(s) of graduation for alumni. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. No letter will be published without the full name of the correspondent.

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When you graduate, your name, address, phone number and degree information are retained by the university. The names of graduates of the university, degrees received by them, dates conferred, and honours and distinctions are maintained as a matter of public record and may be disclosed to third parties. Laurentian University may use archived photos for profiling our graduates and promoting events. This is to ensure the proper administration of the functions of the Alumni Relations office.

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20



16



INSIDE

- Chancellor's Message 4
- President and Vice-Chancellor's Message 4
- LUAA President's Message 5
- Our New Look 6
- The Role of the LUAA 6
- Recognition Awards 7
- Cover: Andrew Baker 8
- Francophone Affairs 12
- Brian Bigger 14
- Carmen Vierula 16
- The Ashcrofts 18
- Jennifer Martin 20
- James Eddy 22
- Aboriginal Affairs 24
- Athletics: Voyageurs Basketball 26
- Research at LU 28
- University News 31
- Where Are They Now? 34



28

18



STEVE PAIKIN
Chancellor
Laurentian University

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHANCELLOR

It was a busy start to the spring as I had the honour of presiding over ten Convocation ceremonies, and handing degrees to 2,050 students. In my role as Chancellor, I've been able to share in the celebrations with thousands of graduates and their families. The opportunity to take part in these memorable moments is truly an honour. It is thrilling and heartwarming to see the pride and the sense of accomplishment that come with that hard-earned degree. I enjoy hearing stories from students, and I draw inspiration from the remarkable journeys that many have made to get their degree.

I also have opportunities to meet with Laurentian alumni in the course of my duties as Chancellor. At events and functions all over Ontario, I hear from alumni, as well as from current students, faculty and staff. It is always a pleasure to chat with members of the Laurentian family.

I have found our Laurentian University community to be filled with citizens who are active, curious, engaged and dedicated. Our alumni are superb ambassadors for the university as they demonstrate the values and commitment that are the hallmark of Laurentian graduates.

All the best,



DOMINIC GIROUX
President and Vice-Chancellor
Laurentian University

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

Members of the Laurentian University Alumni Association are part of a world-wide group that is growing in size and influence each year.

Throughout 55 years of Convocation ceremonies, more than 54,000 Laurentian students have crossed the stage. It's impossible to quantify the impact our graduates have had in the lives of their communities, and beyond.

The significant contributions made by Laurentian alumni to Sudbury, to Barrie, and to cities in all corners of the world, are a source of tremendous pride for all members of the Laurentian community. Whether close to home or across the globe, our alumni have been recognized for many remarkable achievements. We are proud that our alumni give back to their communities through their work, through mentoring and through participation as volunteers. Our 54,000 alumni are Laurentian's finest ambassadors, keeping the spirit of the Voyageurs alive no matter where they go.

We are moving forward on so many fronts at Laurentian University, including our ambitious campus modernization program. You will read about some of our recent advancements in this magazine. We value each member of our alumni family, and we hope you'll continue to spread the pride of the Voyageurs wherever life takes you.

Best wishes,

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REPRESENTATIVE TO BOARD OF GOVERNORS

To be appointed

CALL OUT FOR VOLUNTEERS

The LUAA is always looking for volunteers. Whether you can help host an event in your city, or join the LUAA Board, we have a level of commitment that can fit your schedule. Get in touch with us at alumni@laurentian.ca or visit lul.ca/alumni-association for more information.



There is no doubt in my mind that the passion of our graduates is a huge factor in the incredible strides that Laurentian University continues to make

A MESSAGE FROM OUR LUAA PRESIDENT

Hello fellow Laurentian alumni, and thank you for picking up the 2nd issue of our revamped *Laurentian Alumni Magazine*. As you'll undoubtedly discover reading on, our Laurentian University grads continue to impress as leaders, innovators and champions, both in Canada and abroad!

As you read through this issue you'll notice the same consistent theme (aside, of course, from the pride that our Voyageurs have for their alma mater). The quotation marks that you see represent more than just a clever way to frame our articles. What is between those quotation marks, including those on the very front cover, represents the voice of our alumni, and that voice has grown to over 54,000 strong. As Laurentian alumni, we are all ambassadors of this great institution, and we all have much to be proud of. We continue to see an impressive level of engagement from our alumni. The number of us taking advantage of our relationship with TD Meloche-Monnex for home and auto insurance and MBNA's alumni credit card offering continues to grow. Events like our Toronto Blue Jays and Mississauga Ice Dogs games, beer and wine pairings, and even cooking classes, continue to sell out. And we are seeing more and more Voyageurs want to be involved with our own Alumni Association in a more direct way: in a search to fill 3 positions on our Board of Directors, our office received over 40 applications! There is no doubt in my mind that the passion of our graduates is a huge factor in the incredible strides that Laurentian University continues to make.

As I've already said, this magazine represents your voice, the voice of those who made Laurentian University what it is, and more importantly, what it will be, when our nephews, nieces, children and grandchildren step foot on campus for the first time. So make sure your voice is heard! Get in touch with the Laurentian University Alumni Association. Pick up the phone, write a letter, send an email, like us on Facebook, or follow us on Twitter (@LaurentianAlum). Better yet, make your way out to one of the many events that we host across the country and meet us in person! I know that many of you already have. Keep it up! With all 54,000 of us working together, I have no doubt that the future of Laurentian University looks bright!

BRANDON BEESON, B.Sc. '08
Financial Consultant, MD Financial Management

NEW LOOK

A UNIQUE PUBLICATION THAT IS AMBITIOUS, BOLD AND DRIVEN, LIKE YOU

This is your *Laurentian Alumni Magazine* – a place to share success and stay engaged with Laurentian and your professional peers. Your words and images tell the story, highlighted by a new look that creates a unique identity for Laurentian alumni as a strong, distinctive group.

This new design frames individual alumni voices and achievements in bold graphics and colour which connect to a solid Laurentian foundation. Alongside your stories are images from your personal and professional lives – capturing moments worth sharing.

WE WELCOME YOUR FEEDBACK

We want to hear from you! This magazine is for you and all about you, so let us know what you think. We're open to your feedback, good or bad. Drop us a line at alumni@laurentian.ca, share your feedback on social media or give us a call at **705-675-4818**.

THE ROLE OF THE LUAA



2015 Laurentian University Alumni Association Annual General Meeting

The mandate of the Laurentian University Alumni Association (LUAA) is to encourage lifelong relationships with graduates of the university by inviting them to participate in on-campus and community initiatives/partnerships with a view to promoting the welfare and advancing the interest, influence and usefulness of the University as the institution continues to evolve into Northern Ontario's premier educational facility.

The Alumni Relations office also hosts a wide variety of events each year. From professional sporting events, to golf tournaments to networking opportunities, there is truly something for everyone from coast to coast. Visit us soon for a list of upcoming fall/winter events. laurentian.ca/alumni/events



Ottawa Senators Game



Voyageur Event



Blue Jays Game



An Evening with Margaret Atwood



Beijing Alumni Chapter Event

Recognizing individuals who are making significant impact in their communities

LAURENTIAN ALUMNI RECOGNITION AWARDS



DENISE GARRIDO, B.Sc. '08
ALUMNI YOUNG LEADER AWARD

Denise Garrido graduated from Laurentian University with a degree in biomedical sciences. Denise was highly involved within the Laurentian University community as a Community Advisor and Teaching Assistant, and also participated in various fundraising events. Denise has become one of the most decorated pageant queens in Canadian history having earned herself the title of Miss Earth Canada 2008, Miss World Canada 2010 and 24 glorious hours as Miss Universe Canada 2013. She has also made various philanthropic trips over the years with a focus on helping children. While in South Korea, Denise was declared the 2014 North American Peace Ambassador for Hwacheon, and won a Peace Forum award by Hyun-Sook Lee, one of the United Nations' Korean Ambassadors. Currently, Denise is managing two cardiology clinics as well as providing Holter and ABPM training within the company. The Laurentian University Alumni Association will make a donation in the name of Denise Garrido to the Laurentian University Administrative and Professional Staff Association Scholarship.

VANESSA DI FEO, BA '15
STUDENT RECOGNITION AWARD

Vanessa Di Feo is part of the 2015 graduating class with an honours bachelor's degree with a specialization in theatre arts and a minor in Italian language and culture. Vanessa was recognized on the Dean's list each year of her degree. She also received a wide range of awards and scholarships including the Xstrata Nickel national scholarship and the Carolyn Fouriezos prize. Vanessa was very involved in the Laurentian University community taking on roles as Teaching Assistant, Research Assistant, Writing Assistant and Tutor. She also served as the Communications Secretary of LAWLU (the Law and Justice student organization) and as a writer of the Lambda. As part of her role as President of the Student Theatre Association, she founded and chaired the Annual Masquerade Ball for three years. She has recently travelled to Taiwan on a cultural exchange. In the fall of 2015, Vanessa will be attending law school. The Laurentian University Alumni Association will make a donation in the name of Vanessa Di Feo to the Laurentian University Women's Centre.

TED MOROZ, BA '87
ALUMNI AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Ted Moroz graduated from Laurentian University in 1987 with a bachelor's degree in political science. During his time at Laurentian, he was an active member of the Students' General Association (SGA) and the Student's Senate. He got his start at the Beer Store working part time throughout his studies at Laurentian. He then went on to receive his master's degree in political science at Carleton University. Today, Mr. Moroz is President of The Beer Store and Brewers Distributor Ltd., multi-billion dollar retailers and distributors. In addition, Ted is an active member of the Retail Council of Canada. He also serves as a volunteer board member at the Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences in Whitby, Ontario and is Vice Chair of the National Board of Directors of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Canada (LLSC), and has helped the LLSC raise over \$10 million for blood cancer research in the past decade. The Laurentian University Alumni Association will make a donation in the name of Ted Moroz to the Dr. Robert Segsworth Bursary for Excellence in Political Science.

HELD DURING THE WEEK OF CONVOCATION EVERY YEAR, RECIPIENTS ARE HONOURED IN THREE CATEGORIES. LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW TO NOMINATE YOURSELF OR ANOTHER ALUMNUS BY VISITING LAURENTIAN.CA/RECOGNITION-AWARDS

As Director of Games for the Canadian Olympic Committee, Andrew Baker, B.Com. '05, is at the top of his game

BY RANDY PASCAL

B.Com. '85

The world stage

For hundreds of international calibre athletes, the recent Pan American Games in Toronto represented the culmination of countless hours of preparation, the chance to see all their hard work come together and perhaps provide a springboard to bigger and better things.

For Laurentian University sports administration graduate (2005) Andrew Baker, it was very much the same.

As the Director of Games for the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC), Baker would play an integral role in the success of the host country athletes. The challenge was the latest in the impressive and ever-expanding resumé that the former Voyageur soccer talent has amassed since his departure from Northern Ontario roughly a decade ago.

Early years

Baker spent the first 18 years of his life in "La Belle Province". He would tap into the knowledge of an aunt in Campbellford, a guidance counsellor by trade, to investigate the possibilities of pursuing sports, from a different angle, at a post-secondary level.

"The two programs that I looked at were really Brock and Laurentian, and I really didn't know much about either of them," Baker noted. "The fact that Laurentian was a Business degree was really what attracted me to that program specifically."

If the spotlight of professional sports blurs the dreams of many young "SPADites", Baker enjoyed no such illusions. "I was

pretty focused on amateur sports, right from the beginning," he recalled. "That was really what I was passionate about, and specifically, the Olympics."

The long and winding road to success

Still, getting from point "A" (his acceptance into the sports administration program) to point "B" (his career with the COC) would require a little meandering. In fact, to this day, Baker credits many of the people who travelled the early stages of this journey by his side for the success that he is today.

"In SPAD, you get a lot of people who are really passionate about sports," Baker continued. "You're really able to push each other." Still, passion will only take one so far. Despite his current role at the upper echelon of one of the most important sporting organizations in the country, he remains extremely grounded and quite comfortable in conversations that cover a wide scope of subjects.

It was recently announced that Baker was among a group of "5 To Watch", an industry recognition that was awarded at Canada's Sports Business Awards.

The humility with which he departed Laurentian University has served him well.

"What SPAD really did was set a standard of what to expect going in," Baker suggested. "I didn't come out of SPAD expecting to run an organization from day one. It set me up to believe that I would pay my dues and work my way through the sports system. It provided a very realistic picture."



I was really lucky to be surrounded by great people from the very first day of my career with the COC. I had really great leaders who were able to take me under their wing and teach me a lot about the industry and the organization.



Andrew Baker
outside the
Pan Am Athletes'
Village, Distillery
District, Toronto



Our man at Pan Am



PHOTOS: JASON MORTLOCK



2015

Attuned to every detail, Andrew provided the vision for Pan Am, managing all operational aspects including planning and logistics

5 TO WATCH

Andrew is one of five winners in the 5 to Watch Canadian Sports Business Awards

LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGY

Involved with the 2016 Lillehammer Youth Olympic Games and the PyeongChang 2018 Olympic Winter Games

ONE OF THE TEAM

Oversees a planning group of more than 30

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Builds and maintains the COC's relationships with international host organizing committees

A LONG TRACK RECORD

Has been involved with the COC for five Olympic Games and two Pan Am Games

Always be ready

But as he has shared with the next wave of Sports Administration students and others during press in recent years, being prepared to swing for the fences when the floating change-up is tossed your way is key.

"Part of it is seizing the opportunities when they present themselves," said Baker. A short-term contract that required incredibly quick turnaround first opened the door.

"I was really lucky to be surrounded by great people from the very first day of my career with the COC," he said. "I had really great leaders who were able to take me under their wing and teach me a lot about the industry and the organization."

"There is no doubt that I've worked extremely hard over the last ten years, and made a lot of sacrifices for this job. But when you love it, it really doesn't seem like a sacrifice." His efforts would not go unnoticed.

Following the 2012 Summer Olympics in London, Baker would be promoted to his current role of Director of Games. The Pan American Games offered the first large scale multi-sport event in which Baker would be "the guy".

"The Games Director role essentially manages all facets of the operation. We're the key link with the local organizing committee, their main point

of contact. The planning, operational and logistics side is, in my role, where my primary focus lies."

Baker has been fortunate, in the sense that his own personal areas of interest aligned not only with the educational building blocks that he received at Laurentian, but also with the job that he would eventually ascend to within the Olympic Committee.

"I really do like the business side of things, the ability to look at a project and try to capitalize, increase value, and be more efficient and more productive," he said. "That's one of the fun things about the work that we do here. We always have the ability to try and do things better."

The Pan American Games are the latest example of the vision with which Baker is blessed. "From an organizational perspective, the Pan Am Games provided us with a lot of opportunities, even internally for the COC, to really educate our team," he said.

"That is something that we are constantly pushing, to be able to deliver better performance for our athletes," stated Baker. And just as some athletes would see the Games as their crowning moment, the achievement for which they worked so hard to reach, so too did Baker.

"I was working on the project for two and a half years, so I was personally very invested in it." An investment that paid dividends for Andrew Baker, yet again. □

ALUMNI BENEFITS

As a graduate and a valued member of the Laurentian University alumni community, you receive exclusive benefit opportunities, services and special offers and discounts such as:

ON CAMPUS:

- Access to the Pub Downunder
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Denis Hurtubise,
Associate Vice-President
for Academic and
Francophone Affairs

Based on feedback,
Hurtubise has
proposed a program
with 50% content in
each language

50
%

FEATURE: FRANCOPHONE AFFAIRS

CULTIVATING A BILINGUAL ENVIRONMENT

BY SUZANNE BOWNESS

**Laurentian's new
AVP Academic
and Francophone
Affairs embraces
his mandate to
bolster bilingualism**

In describing his philosophy on new program development, Denis Hurtubise often calls on the metaphor of a forest. "The array of programs a university offers is a bit like a forest. In forests, you have mature trees, you have new trees, you have old trees, you have trees dying. With the university, one has to always be on the lookout to create new programs to rejuvenate and replace old programs."

Appointed in June 2014 as Associate Vice-President, Academic and Francophone Affairs, Hurtubise's mandate is both to develop new French programming and hold the university to its official bilingualism

policy. Many programs are in development, and a number of them were approved in May, including 7 business programs and the first 3 bilingual engineering programs in Canada. That's in addition to the close to 160 French programs in more than 40 fields (health and business are currently among the most popular) and over 10 graduate programs currently on offer.

In the bilingualism portfolio, Hurtubise's task is to uphold the university's commitment to offer equal access to services, for example at the Registrar's office or in residences. "It was clearly outlined in the posting for my job that one of my big mandates was to make sure that the policy is known, because it is a complex policy, and to make sure that it is also implemented," says Hurtubise.

Before arriving at Laurentian, Hurtubise's administrative roles included Dean of Studies at Université du Québec en Outaouais, and Vice-President, Academic and Research at Saint-Paul University in Ottawa. He holds a PhD in theology from

Saint-Paul University/University of Ottawa, and spent the first seven years there as a Professor. He says the best aspect of his new job is bringing people together to collaborate.

New programs

In developing new programs, Hurtubise's approach incorporates both hard numbers and student opinions. When he read a marketing study that surveyed potential students about their preferences for new engineering programs, he learned that the majority would favour a bilingual offering. "On one hand, the students want to study in French because it's our language and it's important for us. On the other hand, we know that in our careers we'll have to be able to function in English, too," says Hurtubise.

Another program development strategy has been to combine programs with declining enrolment to create new offerings that reflect multiple disciplines. For example, a new international studies program is projected to draw on economics, political science and geography courses. "These new programs are such that they use in part existing courses and they also involve new courses. The idea is that with these new programs we attract different students who wouldn't come to us otherwise," explains Hurtubise.

Fresh strategic focus

In the bilingualism portfolio, the strategy has been both to bolster the policy on campus and engage in long-term planning to reach new students. To accomplish the first task, Hurtubise spends a lot of his time making presentations to various groups on campus. In the longer term, he is looking at ways to attract more international students (most students hail from northeastern Ontario, including Sudbury where the local Francophone population is around 30 per cent), as well as those currently enrolled in Ontario French immersion programs, which are currently enjoying a surge in popularity. "We would need to offer special programs or tracks to integrate students from immersion high schools," says Hurtubise.

One year into his mandate, Hurtubise says he is really enjoying both the role and the university. "There is a really great fit between who I am as a professional and the position. Laurentian is an up and coming university. I am the kind of person who wouldn't like to be in a caretaking position. I am someone who thrives in situations where we have to build something, and that is exactly what is going on here. So for me it is very attractive and I am very happy here." □



Kayla Martens
is a second-year
BPHE student

Make your impact. Here. Now. Forever.

Laurentian's annual student call campaign begins fall 2015.

To learn more about investing in the future of Laurentian students, please contact the Development Office at **705-675-4872** or at **development@laurentian.ca**

Join the conversation: **#LULImpact**

From student to leader

BY SUZANNE BOWNESS

Brian Bigger, B.Com. '85, comes full circle as Mayor of Sudbury



The Mayor in his office, where he has supported Laurentian by recently hiring a fellow grad

A start in commerce

As a commerce student taking notes in the lecture halls of Laurentian, it's likely that Brian Bigger may not have fully imagined the path he was on the way to creating for himself, one that would start at the bottom rung at Sears Canada and climb to increasingly senior positions there and at the Regional Municipality of Halton culminating in a five-year stint as Sudbury's first Auditor General and finally Mayor as of December 2014.

But he did know that he liked Sudbury. So when the need to help care for his in-laws brought him back to the city in 2009, he was happy to bring a career-long experience with accounting to a role that would help the city directly. Although the transition to Mayor was a step outside that world, his campaign focus on financials was what you might expect

from someone in his profession. "I'm certainly not a career politician, but as Auditor-General, and through everything I've done throughout my career, I felt that openness, transparency and accountability were very important," says Bigger. He won the election with 46 per cent of the vote.

Looking forward

Six months in, Bigger has one word to describe the life of a Mayor: busy. He says he spends a lot of his time speaking at official functions and events throughout the community, leading council and working with senior management. "As a corporation, we have 3,500 employees, full-time equivalent, and \$500 million a year in operating expenses."

But it's not all meetings and governance. Bigger says one of the best parts of the job has been discovering how much is



I love the job – the opportunity to engage with the public, and meet so many people who seem to have so much energy throughout the community.

PHOTO: GARTH WUNSCH

happening in his hometown. “I was born in Sudbury, and yet I never knew all of the great things that are happening within the city. It’s a real eye opener, and I can tell you that just based on my calendar, there are four events almost every single day.”

His job even takes him back to Laurentian on occasion, where it all began. He has attended events like Laurentian’s 2015 Mining and Environment International Conference, and he looks forward to more. Bigger says he sees the university as central to the city’s development. “Laurentian is a very key partner with the city, in developing the city and promoting the city, provincially, nationally and internationally.” He stresses the importance of institutions like the Vale Living with Lakes Centre and the Goodman School of Mines as catalysts to the kind of innovation that will bolster the city’s continued growth.

As if becoming Mayor is not full circle enough, Bigger says he’s also just hired a student from Laurentian to work in his office, one who took the same commerce program as Bigger. “It feels good hiring somebody from Laurentian. There seems to be this common ground, from the education that they’re provided. I probably took the same economics classes he’s taking.”

While focus is still on the financial, as Mayor he’s also keen on loftier tasks like promoting the city at all levels. “Half of our revenues come through municipal taxes, but the other half of our revenue streams come from either provincial or federal levels of government. So there’s a huge part of building relationships in the community, as well as building the relationships with the people at different levels of government, and throughout the province and even the federal government.

Promoting Sudbury internationally is also important,” says Bigger.

For people who have been away from Sudbury, Bigger says that he’s quick to tell them how much the city has changed. “I think that if people have not been here in the last decade or so, they will be very impressed with the amount of re-greening that’s happened within our community. If they get to know Sudbury a little bit more, they’ll be very impressed by the level of innovation and research, the quality of work that’s being done here in our community.” Bigger says that he regularly mentions Laurentian when talking about the possibilities for the city internationally, with good reason. “People from Laurentian University are well known and recognized internationally,” he says. □

“

Nothing risked,
nothing gained...
It's important to
keep your head up
and stay open to
opportunities.



Adventures in auditing

BY JESSICA NATALE WOOLLARD
BA '05

Carmen Vierula, B.Com. '82, Chief Financial Officer of the Bank of Canada

Journey to the Arctic

As the small plane that carried Carmen Vierula, approached its destination near Resolute Bay in the Canadian Arctic, a passenger pointed out remnants of a memorial on the beach below.

"It was the site where a plane crashed when trying to land on the beach," Carmen remembers from the voyage she took in 1984.

If the man was trying to scare her on her first trip to the Arctic, he failed.

Carmen, a Junior Accountant at the time, was prepared for adventure while in the North to help with the audit of Panarctic Oils, which was combing the Canadian Arctic for oil and natural gas.

After completing her bachelor's degree in commerce at Laurentian, Carmen left her home in Dowling and moved with her husband to Calgary, where he was completing his PhD in biology. There, Carmen earned her Chartered Accountant designation; it was her first job that sent her to the Arctic, a journey that foreshadowed a career rife with international travel.

Around the world

Today, the mother of two adult sons is the Chief Financial Officer for the Bank of Canada in Ottawa. Her work has taken her to many countries where she regularly interacts with people around the world, exchanging methodologies, providing technical assistance to other central banks, and strengthening relationships.

After ten years at the Bank of Canada as Chief Internal Auditor, Carmen took a leave of absence in 2012 for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: a position

as Director of Internal Audit with the United Nations in New York.

She directed auditors who went to countries such as Somalia and Pakistan and audited the organization's pension plan—worth more than \$50 billion.

A strong role model

When Carmen returned to the Bank of Canada in the summer of 2014, she was promoted to Chief Financial Officer. An accountant she hired in 2009, Julie Champagne – also a Laurentian alumna with a bachelor's degree in commerce (1993) – moved into the Chief Internal Auditor position.

"Carmen is a tremendous role model," Julie says. "She supported me in my development at the bank, gave me opportunities and prepared me for my role."

Coincidentally, Carmen credits another Laurentian alumna from commerce with influencing her career trajectory. Carol Workman (1974), who retired in 2004 from her position at the University of Ottawa as Vice-President of Finance and Administration, hired Carmen in 1998 as the Director of Internal Audit at the University of Ottawa.

"[Carmen's] curiosity and professionalism made her an increasingly important and valuable member of the university," Carole says. "[She achieved success] because of her commitment to always staying ahead of the curve."

Reflecting on her career, Carmen shares the philosophy of adventure that has guided her: "nothing risked, nothing gained...It's important to keep your head up and stay open to opportunities." □

Carmen's latest adventure has her on firm ground at the Bank of Canada



You might say the Ashcrofts are a Laurentian family. With apologies for such a generalization to youngest son Andrew, who went to Western University, all the Ashcrofts attended or were connected to Laurentian, beginning with mom, Margaret.



Family traditions

BY SUZANNE BOWNESS

BRENDAN, BA '99

It's amazing how many people you run into who either did graduate from Laurentian, or some way, shape or form have a connection to Sudbury. So, it's a great icebreaker.

Brendan, an Investment Advisor and Assistant Branch Manager for BMO Nesbitt Burns in Toronto, majored in economics and graduated in 1999. Father, Jim, handed him his diploma. Jim was President of Vale's Ontario division and was equally known in the Laurentian community for his position on the university Board of Governors. He passed away in October 2014.

MARK, B.Eng. '96

I'm actually a sixth-generation miner on my dad's side. And my mom's dad was a coal miner. After six weeks of straight night shifts I came home one day and said to my dad, 'I want to be a mining engineer.'

Mark earned a degree in mining engineering in 1996. His career has since taken him through mining work in Australia to a master's degree in finance at the University of Reading to positions at Barclays Capital in London, Standard Bank in New York and as CEO of Stonegate Agricom. A father of three, Mark is still engaged with Laurentian's engineering school where he sits on the advisory board and was recently invited to address this year's graduating class.

MARGARET, BA '88

Jim firmly believed in Laurentian. He believed they could have, and they do have, a top class mining school there.

A clear inspiration for both sons to attend Laurentian, Margaret pursued her degree in order to build on the teaching qualifications she had earned before emigrating from London, England. She earned her bachelor's degree in sociology as a mature student in 1988 while raising her family. A retired school Principal, she is now involved in an educational advisory capacity in Sudbury. □



PHOTO: JASON MORTLOCK

...NT AND PROGRESS



I love biology. I was a kid climbing trees and building forts. So that fit. I went with what I liked. Opportunities will come. If you're thoughtful and always learning, you'll be prepared to jump onto the next opportunity.

Jennifer Martin,
H.B.Sc. '82, the nucleus
of TELUS Spark

Sparked by science

BY SUZANNE BOWNESS

For most people, career success is crystallized in a pivotal moment or promotion

For Jennifer Martin, President and CEO of TELUS Spark science centre in Calgary, success is symbolized by a large 20-metre whale skeleton hanging from the ceiling at Sudbury's Science North. As Martin tells the story, the energy in her voice makes it sound like she's recalling it from yesterday.

"There was a Paleontologist at the time at Laurentian who said, 'I'm going out to Anticosti Island to do my summer research. I can share a boat with you,'" recalls Martin. "There were cool whale skeletons, and I managed to convince Dr. Dave Pearson that, if I could have a little money to rent a truck and take two summer students with me, we could do a cool thing. That was a wing-and-a-prayer idea." Martin was in her mid-twenties.

A lasting symbol

While Martin has since accumulated another 30 years of experience at two additional science centres, that whale skeleton at Science North not only stands as a reminder to her of where her career started, but as a symbol of her own enthusiasm for science. "It reminds me of how just being exuberant and having some core talent can get you a long way sometimes," says Martin.

Martin and Science North developed almost in tandem, making it a special place for the CEO. "What was important to me, having been in the business for

so long, was having started as a young biologist grad, catching snakes and frogs for Science North. And being part of building it. It was a hole in the ground when I started there, literally: the blasting had started, and that's about it," says Martin.

After a few years, Martin moved to the more established Ontario Science Centre, working her way up through various positions to become Vice-President of Visitor Experience in 1998. Along the way she earned an MBA from York University's Schulich School of Business, before being called west in 2007, this time to lead the development of TELUS Spark, which opened in 2011 as Canada's first new purpose-built science centre in 25 years.

New science

For Martin, creating a new science centre meant an opportunity to reflect the ways in which thinking about science centres has changed over the years.

"The science centre in the 70s and 80s was really a way to make science cool, and that's about facts and knowledge," says Martin. By contrast, today's science centre is more about community connection, interactivity and self-directed learning. "We've got open-ended experiences, less about facts and more about the journey and exploration of the science process."

As an example, Martin describes an exhibit in TELUS Spark's energy hall called "Wire the Neighbourhood" where kids have to figure out how to connect power to 15 houses in a neighbourhood using



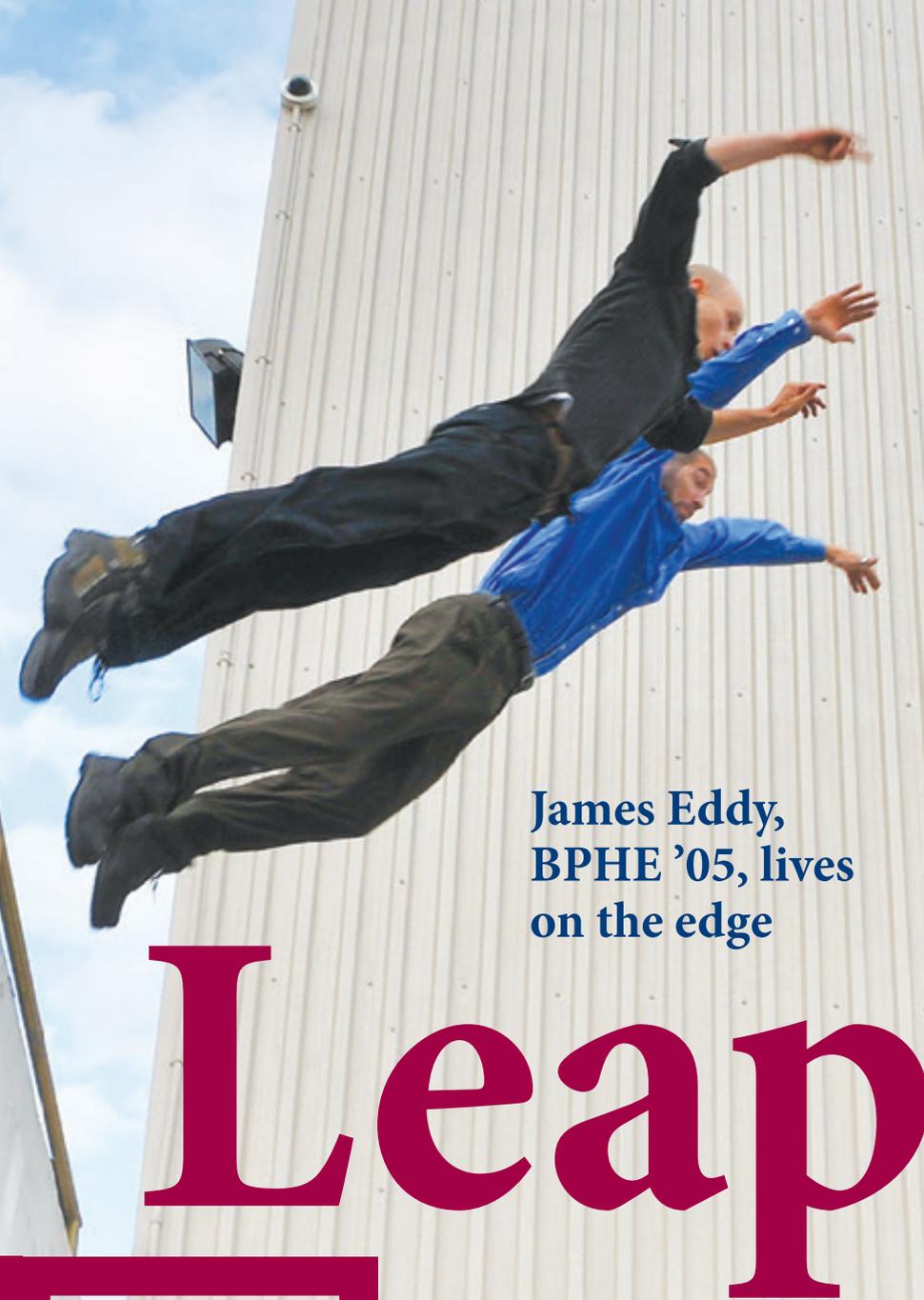
wires and alligator clips. "It's an incredible challenge, because there's no perfect answer, and it helps to illustrate that this is a complex thing. It's actually something you do to try and come up with different ideas, not 'push a button, here's the answer,'" says Martin.

Always exploring

Although her current job as CEO focuses on tasks like community building and fundraising, Martin says that the enthusiasm for science remains a primary motivation.

"I loved living on the Canadian Shield. As a kid I was always exploring, so the sciences seem to be the thing that was calling me."

Martin says her best career advice for current students is always to go with their interests. "I love biology. I was a kid climbing trees and building forts. So that fit. I went with what I liked. Opportunities will come. If you're thoughtful and always learning, you'll be prepared to jump onto the next opportunity." □



James Eddy, BPHE '05, lives on the edge

Leap

BY JESSICA NATALE WOOLLARD

BA '05

In a warehouse in eastern Toronto, James Eddy, sits at the wheel of a brand new 2015 Ford Mustang GT. Out of the blue, a man yanks open the driver-side door, pulls James out, and throws him up against the car. What follows is a Jackie Chan-like fight sequence—both men expertly throw kicks and punches and block each other's advances. James ultimately emerges as victor, and coolly shuts the car door before taking on a second assailant.

If this story sounds like it belongs in a movie, it's meant to. The scene is part

of James's stunt performance demo reel, gymnastics, kickboxing and hand-to-hand combat—each honed to deliver movie magic without causing injury.

"I've always wanted to be a stunt double," says the 33-year-old graduate of Laurentian's Outdoor Adventure and Leadership program.

Following in the nimble footsteps of his silver screen heroes, James enrolled in martial arts and earned a black belt in Goju-ryu karate. In 2006, he placed fourth in hand-to-hand combat at the World Kickboxing Association's World Championship in Spain; in 2008, he became the first Canadian to appear on the Japanese game show *Ninja Warrior*.

James supplemented his physical training with his education. In the kinesiology and anatomy classrooms at Laurentian, he studied how his body works and how to train it properly to enhance performance. Out in the field, he learned the hard skills—climbing, canoeing and guiding. All have served him well in his chosen career.

After graduating from Laurentian and completing teachers' college in Australia, James connected with a group in Sudbury that made short action films. In 2012, he joined the actor's union and has since found professional work in films like *A Masked Saint* and on the Fox TV show *Damien*.

In January 2015, James, who now teaches at Sudbury Secondary School, was invited to be part of a mystery project in Toronto. "I was told I'd be doing some fitness training and that they'd be filming... but that's about it."

Upon arrival he was given the keys to the fire engine-red Mustang and learned what he'd been hired for: a public relations campaign for Mustang in which people with big dreams and limitless potential are provided with a flashy car and unique experiences to take their craft to the next level. James spent the week training with stunt and fitness professionals and then filmed his demo reel, which Mustang used to find James an acting agent.

"It was a fantastic experience. I feel truly blessed," says James, joking that his only regret was having to return the car keys. □



As a little kid watching action movies I never wanted to be the main actor; I wanted to be the one in the fight scenes.

Stay Connected

There are so many ways to stay connected to your alma mater. From social activities to professional development events, there is truly something for everyone. Connect and share online through our social networks and look out for email updates on future events, reunions and discounts.

 @LaurentianAlum

 Laurentian Alumni / Anciens Laurentienne

 Laurentian University Alumni Association

Update your contact information

Update your contact information with us online at laurentian.ca/stay-connected-form or email us at alumni@laurentian.ca

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

START AN ALUMNI CHAPTER.

With a minimum of 10 members and an executive team (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer), chapters can be created based on geographical area, academic program, athletic group, residence or other constituency. Chapters allow you to reconnect with fellow Laurentian graduates, host events, promote Laurentian University and/or raise funds for your alma mater. Alumni networks are another way to reconnect and provide meaningful networking opportunities and social interaction amongst graduates. Networks require a leader as a key contact and are less formal than an alumni chapter.

If you are interested in launching a chapter or network or have an idea for an alumni event, please email alumni@laurentian.ca.



FEATURE: ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

SYMBOLIC SPACE



Dr. Sheila Cote-Meek,
BScN '89, MBA '92,
Associate Vice-President
for Academic and
Indigenous Programs

Laurentian's new Indigenous Sharing and Learning Centre is just one sign of Laurentian's Commitment to Indigenous Education

BY SUZANNE BOWNESS

How can a building be a hub and a symbol of community before it's even built? When it's as anticipated and planned for as Laurentian's Indigenous Sharing and Learning Centre. Envisioned as a "home away from home" for Aboriginal students, the 7,500-square-foot building will be centrally located on campus and provide space for everything from drumming ceremonies to conference keynotes to classroom seminars.

The Centre has also been the target for large corporate gifts including a \$1 million donation from Sudbury Integrated Nickel Operations (formerly Xstrata Nickel) and \$400,000 from the RBC Foundation. Those donations were matched by the university and the ground-breaking ceremony is set for September 2015 with the goal to open the new building in December 2016 (the project is part of the larger campus modernization already underway).

Dr. Sheila Cote-Meek, Laurentian's Associate Vice-President for academic and Indigenous programs, is thrilled both by the overwhelming support and the Centre's potential for supporting Aboriginal students. "We're really excited about it. It will raise the profile of Indigenous peoples here, and it will assist with knowledge and information exchange about Indigenous people," she says.

For Cote-Meek, the Centre no doubt stands as a physical embodiment of how the university has embraced Indigenous people on campus. In the nine years that she's been in her role, she's witnessed and pushed for positive change for Indigenous students, who represent just over ten per cent of the population or

around 1,000 students (Anishnabai and Cree are the two dominant populations by Nation). Since the campus already has a long tradition of supporting Aboriginal education, evidenced by elements such as the active Aboriginal Student Affairs Office and the strong Indigenous Studies and Indigenous Relations units that have been in place since the mid-1970s and late 1980s, respectively. Recent efforts are focused on making sure that Indigenous events and education aren't just a niche offering at the university.

Integration approaches

Two approaches to integrating Indigenous presence and content throughout the university include expanding the Indigenous content in programs across campus, and hiring more Indigenous professors. In the past two years, the university has hired ten new Indigenous faculty in departments like English, anthropology, labour studies, geography and sociology. The hires bring the total Indigenous faculty population to 22, including two senior administrators (Cote-Meek plus another in medicine).

By hiring Indigenous professors the university hopes to expand Indigenous perspectives and culture for a wider audience. "Indigenous professors are developing courses in their discipline that are enhancing Indigenous perspectives across a range of disciplines," says Cote-Meek. "We're seeing that enhancement of content in courses—it's happening right across campus as a result of these professors coming into the university." Most recently the university launched a master's degree program in Indigenous relations in September, the first of its kind.

The Learning Centre has received donations of \$1 million from Sudbury Integrated Nickel Operations (formerly Xstrata Nickel) and \$400,000 from the RBC Foundation

Faculty presence

In terms of faculty presence, Cote-Meek herself is a good example of an Indigenous academic at Laurentian. Identifying as Teme-Augama Anishnabai, she's been at the university since 1993, hired first as faculty in Native Human Services, now the School of Indigenous Relations, before moving into administration in 2006. She's also a good fit for her role, as she literally wrote the book on how Aboriginal students experience post-secondary education when she authored *Colonized Classrooms: Racism, Trauma and Resistance in Post-Secondary Education* (the subject was the focus for her PhD in sociology and equity studies).

For Cote-Meek, physical spaces like the Indigenous Sharing and Learning Centre and the growing number of Indigenous students at the front of the classroom are both good signs. "I think what I'm most happy about is the level of awareness on our campus about Indigenous peoples. The profile of Indigenous peoples is a lot higher than it used to be across campus. People participate in our events. We just had a National Aboriginal Day celebration and we had quite a number of people that participated. When I look back on the work that we've done, that tells me that we're doing something right." □



PHOTOS: JOHN SABOURIN,
ACTION EVENT PHOTOS

FEATURE: ATHLETICS

FROM PLAYER TO COACH

At Home Court with Voyageurs Basketball Coach, Shawn Swords, BA '97

BY RANDY PASCAL
B.Com. '85

Laurentian University is home for Shawn Swords and the bond that was forged over an unforgettable five-year career with the Voyageurs, which would draw Swords back as coach of the team that he once played for, is absolutely undeniable. It's apparent as the current men's basketball mentor discusses the path that led him to where he is today.

A hockey talent who attracted the attention of both American universities and the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League, Swords was side-swiped by a broken collarbone, incurred in a car accident at the age of eighteen. Off the

ice for nearly five months, Swords decided to change paths and commit to coach Peter Campbell and the Voyageurs.

From there, things fell in line for Swords. The coachable student would thrive under the tutelage of Campbell, rising to heights few would have initially imagined. A four-time OUA all-star, ascending to all-Canadian status in 1996–97, the same year that Laurentian advanced to the CIS final four, Swords would excel during his time in northern Ontario.

The growth in Swords' game was nothing short of phenomenal. From 1999 until

2003, he was a member of the Canadian National Team, suiting up alongside the likes of NBA regulars Steve Nash and Todd MacCulloch. Swords would also be part of the last team from his country to qualify for the Olympic Games, competing in Sydney in 2000.

Following his university playing days, Swords pursued a professional basketball career in Europe. Though the offer to return to Laurentian as Men's Basketball Coach in the spring of 2007 might have caught Swords off-guard, moving from player to instructor was not a quantum leap.

With eight years as coach of the Voyageurs now under his belt, Swords feels that he has not changed drastically from when he began in 2007–08.

"I don't think I've changed a lot, but maybe used different things in different situations," Swords continued. "The coaching I've done here, and with the National Team, has helped me look at all kinds of different offenses, seeing things that could help."

In 2010, former Olympic teammate Greg Francis was at the helm of the Junior National Team, when an assistant coach was forced to back out late in the process. Shawn was called for the position. Returning the next year alongside Francis at the Junior World Championships, the Laurentian mainstay could see the benefits of his summer sojourns. "I think it helps keep you on your toes, learning new things, not becoming too complacent," said Swords.

"I use it as a little bit of professional development. It's always an honour to be asked to do it, so it is hard to say no." Once again, this summer, Swords was tapped, joining head coach Barnaby Craddock (University of Alberta) for the FISU Games in South Korea.

Yet even when he is half a world away, Swords thinks of home, at least the Voyageurs home he has come to know

Shawn Swords has spent his summer as Assistant Coach for Team Canada at the FISU (International University Sports Federation) Games in Gwangju, South Korea

Shawn Swords, Head Coach,
Men's Basketball



“

When I came here, it was the only program I wanted to coach in the CIS. It's the environment, it's the university, the city. It's about the players. It's being able to bring in players, and help them get better, and see the enjoyment they get from getting better.

so well. "When I came here, it was the only program I wanted to coach in the CIS," he said. "It's the environment, it's the university, the city. It's about the players. It's being able to bring in players, and help them get better, and see the enjoyment they get from getting better." □



FEATURE: RESEARCH

LAB

Jackie Litzgus,
Full Professor
Department
of Biology

Married to each other and to a life in science

BY SUZANNE BOWNESS

Student advocate

Ask a teacher to pick a student's work to highlight and it's like you're asking them to choose a favourite amongst their children. "They were all so good," says Biology Professor Jackie Litzgus when prompted to describe a couple of student success stories from Ontario Biology Day, a provincial conference held every March for fourth-year thesis students. "I hate to pick one because it feels unfair to the others," she says.

At last Litzgus agrees to draw attention to two students who demonstrated the range of talents across her department, selecting Alexis Fong for her work on a project exploring secondary uses for failed cancer-

fighting agents under the supervision of Hoyun Lee, and Cara Loney for her project titled "The Effects of Urbanization on the Dental Health of the North American Raccoon" under Canada Research Chair Albrecht Schulte-Hostedde. Both projects won awards at the conference. "Laurentian University won three of the best presentations awards," says Litzgus, who has coordinated the fourth-year thesis students for the past two years. "Because our students are amazing."

One appreciates Litzgus's dilemma when challenged to summarize the entire goings on of the science departments at Laurentian, where the chemistry & biochemistry department offers two

Thomas Merritt,
Full Professor and
Canada Research
Chair in genomics
& bioinformatics,
Department of
Chemistry and
Biochemistry

PARTNERS



It takes a certain kind of person to be able to do that. It's not a 9-to-5 thing, that's for sure. I think one of the reasons to come here is the small lab size, the interactions with colleagues. There is really some world-class research being done here. —MERRITT

undergraduate streams in chemistry and biochemistry and the biology department offers four streams in biomedical, zoology, ecology and restoration (biomedical is most popular as it is seen as preparation for medical school). Since there is not room to talk to everyone, another approach is to sample a professor from each department and provide a flavour of their research. In this case, Litzgus represents biology and Thomas Merritt, a Canada Research Chair in genomic and bioinformatics stands in from chemistry and biochemistry (besides their devotion to science, this pair just happens to have another thing in common—a shared life. They are a married couple).

The location

For Merritt, Laurentian offers a great location for his latest research into the biochemical effects of deep mining, particularly its proximity to the SNOLAB, a physics lab two kilometres underground in Sudbury's Vale Creighton Nickel Mine. While his broader focus is functional genomics, a discipline that looks at how simple DNA translates to complex biological systems, Merritt has recently turned to investigate the stress effects of being underground, where researchers have long known that an atmospheric pressure that's 20 per cent higher results in physiological stress. "We know it's stressful, we know it's exhausting, but we don't know why and we don't know how," says Merritt.



The research

To do the research, he uses a small army of fruit flies (who share 80 per cent of their genes with humans) cultivated across hundreds of genetic lines. Within the flies, Merritt looks at thousands of metabolites, which are substances produced during metabolism, to assess their interactions. Already he's found that ten per cent of metabolites change with even a single trip underground, a fact that Merritt says, when translated to the working lifespan of a miner, would definitely have physiological effects. Merritt hopes to eventually translate his findings into concrete solutions for easing stress on miners. "The ultimate goal is try to come up with dietary and nutritional ways to address that stress," says Merritt.

Besides finding Laurentian an ideal environment for their research, both Litzgus and Merritt love teaching in a place with smaller class sizes and a hands-on approach

Litzgus also benefits from Laurentian's location with her work on road ecology, or the interaction between roadways and the animal world. Of the field's two-pronged focus on human safety and animal conservation, Litzgus studies the latter, with a current preference for turtles as seven of the eight Ontario species are considered to be at risk. One approach is to test and provide feedback on the effectiveness of solutions (i.e., mitigation) that have already been put in place to reduce animal deaths on roadways.

In a recent experiment, Litzgus and her research collaborators surveyed a segment of Highway 69 where fences and ecopassages had been installed to try to reduce the number of turtles being killed, along with a control segment where no mitigation was being implemented. Unfortunately, they found that the fences were not as effective as they could be due to their construction and the materials used, information that will allow the agencies that installed them to adjust their approach through the process of adaptive management.

Besides finding Laurentian an ideal environment for their research, both Litzgus and Merritt love teaching in a place with smaller class sizes and a hands-on approach. In addition to coordinating the fourth-year thesis course, Litzgus teaches an upper year class in animal ecology, and another in winter ecology. "At Laurentian University, we still value those hands-on, go-out-in-the-field types of experiences. When I teach a lab, my

winter ecology lab for example, I take the students outside. I'm right there in nature." Litzgus says that's also very satisfying as a teacher. "I have 25 senior students, and I know all their names, and they know who I am. I love that."

Litzgus thinks field-based research can also be a draw for graduate students. "It takes a certain kind of person to be able to do that. It's not a 9-to-5 thing, that's for sure." Merritt, who teaches a graduate course in molecular evolution and a third-year undergraduate core course in nucleic acids, agrees. "I think one of the reasons to come here is the small lab size, the interactions with colleagues. There is really some world-class research being done here," says Merritt.

They're also enthusiastic about the facilities at Laurentian, particularly the Vale Living with Lakes Centre, and most recently, the newly renovated science labs. "Our first-year biology lab is getting completely rebuilt, and that's really exciting for our first-year students to come in and see," says Litzgus. Merritt agrees it's a great signal to students. "Students have options and we want to make sure that people are not choosing us simply because we are in northern Ontario and convenient. We want to make sure that we are providing the best educational experience possible, and in the sciences a lot of that is technology—if you don't have modern lab facilities, you can't do a good job teaching good modern science." □



Vale Living with Lakes Centre honoured with OAA awards

Two prestigious design awards bestowed by Ontario Association of Architects

The OAA's Design Excellence Awards are based on considerations of creativity, context, sustainability and legacy

Laurentian University's Vale Living with Lakes Centre has been honoured with two prestigious awards from the Ontario Association of Architects. The Centre is the winner of an OAA Design Excellence Award for 2015, and the OAA's Sustainable Design Excellence Award for 2015.

The Centre was officially opened in 2011 on the southern shore of Ramsey Lake in Sudbury. It was built to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design platinum standards, and was designed by architects J.L. Richards and Associates Ltd., in association with Perkins + Will Architects. It was designed for the climate of 2050 and is estimated to be 70 per cent more energy-efficient than

conventional buildings, using natural light and shade, geo-thermal heating and grey-water recycling systems to reduce its footprint.

"Dr. John Gunn and the Core Review Team challenged us to design a 'Lakes Centre' that was worthy of the Ramsey Lake watershed, and of the work performed within the building," said architect Jeffrey Laberge of J.L. Richards and Associates. "We responded through form, materials and systems that have no detrimental impact on the health and well-being of Ramsey Lake, yet have a positive cultural impact within the city."

The Vale Living with Lakes Centre houses faculty, researchers and students working in some of Laurentian University's Biology and Environment programs, and is shared by research staff from Laurentian's partners in the Co-operative Freshwater Ecology Unit, the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. □

Read more at laurentian.ca/news/vale-living-lakes-centre-honoured-oaa-awards

LAURENTIAN ENGINEERING STUDENTS MAKE HISTORY

Both Bharti School's Junior, Senior Design Teams Win Canadian Engineering Competition

MARCH 8, 2015 – Laurentian University's Bharti School of Engineering makes history as both Junior and Senior Design teams win the 2015 Canadian Engineering Competition (CEC) in St. John's, Newfoundland.

After the Junior Design team won the Ontario Engineering Competition (OEC) last month and the Senior Design team came in second, both teams qualified to represent Ontario at the nationwide 2015 CEC. Laurentian's Junior Design team members are: Aidan Simpson, Colin Roos, Matthew Bennison and Stephane Labine. Members of the Senior Design team are: Caitlin Roos, Jasmin Lemieux, Louis-Francois Tremblay and Philip O'Connor.

For more information about the Ontario Engineering Competition visit oec2015.ca and 2015cec.ca □

Read more at laurentian.ca/news/laurentian-engineering-students-make-history

LAURENTIAN OPENS NEW OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY RESEARCH LAB



APRIL 27, 2015 – Representatives of labour and industry joined researchers at Laurentian University for the opening of the new laboratory and research facility at the University's Centre for Research in Occupational Safety and Health (CROSH).

The laboratory will support numerous research projects, with the aim of reducing or eliminating occupational injury and illness in the workplace.

"We are excited to be moving forward with studies and research projects that will have an impact on the lives of workers and working families in our communities," said Dr. Tammy Eger, Research Chair in Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) and Associate Professor in Laurentian's School of Human Kinetics.

Laurentian University has committed 1,695 sq. ft. of new laboratory space and 629 sq. ft. of office and meeting space to support the research work of CROSH

and the research Chair in OHS. To foster transformative and collaborative research, a dedicated lab for motion analysis, advanced biomechanics and ergonomics research has been relocated next to the CROSH laboratory.

Funders and supporters of CROSH include the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation, Vale, Teck, Domtar, United Steelworkers, Mine/Mill Local 598/Unifor, William Shaver, United Association Local 800, Homer Seguin (in memoriam), Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Aviation, Forest Fire and Emergency Services, Association of Canadian Ergonomists Ontario Region, Provox, Workplace Safety North and Laurentian University. □

Read more at laurentian.ca/news/laurentian-opens-new-occupational-health-and-safety-research-lab

University invests in research, technology & graduate expansion

2015-16 marks fifth consecutive year of balanced budgets at Laurentian

JUNE 19, 2015 – Laurentian University's Board of Governors today approved a 2015-2016 operating budget of \$147.7 million, marking the fifth consecutive year the University has achieved a balanced budget. The budget represents a \$7 million increase over last year to fund key areas of priority for the University in capital projects, research, student services, graduate studies and information technology. □

Read more at laurentian.ca/news/university-invests-research-technology-graduate-expansion

CBC Senior Producer Alex Freedman appointed Chief of Staff at Laurentian University

“We are pleased to welcome Mr. Freedman to Laurentian in this critical role,” said President Giroux

JUNE 29, 2015 – Laurentian University President and Vice-Chancellor Dominic Giroux announced the appointment of Alex Freedman as Chief of Staff to the President, effective August 31st.

“We are pleased to welcome Mr. Freedman to Laurentian in this critical role,” said President Giroux. In this capacity, he will lead the University’s Communications and Marketing Departments and the President’s Office, champion university-wide efforts to achieve greater national recognition and effective internal communications, support the President with community engagement, work closely with members of the executive team as a resource to advance institutional priorities and represent the university for example as spokesperson with the media or as a member of the board of directors of the Northern Policy Institute.

“It’s exciting to come to Greater Sudbury to join such an outstanding team,” said Mr. Freedman. “Laurentian University is on the move on the national stage and I look forward to contributing to that momentum. As the son of a professor emeritus of anthropology and a former administrator of continuing education at Western, I have been exposed since a very young age to the transformative role played by universities in our society. I look forward to reconnecting with the academy and playing a small part towards its inspiring purpose.” □

Read more at laurentian.ca/news/cbc-senior-producer-alex-freedman-appointed-chief-staff-laurentian-university

LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY NAMES NEW DIRECTOR, PLANNING AND CAPITAL PROJECTS

Jason Ferrigan to play “leadership role” in university’s era of growth

FEBRUARY 17, 2015 – Laurentian University is pleased to announce the appointment of Jason Ferrigan, MCIP, RPP as Director, Planning and Capital Projects. Mr. Ferrigan joins the leadership team of the

university after seven years with the City of Greater Sudbury.

“We are delighted to have someone with Jason’s experience, vision and energy in the Director’s role during this very important chapter in Laurentian’s history,” said Brad Parkes, Executive Director, Facility Services. □

Read more at laurentian.ca/news/laurentian-university-names-new-director-planning-and-capital-projects



Our alumni survey will be making its way to your inbox this fall. This is your opportunity to communicate your expectations. Events, discounts, services... the sky is the limit! Not only will this help you get what you want from your alma mater, there will also be great giveaways for those who participate.

The survey will only be available via email, so make sure you update your email with us at alumni@laurentian.ca.



RYAN CARBONE, M.Sc. '08
(MASTER OF SCIENCE IN
BIOCHEMISTRY)

Like many alumni, Ryan was born and raised in Sudbury so Laurentian University has been a part of his whole life. After graduating with a master's degree in biochemistry, Ryan was pushed to continue with a PhD but found his heart was not in research. Instead he pulled from his rewarding experience as a TA for a pilot project teaching tutorials on organic chemistry and took the teaching route. Ryan was passionate about learning and felt a great energy in a classroom when light bulb moments happened right in front of him.

Ryan has spent 7 years working for Cambrian College as a full-time Chemist and spent 2 years there as Program Coordinator for the Chemical Engineering Diploma Program. One of Ryan's greatest professional achievements was winning the President's Award for Excellence—an annual award for a faculty member who inspires the best in colleagues and students (the award is also nominated by the student body).

Recently, Ryan found his LU experience coming full circle as he was hired as a sessional faculty member (Professor of Chemistry). He is excited to be back at Laurentian, a place that holds great memories for him.

One of Ryan's greatest professional achievements was winning the President's Award for Excellence

Where Are They Now?

BY JORDANA HANDLER



**JASON BUTLER,
BA '05**

Jason currently works as a feature filmmaker/producer living in Toronto. "I have run my own company, Substance Production, along with my brother for the last 12 years. Our most recent feature, *Mourning Has Broken*, was released on iTunes earlier this year after a very successful run on the festival circuit." Jason was in Sudbury in late May for the NOMFA's (Northern Ontario Music and Film Awards) as both a panellist and "Mentor Director" for a music video production. For his next feature, Jason is looking to have the world premiere of his next feature, *First Round Down*, at the Toronto International Film Festival next September.



**MIKE GRANDMAISON,
B.Sc. '76**
(BACHELOR OF
SCIENCE IN BIOLOGY)

Since graduating from Laurentian University, Mike's photography has been published worldwide in magazines, calendars and books. With a background in biology, he worked for the Canadian Forest Service in Edmonton and Winnipeg for 20 years. A full-time photographer since 1996, he has published four collections of natural landscape photography, and recently opened The Canadian Gallery in Winnipeg. He has just completed an Ontario tour to promote his latest pictorial, *Mike Grandmaison's Ontario*, and is now headed to eastern Canada to source images for an upcoming book.



**HEATHER WILSON,
H.BA '08**

After graduating in 2008 with an honours degree in English and women's studies, Heather received her master's degree in interdisciplinary studies in 2009. Since leaving school Heather has worked as a Financial Controller and is currently taking a leave (which began in July) to campaign full-time until the election in October.

Heather will be running for the Federal Liberals in Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing, the largest drivable riding in Canada with 103,000 square miles of northern Ontario beauty.

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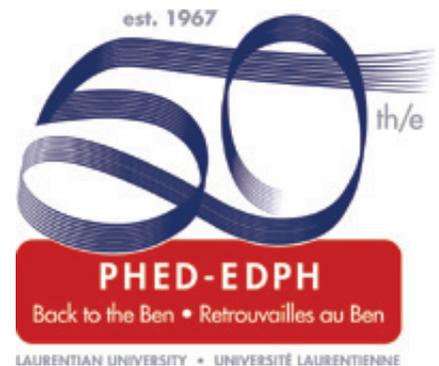
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