



# UCalgary

FALL | WINTER 2016-17

Alumni magazine

## Majoring in Disruption



A Generational Divide — Maybe Not?  
Connectivity Clashes  
Play *The Philanthropic Life*



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY



**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
Alumni Association

## UCalgary Alumni

# Sparking innovation. Driving positive change. Leading the way.



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Anthropologist



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BSc'87  
Sustainable Energy  
Innovator

Educational trailblazers, entrepreneurial go-getters, artists and sustainable energy innovators, the UCalgary Alumni Association's 2016 Arch Award recipients are energetic and curious minds working for a better tomorrow.

Learn more about them at [ucalgary.ca/alumni](http://ucalgary.ca/alumni)



Know a UCalgary alumnus or alumna who makes you proud? Nominate them for a 2017 Arch Award.

[ucalgary.ca/alumni/2017-arch-awards](http://ucalgary.ca/alumni/2017-arch-awards)



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FALL | WINTER 2016-17



Some say you want to spend the first third of your life learning, the second part earning and the last third returning. Play *The Philanthropic Life* game and discover the divergent paths that four donors took when plotting out their individual philanthropic strategies.

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### Risky Business

What, *exactly*, are we willing to risk and what do we hope to gain? Is it true that on any adventure — whether in a corporate boardroom or while summiting Mt. Everest — you are the greatest risk to yourself?

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### A Generational Divide — Maybe Not?

Is it a lack of trust in authority? Idealism? Parental closeness? From Baby Boomers to the iGeneration, we examine the power that politics, geography, arts, the economy and parents play in shaping a generation's values.

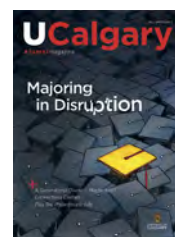
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### Play *The Philanthropic Life*

There are as many reasons for giving to one's alma mater as there are ways to give. We've designed a board game that charts the paths of four alumni whose gifts are changing the world. So roll the dice, make your moves and join us in a round of *The Philanthropic Life*.

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#### ON THE COVER

Illustration by Vancouver-based artist Jason Esteban, BFA'96

# More from Alumni

**G**et a head start on all things Alumni by subscribing to one of our publications or bookmarking [ucalgary.ca/alumni](http://ucalgary.ca/alumni). On our homepage, discover exclusive alumni news, the rundown on top university events, details on regional programming and some behind-the-scenes surprises.

Hear spirited conversations with alumni about news, analysis, politics, policy and everyday life on our weekly podcast, **Peer Review**, at [ucalgary.ca/alumni/peerreview](http://ucalgary.ca/alumni/peerreview).

Wake up every Tuesday to the **Alumni Bulletin** — a weekly snapshot of online exclusives, podcasts and videos, delivered to your inbox.

Every other month, **Alumni News** brings you a handpicked selection of the best stories, videos and podcasts from your alma mater.

Be part of **Idea Exchange** — an ongoing, thought-provoking program rich in conversations that link UCalgary alumni with today's big thinkers and decision makers.

With **Alumni Connect**, be among the first to network online with a new platform that allows you to swap ideas and get advice from the experts on issues that really matter at [ucalgary.ca/alumni/connect](http://ucalgary.ca/alumni/connect).

**Learn, Laugh, Lead** is just one of our numerous programs for recent grads who are also offered personal and professional development opportunities at [ucalgary.ca/alumni/recent-grads](http://ucalgary.ca/alumni/recent-grads).

Step up and get involved with our new **Alumni Volunteer Program** at [ucalgary.ca/alumni/volunteer](http://ucalgary.ca/alumni/volunteer).

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THE UCALGARY  
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**Alumni Connect**

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# UCalgary

**Alumni** magazine

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A young Qatari demonstrates his falconry skills for students, faculty, staff and the local community at the University of Calgary in Qatar's 2016 International Day celebrations.

## Disruptors Bridge the Gap Between Campus and Community

Innovation, disruption, risk-taking — they are all ingredients in the special sauce for startup success. However, do these Silicon Valley buzzwords — typically used by people who see a problem, try to solve it and then flip it on its head — actually translate to people's lives, beyond those who become successful entrepreneurs? That's precisely what this issue sets out to discover. Whether risk-taking is the creation of a UCalgary

campus in Qatar, an alumna summiting Mount Kenya (p. 29) or researchers using zombies in a case study to illustrate infectious diseases (p. 13), real "disruption" comes from taking risks, even when you can't predict where those ambitions are going to lead.

Sort of like your education.

Some students, certainly, have a singular focus and never stray, but so many others veer down alternate career paths

that often use the knowledge learned in class, yet they find themselves applying it in all sorts of other spheres. You'll find profiles and opinions from students, alumni, university faculty and philanthropists who, throughout their lives, seem to persistently ask the question, "Why not?"

We hope you enjoy their bold discoveries and fresh answers to that very question in this issue. — *Deb Cummings* **U**

# Looking Back, Moving Forward



I will never forget the day I got into my car and headed off for Calgary — all the way from P.E.I. — in pursuit of furthering my ambitions. I was so excited to be on an adventure to what seemed to me like the frontier of Western Canada. My life since has proved to be just that: an adventure fuelled by the pioneering spirit I discovered in Calgary, and that has challenged and inspired me ever since.

I hold many fond memories of my experiences as a professor, dean and now president and vice-chancellor of the University of Calgary. But the moments I treasure the most are from my days as a student.

Back when Calgary hosted the '88 Olympics, I was a graduate student. The athletes stayed on campus and, of course, the speed skating was held at the Oval. It was so exciting to have such proximity to world-class athletes and competition.

Equally unforgettable was the moment I learned that I had received a Killam scholarship for my PhD studies. I was very grateful for the financial assistance, but also for the boost of confidence it gave me in terms of realizing that my research had earned this endorsement. The scholarship had such a positive impact on my life and, ultimately, the direction of my career.

This is the kind of transformative moment that *Energize: The Campaign for Eyes High* promises to cultivate as we strive toward our goal of \$1.3 billion.

As the largest campaign in the University of Calgary's history, *Energize* aims to unleash meaningful experiences for students, increase the reach of beneficial research outcomes and strengthen community ties. Already, you — along with so many of our other friends and supporters — have taken us over halfway to that goal. That's a remarkable feat, and one that will only build momentum as we realize the game-changing impact that our initiatives are already having on this campus, city and around the world.

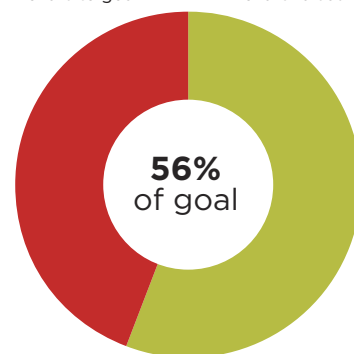
You've likely noticed this issue of *UCalgary* is accompanied by our first annual progress report on the *Energize* campaign. *Campaign 101* was created to provide context for this historic fundraising initiative. We want to let you know, via hard numbers and human stories, how much philanthropy matters, and why your support means the difference between good — and excellent.

My hope is that all students leave this university filled with unique and positive memories, as well as a level of knowledge, confidence and compassion that will serve them well in their stewardship of our future. Thank you for leading the way.

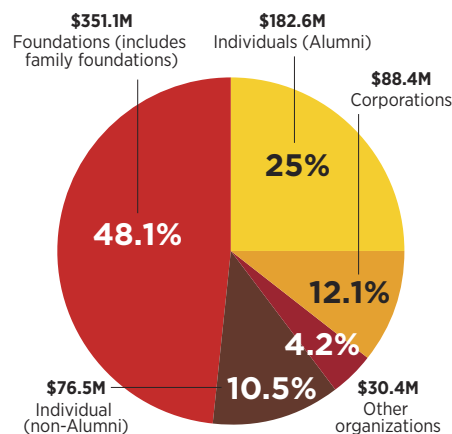
Elizabeth Cannon, BSc'84, MSc'87, PhD'91

Campaign goal: \$1.3B

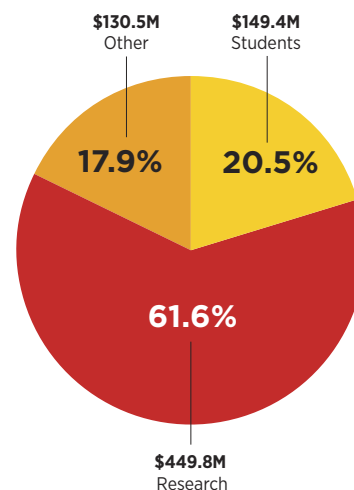
**\$570,327,260** Dollars to goal  
**\$729,672,740** Dollars raised



## Sources of support



## Areas of support



All campaign numbers accurate as of October 3, 2016



North American Alumni and donors to campaign\*

PROVINCES	ALUMNI	DONORS
Alberta	105,757	7,248
British Columbia	9,640	604
Ontario	5,977	461
Saskatchewan	1,599	85
Quebec	529	41

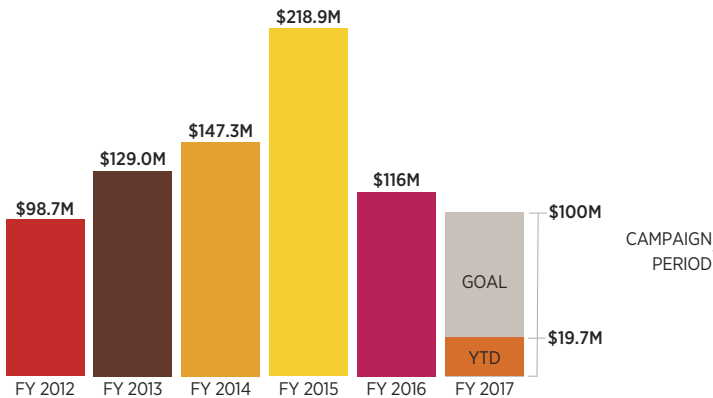
STATES	ALUMNI	DONORS
California	668	69
Texas	507	61
Washington State	235	24
New York State	195	21
Colorado	140	19

\* Includes living degree and diploma Alumni with a valid address

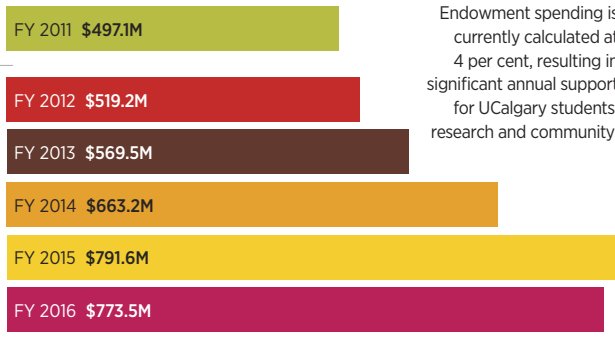
Dollars raised by faculty vs. Campaign goal

	Dollars Raised	Campaign Goal	% of Goal
Cumming School of Medicine	\$422,921,619	\$700M	60.4%
Institutional	\$89,104,766	\$128M	69.6%
Haskayne School of Business	\$44,960,638	\$120M	37.5%
Werklund School of Education	\$30,675,359	\$38M	80.7%
Schulich School of Engineering	\$30,327,369	\$80M	37.9%
Science	\$19,450,838	\$35M	55.6%
School of Public Policy	\$18,479,079	\$35M	52.8%
Arts	\$17,562,180	\$50M	35.1%
Kinesiology	\$14,416,599	\$25M	57.7%
Libraries & Cultural Resources	\$12,852,712	\$25M	51.4%
Veterinary Medicine	\$10,359,179	\$20M	51.8%
Law	\$9,630,234	\$20M	48.2%
Nursing	\$4,477,298	\$10M	44.8%
Social Work	\$2,213,901	\$7M	31.6%
Environmental Design	\$2,196,354	\$7M	31.4%

Campaign yearly progress



UCalgary endowment value from FY 2011-FY 2016

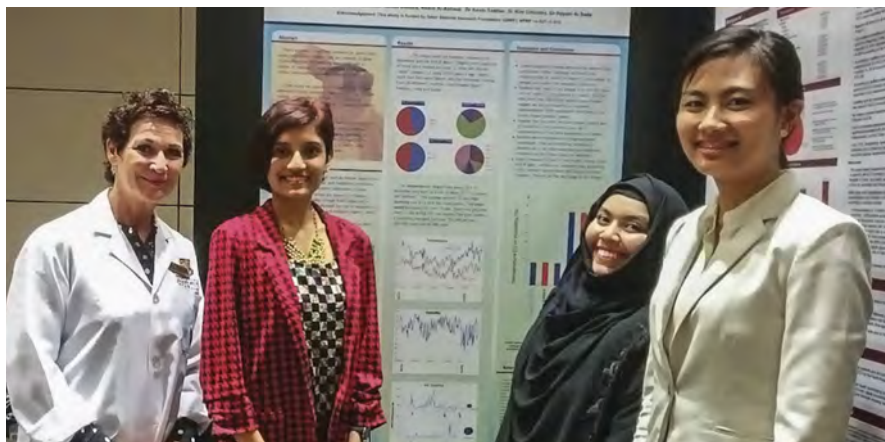


Endowment spending is currently calculated at 4 per cent, resulting in significant annual support for UCalgary students, research and community.



# Calendar 2016-17

Connect with your fellow grads in Calgary, online and around the world. This is just a sampling of upcoming programs and events. Check out [ucalgary.ca/alumni](http://ucalgary.ca/alumni) for a full listing.



## AFFECTING CHANGE IN THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY: A SNAPSHOT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY IN QATAR

*November 24, 2016*

The Faculty of Nursing's Food for Thought breakfast series highlights alumna Diana Snell, MN'11, Candice Rausch, BN'16, and Kate Newcombe, BN'16, as they reflect on their time at the University of Calgary in Qatar. [nursing.ucalgary.ca](http://nursing.ucalgary.ca)



## VIRTUAL CAREER COACHING HOUR

*Monthly, launching in 2017*

This online event will connect alumni with a career coach where they can seek expert advice, feedback and guidance on any number of career coaching topics from UCalgary Alumni's certified career development professional, Carol Wert. [ucalgary.ca/alumni](http://ucalgary.ca/alumni)



## ALUMNI PROGRAMS AND EVENTS NEAR YOU

Vancouver	November 7, 2016
Toronto	January 10, 2017
Ottawa	January 16, 2017
New York	February 22, 2017
Houston	March 7, 2017
San Francisco	March 14, 2017
Edmonton	April 10, 2017

[ucalgary.ca/alumni](http://ucalgary.ca/alumni)



## GENERATIONS: 50 YEARS OF ART AT THE UNIVERSITY AND BEYOND

*September 23 – December 10, 2016*

This exhibit at Nickle Galleries showcases UCalgary's Art Department as a creative generator. Curated by Mary-Beth Laviolette, *Generations* features more than 70 pieces created by studio instructors and alumni that trace the influence of the department and its many connections to wider art communities. [nicke.ucalgary.ca](http://nicke.ucalgary.ca)



## UCALGARY ALUMNI SKATE WITH SANTA

*December 4, 2016*

Lace up your skates and hit the ice with UCalgary Alumni at our annual Skate With Santa. Special appearances by Rex Dino and of course, the jolly ol' gent, himself. This is a great event for the entire family, and the extended family, too.

[ucalgary.ca/alumni](http://ucalgary.ca/alumni)



## UCALGARY ALUMNI CONNECT: INTERNATIONAL JOURNEYS

*Monthly*

Each month, an awesome alumnus or alumna will host a webinar and online chat session to share their international journey and the series of small steps and big leaps that they've taken to get where they are today. [ucalgary.ca/alumni](http://ucalgary.ca/alumni)



## PACK THE JACK

*January 12, 2017*

Help us Pack the Jack for the UCalgary Dinos! Come cheer on the men's and women's basketball teams in their final games of the season. [godinos.com](http://godinos.com)



## UCALGARY GRAD DAY

*January 28, 2017*

Designed for soon-to-be and recent alumni, this action-packed day is where you'll learn to navigate the transitional post-university period.



## LEARN, LAUGH, LEAD

*Monthly*

UCalgary alumni share advice, insights and expertise to keep you growing personally and professionally. Watch for further details online and join us in 2017.



## CROWCHILD CLASSIC

*February 2, 2017*

Cheer on the Dinos men's and women's hockey teams as they battle it out with their arch rivals — the Mount Royal University Cougars. Tickets are free and will be available for pick-up during the week of the game. Watch for further details online. [crowchildclassic.ca](http://crowchildclassic.ca) **U**



# Kindling Conversations

Long before Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission report revealed the shameful educational gap between First Nations, Métis, Inuit people and other Canadians, UCalgary was addressing the issue. In a series of task forces, symposiums, research projects and community partnerships dating back more than a decade, the university has made decolonization and the Indigenization of education a priority — so much so, an official campus-wide Indigenous strategy will be unveiled and launched next June.

In many ways, the TRC's calls to action mirror what's already underway across the campus community — such as the new graduate-level Indigenous reconciliation, research and methodologies courses, the

## THE GAP

Indigenous Peoples course for students of social work, the Tsuu T'ina language and culture course, the work that the Native Centre does and the increase of Indigenous professors (10 in the Werklund School of Education, alone).

Associate professor and Director of Indigenous Education Initiatives Jacqueline Ottmann says all students can benefit from Indigenous knowledge in an intellectual environment. Spending a semester learning about Indigenous issues would pay great dividends to anyone working in business, social work, education and law, as well as numerous other sectors, adds Ottmann. As more universities across Canada are recognizing the importance of Indigenous education, Ottmann says, "UCalgary is well-positioned to be a leader that embraces Indigenous ways of knowing and being."

Recent studies, including a report from the Ottawa-based Centre for the Study of Living Standards, suggest that more than \$170 billion could be added to Canada's economy by 2026 if Indigenous peoples achieved the same education levels as other Canadians.

The statistics speak for themselves. The latest data shows that more than 40 per



This depiction includes items from six Indigenous faculty: Jacqueline Ottmann's blue and red beaded hair ties; the moccasins once worn by Phyllis Steeves' grandfather; Greg Lowan-Trudeau's birch bark makuk holds his beaded star; the eagle feather was given to Lyn Daniels; the Métis sash belongs to Yvonne Poitras Pratt; Karlee Fellner's hand drum frames the collection.

cent of Indigenous Canadians did not earn a high-school diploma. And, while 33 per cent of the non-Aboriginal population had a university degree, the number for Aboriginal Canadians was 12 per cent.

Aiming to improve these dire conditions, the Werklund School of Education formed a task force in 2013 to address this education gap. Some of its recommendations will be reflected in the new Indigenous Strategy:

- Engage in conversations about Indigenous aims, issues and contexts in relation to the Werklund School of Education.
- Ensure that traditional knowledge and stories are shared.
- Examine how research methods and educational theories are being taught and practised.
- Evaluate courses to ensure each is designed to include Indigenous ways of knowing, being and doing.
- Establish partnerships with Indigenous communities.
- Collaborate with various Indigenous initiatives across campus to ensure that initiatives are specialized, sustained and systemic.

"The best way to atone for the painful legacy of residential schools is to get Indigenous education right," stresses Ottmann. Do that, and all Canadians will benefit in the economic and cultural rewards. — Deb Cummings U

## Why Not an Alumna as Hamlet?

Due to Calgary's unprecedented monsoon-like summer, Shakespeare by the Bow's recent production of *Hamlet* was cancelled 13 times, but Natasha Alexandra Strickey, BA'16, didn't mind swaggering and sparring between the raindrops.

That is, until her final week, when she misjudged Brynn Linsey's moves and got whacked by Laertes' sword, fracturing her arm. Shortly after, while cradling a splint, the political science graduate popped by Alumni's office, admitting that night the tears were unabashedly real.



"Alas, poor Yorick," says Natasha Alexandra Strickey, gazing at Hamlet's beloved jester.

As a drama student (her minor), "we were always told that acting isn't pretending, it is being," she laughs, adding the words of UCalgary professor Brian Smith came back to her that night when she realized, yet again, what he meant by, "you are yourself, but at a different address."

No one was more surprised than Strickey when she landed the role of Hamlet, other than perhaps the five other women who were also cast in male roles — Horatio (Keshia Cheesman, BFA'16), Rosencrantz (Jesselle Lauren, BA'15), Guildenstern (Bianca Miranda, BFA'16) and Laertes (Brynn Linsey). In fact, eight young UCalgary alumni made up the joyful cast of 13 in this gender-bending production, directed by Kate Newby. — Deb Cummings U



**UCalgary Alumni**  
August 19 via Twitter

Alumna Kirsti Lay & student Allison Beveridge bring home the bronze. Congrats!  
[#ucalgary50](#)  
[bit.ly/2aVPSbc](http://bit.ly/2aVPSbc) [pic.twitter.com/19g9Wfbo05](https://twitter.com/19g9Wfbo05)



**Cole Saxton**

June 21 via Twitter

Happy National Aboriginal day!!  
[#@UCalgary](#) [#yyc](#)  
[#NationalAboriginalDay](#)



**UCalgary**

April 29 via Twitter

Thank you Calgary. We're proud to have grown up with this amazing city.  
[#UCalgary50](#)



**UCalgary**

April 29 via Twitter

What a sight! Close-up of the Calgary Tower... you might even say it looks energized. [#UCalgary50](#)



# #UCALGARY50

Share your stories @  
[ucalgary.ca/celebrate](http://ucalgary.ca/celebrate)

**UCalgary**

April 29 via Twitter

Kicking off our year-long 50th Anniversary celebration with the community.  
[#UCalgary50](#)



**UCalgary**

April 29 via Twitter

Celebrating 50 Years: Bermuda Shorts Day at the University of Calgary.  
[#UCalgary50](#)  
[pic.twitter.com/TcKyy1bU89](https://twitter.com/TcKyy1bU89)



**Druh Farrell**

April 29 via Twitter

Another reason why [#yyc](#) is a great city.  
[@UCalgary](#) marks 50 yrs! [#UCalgary50](#)



**Kelly Johnston**

July 6 via Twitter

Big dreams! I see two future @UCalgary grads. Can I get a Yahoo! [#UCalgary50](#)

**Safia N thoo**

April 26 via Twitter

@UCalgary This is my city.  
This is my university. [#UCalgary50](#)




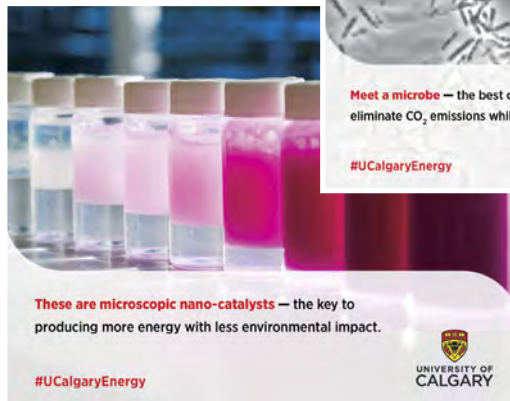


# UCalgary Blazes Inroads Toward Scientific Frontiers

**T**he University of Calgary has been recognized for its energy leadership, attracting one of the federal government's most prestigious research awards, the Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF). UCalgary's Global Research Initiative in Sustainable Low Carbon Unconventional Resources, valued at \$75 million, will support the combined strengths of researchers from across campus — from engineering to microbiology.

"This CFREF will enable a truly game-changing initiative for the transition to a low-carbon future — including the audacious idea of extracting energy from Canada's vast petroleum resources while leaving the carbon in the ground," explains Dr. Steven Bryant, the university's scientific leader for the CFREF program.

UCalgary's program seeks ambitious solutions that will greatly reduce the environmental footprint of existing fossil fuel supply chains and takes the bold step of seeking innovative, fossil fuels-based energy systems that are low- or even zero-carbon. This vital support will build on the university's leading position and its partnerships that make UCalgary a global hub for energy leadership and research. — *Sandy Robertson* 



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# A Zombie Ate My Epidemiology Textbook

Simulations, public confidence and nimble intelligence are essential components of effective epidemic preparedness. Zombie epidemiology, unreal and undead, can be an effective means of training and engagement

**T**hanks to the popularity of TV shows like *The Walking Dead* and decades' worth of movies, zombies have become a staple of popular culture. But, far from being restricted to the worlds of science fiction and horror, researchers have seen how zombies can actually reflect real-world concerns about disease transmission. So much so that agencies such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the U.S. have developed "Zombie Day" or Z-Day plans. Stephanie Coward, MSc'14, is currently a PhD candidate in community health sciences (epidemiology) at the University of Calgary. A pop-culture and zombie enthusiast, she applies real-life principles of epidemiology to the fictional scenario of a zombie outbreak. She has presented these applications to audiences of fellow pop-culture and science devotees at Calgary's Nerd Nite and the Calgary Comic and Entertainment Expo. This is an excerpt from her talk:

## Case Definition

First, during a zombie outbreak, you need to prepare a case definition. To do this, one needs to define the characteristics of an individual with the disease's signs and symptoms. These should be simple to identify, but allow for enough specificity that a zombie can be correctly identified, i.e., differentiated from an individual high

## CASE STUDY

on [the recreational designer drug known as] bath salts. There are two separate scenarios that need to be accounted for: the transition period after infection and the resulting "zombification" of an individual. During transition, an individual will have a mortal wound or bite accompanied by fever, flu-like symptoms or weakness and fatigue. Once transitioned, the classic zombie has the following characteristics: cannibalistic, blank/empty stare, slow-moving,

distracted by motion and sound, impaired cognition, viscous blood, cellular necrosis and no pain response.

## Mathematical Modelling

Mathematical modelling of infectious disease is done with pathogens to model disease outbreak and also to quantify the effects of different interventions and possible scenarios. It seems that the only intervention that would allow humans to survive a zombie outbreak is to quickly eradicate them. With any other intervention, the model shows that the zombies would still overtake humanity. Even a cure would only allow humans and zombies to co-exist. **U**



Stephanie Coward uses "zombies" in lessons on community health.

Joey Windsor

# Yours for the taking.

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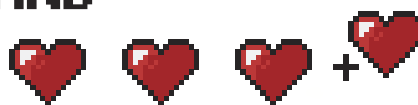




# LEVEL UP

## WITH AIDEN BUCKLAND

by Doug Ferguson



Canada recently bumped the United Kingdom to dominate third spot in terms of employment in the video-gaming field — after Japan and the United States — with 16,000 employees, 348 companies and an economic impact of \$2 billion.

According to the Entertainment Software Association of Canada, about 59 per cent of Canadians play video games. With numbers like these, an increasing number of universities are providing an academic channel for ongoing discussions on games and gaming — precisely the field that 36-year-old scholar Aiden Buckland

### IN CONVERSATION

is pursuing at UCalgary. No trippy moniker like BoomBoom or ClydeBot, Buckland goes by jvj24601 and admits his gaming time has shrunk to about five hours a week as he now divides his time between his PhD research and teaching in the Department of Communication, Media and Film in the faculty of arts.

#### What is your area of research?

I am doing an ethnography — a study of people and cultures from their point of view — on the gamers in the university's League of Legends (LoL) Club, an online eSports game.

#### Why does studying video games matter?

The amount of time people are investing in gaming is substantial and understanding what people are doing in that space is an important part of evaluating this emerging hobby. According to UCalgary's LoL Facebook page, there are more than 300 players, but I've only ever seen a few dozen in the same place at the same time.

#### What attracts the gamers to the LoL Club?

The gamers I've spoken to seem to gravitate toward the level of competition they find in LoL. One of the impacts of having a professional sphere within video gaming is that it provides a model for how one can approach their game. Although none of my participants thought they could become professional players, they look to the play of these professionals as something to aspire to.

**"The amount of time and effort people are investing in gaming is substantial . . ."**

#### Is there a darker side to online culture?

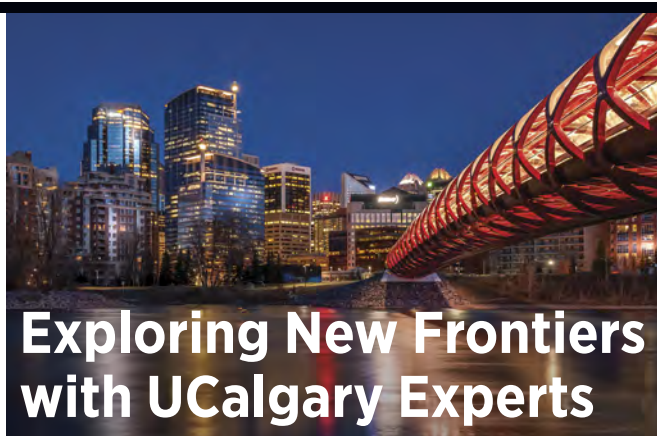
Yes, and we're seeing it pop up in more prominent places, such as the legitimization of the alt right by Donald Trump. We are now living in such a fragmented world that people who feel left out can find each other online and pool together. They can really make their outsider views more appealing to more people than they could in the past.

#### Let's go back to the dark side — tell us about the survey you conducted at the Calgary Comic and Entertainment Expo in 2015 that was targeted by Gamergate?

Gamergate are anonymous opponents of feminism and political correctness in video game culture. They often use social media to harass women associated with gaming and we wanted to find out where they got their information. We distributed a print version of the survey at the expo and we also created an online version with a QR code. This was partly retweeted by Breitbart News tech journalist Milo Yiannopoulos, the guy who was recently excommunicated from Twitter for inciting a hateful campaign against comedian Leslie Jones after the release of *Ghostbusters*. The mere mention of the hashtag was enough to incite his followers to follow the link and fill it out — in 12 hours, some 1,400 people completed the survey. Those from Gamergate got their information from YouTube, Twitch, Reddit and 4chan. Those from the expo got theirs from traditional media and traditional online gaming outlets.

#### Who's your top gaming hero/heroine?

I have to confess the Master Chief and Cortana (as a tandem) from the Bungie/343's *Halo* series keep me coming back. I haven't played *Halo 5* yet, but once my dissertation is submitted, I might have to pick it up as a reward. **U**




## Exploring New Frontiers with UCalgary Experts

**A**re Canadian markets truly free? Do show horses get stage fright? Does “game face” improve athletic performance? Is the nursing home unavoidable? These are some of the questions that UCalgary researchers tackle in their quest to find answers to everyday challenges and to move the world forward.


Through the new [ucalgary.ca/explore](http://ucalgary.ca/explore) website, the University of Calgary is sharing those answers with the community at large. With accessible, relevant, meaningful content, including web articles, eBooks and videos, the website explores a wide variety of issues, such as the economy, mental health, fitness, running injuries, concussion and early childhood development. Researchers also share their findings through online webinars, during which community members can ask questions and get insights directly from researchers without having to leave their homes or workplaces.

Every quarter, we provide new insights on themes ranging from health and energy, the environment to culture and space, providing opportunities for the community to gain research-based information and connect with researchers, behind the studies.

Beginning this month, we'll be exploring Urban Evolution, looking at issues like healthy neighbourhoods, sustainability, living with pets, immigration, innovation, entrepreneurship and transportation issues. We invite you to explore new answers with us at [ucalgary.ca/explore](http://ucalgary.ca/explore). — Mike MacKinnon 

## ‘MoJo’ Opens its Doors

**L**ocated at UCalgary’s Cumming School of Medicine, the new Mobility and Joint Health Centre (MoJo) opened in September. The research facility will focus on bone and joint disorders, which are among the most common chronic conditions affecting Canadians and are the leading cause of disabilities, worldwide. Evidence suggests that early diagnosis and intervention can positively influence the long-term outcome of these chronic diseases.

The new facility features state-of-the-art imaging, movement assessment and diagnostic equipment that will be used by researchers to assess bone and joint health. Established with support by a \$4.7-million grant from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), a \$4.7-million grant from the Province of Alberta, industry partners and private donors, MoJo will be a hub for physicians, basic scientists, biomedical engineers, patients and the Alberta health system. — UToday 



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*The Learned Ladies*, by Molière. School of Creative and Performing Arts, 2016.  
Photo by Citrus Photography.



# Something in the Water...

by Doug Ferguson

**G**enetically modifying algae is one method being explored by a University of Calgary researcher to help protect the world's supply of drinking water.

Genes in bacteria resistant to certain drugs excreted into wastewater have been placed in algae, says Leland Jackson, a biology professor in the faculty of science. "In the presence of, let's say, antibiotic X, that gene is turned on and, when it's turned on, it produces an enzyme that can degrade X," he says.

Faced with a world where drinking water is potentially threatened by everything from pharmaceutical drugs to climate change, Jackson is leading an effort by university, municipal and industrial researchers to help protect the planet's water security. "It's

not 'security' in a terrorism context," he says. "It's the risk

that we're going to run out of clean water.

"People think they can turn the tap on and clean water will come out and it will never end, but, with declining water supplies, melting glaciers and changing precipitation patterns, that's probably not going to be the case. There are things we can do now before we get pushed up against the wall."

Jackson is the scientific director of Advancing Canadian Wastewater Assets (ACWA), a \$38.6-million research facility involving UCalgary and the City of Calgary at the city's Pine Creek Wastewater Treatment Centre. The only one of its kind in the world, ACWA includes 12 artificial streams that mimic natural ones. Besides studying the effects of wastewater effluent, scientists are researching the benefits of new ways to remove contaminants.

Experts from the faculty of science, Cumming School of Medicine, faculty of veterinary medicine and Schulich School of Engineering are teaming up with city engineers and industrial partners. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to work in a



Leland Jackson conducts research on the shore of the Bow River.

facility like this," says Spanish biologist and toxicologist Jose Rodriguez Gil.

An *Eyes High* postdoctoral fellow in Jackson's lab, Rodriguez Gil says recent advances mean chemicals can be detected at concentrations equal to a thimbleful in 10 Olympic-sized swimming pools of wastewater. Substances range from nicotine to antibiotics, along with natural and synthetic estrogens from birth control pills.

Although male fish have been found with eggs in their testes in the Oldman River in southern Alberta, wastewater is a "really complex mixture," says Rodriguez Gil, adding the simple presence of a compound isn't proof there's a problem. "That's what we're trying to figure out."

While the research is in its preliminary stages regarding drug destruction, it is already possible to filter out algae to create things such as biofuels, says Jackson, who

is working with assistant professor Joenel Alcantara of the Cumming School.

Jackson initially sees the genetically modified algae being potentially used in applications such as feedlot lagoons that concentrate livestock waste sprayed on fields as fertilizer. "We have about 4,500 feedlots in southern Alberta, and a lot of the manure is not managed particularly well," he says, adding a growth promoter called alpha-zearalanol that is only used in feedlots has also been found in the Oldman River.

Water security can't be ignored, says Jackson. "If you think about where all these things are headed — more people taking pharmaceutical drugs as our population ages, and declining water supplies — that means we're going to have more challenges in terms of the drugs in municipal wastewater effluent," he says. **U**

## RISKY WATERS

💧 If current trends continue, the world will be demanding 40 per cent more water than will be available by 2030, the UN agency forecast in a recent report.

💧 Canadians are water hogs, using about 330 L/person/day (just slightly less than the U.S.) and double that of Europeans. Globally, Canadians pay the least for water.

💧 Farmers — who use 75 per cent of global water use — will have to become more efficient.

💧 Switching from an older 20-L flush toilet to a dual-flush (only 3 or 6 L/flush) can save 116 L/person/day. For 1 million people, this equates to 42 billion fewer L/year used to flush toilets, the largest single domestic water use.

💧 Based on concentrations of drugs measured in wastewater, London, U.K., is the cocaine capital of Europe.

💧 Calgary's wastewater treatment plants release just under a half-billion L/day of wastewater into the Bow River.



# Beam Me Up, Scotty!

Collaboration between quantum scientists and the City of Calgary sets a distance record for teleporting a photon over a fibre network

by Drew Scherban

**W**hat if you could behave like the crew on the *Starship Enterprise* and teleport yourself home or anywhere else in the world? As a human, you're probably not going to realize this any time soon; if you're a photon, you might want to keep reading.

Through a collaboration between UCalgary, the City of Calgary and researchers in the United States, a group of physicists led by Wolfgang Tittel, professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, have successfully demonstrated teleportation of a photon (an elementary particle of light) over a straight-line distance of

six kilometres using the city's fibre optic cable infrastructure. The project began

with an Urban Alliance seed grant in 2014.

This accomplishment, which set a new record for distance of transferring a quantum state by teleportation, has landed the researchers a spot in the prestigious *Nature Photonics* scientific journal.

## City's accessible dark fibre makes research possible

The research could not be possible without access to the proper technology. One of the critical pieces of infrastructure that support quantum networking is accessible dark fibre. Dark fibre, so named because of its composition — a single optical cable with no electronics or network equipment on the alignment — doesn't interfere with quantum technology.

The City of Calgary is building and provisioning dark fibre to enable next-generation municipal services today and for the future.

"By opening the city's dark fibre infrastructure to the private and public sector, non-profit companies and academia, we help enable the development of projects like quantum encryption and create oppor-

tunities for further research, innovation and economic growth in Calgary," says Tyler Andruschak, project manager with Innovation and Collaboration at the City of Calgary.

"The university receives secure access to a small portion of our fibre optic infrastructure and the city may benefit in the future by leveraging the secure encryption keys generated out of the lab's research to protect our critical infrastructure," says Andruschak. In order to deliver next-generation services to Calgarians, the city has been increasing its fibre optic footprint, connecting all City buildings, facilities and assets.

## Timed to within one millionth of one millionth of a second

As if teleporting a photon wasn't challenging enough, Tittel and his team encountered a number of other roadblocks along the way.

Due to changes in the outdoor temperature, the transmission time of photons from their creation point to City Hall varied over the course of a day.

"The challenge was to keep the photons' arrival time synchronized to within 10 pico-seconds," says Tittel. "That is one trillionth, or one millionth of one millionth of a second."

Secondly, parts of their lab had to be moved to two locations in the city, which, as Tittel explains, was particularly tricky for the measurement station at City Hall that included state-of-the-art superconducting single-photon detectors developed by the National Institute for Standards and Technology and NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.



Riley Brandt

A group of physicists led by Wolfgang Tittel have successfully demonstrated teleportation of a photon over a straight-line distance of six kilometres.

"Since these detectors only work at temperatures less than one degree above absolute zero, the equipment also included a compact cryostat," says Tittel.

This demonstration is arguably one of the most striking manifestations of a puzzling prediction of quantum mechanics, but it also opens the path to building a future quantum Internet, the long-term goal of the Tittel group.

*The Urban Alliance is a strategic research partnership between the City of Calgary and UCalgary, created to encourage and co-ordinate the seamless transfer of cutting-edge research between the university and the city for the benefit of all our communities. U*

# Dropping In

CLARK H. SMITH  
BRAIN TUMOUR CENTRE

## Beautiful Minds

by Jacquie Moore

**D**r. Jennifer Chan doesn't typically get to meet the people whose lives — and deaths — drive her work. Nonetheless, she's deeply moved by their generosity, particularly as the contributions are invariably to help future individuals rather than to save their own lives.

Chan is a pathologist/clinician-scientist who oversees the Clark H. Smith Centre's tissue bank. A bio-repository of 1,000 samples of human brain tumour, blood and spinal fluid, the bank is a rare and vital source of materials for labs striving to advance cancer research here and around the world. While most of the tissue comes from excess following surgical procedures (with patients' consent), some come from autopsies, as well. It's the latter donations that make Chan step back in awe.

"There are a couple of memorable cases where children have died of aggressive tumours for which there is limited knowledge and no effective treatment," says Chan. "In their times of greatest sadness, these families have consented to donate their child's tissue to research — during a precious window when their cells are very extremely useful. That's the greatest gift. There's no benefit to their child — it's completely altruistic."

Combined with philanthropic support that ensures expert research and discovery ensues, such gifts have infinite potential to benefit countless others.

Clark H. Smith was a beloved husband and father who passed away from a malignant brain tumour in 2001. His wife, Jane, and son, Tony, have since invested more than \$5.2 million in philanthropic support for brain cancer research and education, beginning with establishing a centre in Clark's name. The family's subsequent targeted donations have created a program whose activities have flourished and whose potential for impact has attracted the talent to exceed beyond its initial scope.

These days, the tissue bank is established enough to draw in external funding. Most notably, an \$8.2-million grant from the Terry Fox Research Institute currently supports a multi-institutional glioblastoma research project. "That funding has allowed us to harness diverse expertise to create a screening and discovery project — but, without the samples and cells, there would be no project," says Chan. It's that synergy that has transformed the typical model of scientists working side by side in a lab to one where they work hand in hand. As Chan put it, the funding and priorities at the centre, "link us together and make us greater than the individual investigator." A rare and crucial feat, indeed.



**1** **Cancer samples** are prepped for transport to the brain tumour stem cell core facility where they will be studied for genetic alterations and drug resistance.

**2** **Dr. Ian Restall** is the first postdoctoral scholar to receive the new Clark H. Smith fellowship, created to support trainees in brain tumour research; he specializes in brain tumour-initiating cell biology and experimental therapies.

**3** Recently recruited investigator **Dr. Marco Gallo** was attracted to the Clark H. Smith Centre for both its renowned tissue bank and its reputation for collaborative research with colleagues who span the spectrum from clinical to basic science.





Brian Harder

**4 Dr. Jennifer Chan's research interests** are pediatric-oriented; she was attracted to the Clark H. Smith because, as she puts it, "the ingredients for excellence — the people, ideas, space and infrastructure — are all here."

**5 Artwork** inspired by Chan's kids, Harmony and Aurora: they drew the stick figures standing on a computer-generated strand of DNA, and Chan inserted the molecule in the sky.

**6 Mice share about 90 per cent** of their genes with humans; the pink image on this screen is a tumour-bearing mouse brain used to study the effects of drugs identified through screening.

**7 Collection tubes** are used to gather tissues, blood and body fluids from brain cancer patients that are put into the tissue bank.

**8 This manual gives** instruction for how to use the electroporator, an appliance housed in a specialized room that drives genetic material into cells using electric current; it allows investigators to carry out specialized animal procedures for cancer modelling.

**9** The same gene that causes brain cancer in humans is found in fruit flies. **These tubes contain** fruit flies (*Drosophila*), that are being used as a model organism to understand cell growth. **U**

## Chandra Crawford

MBA'16

What becomes of Olympic athletes after the Games end? While the world is full of stories about the lead-up, we rarely look at the next chapter. That's why we contacted three-time Olympian and 2006 gold medallist Chandra Crawford, who retired from cross-country ski racing in 2014 and graduated last spring from the Haskayne School of Business with an Executive MBA and a baby — her first.

**How do you deal with challenges?** I journal like crazy and find resources or people in similar situations. For example, I found it hard to get the hang of school when I went back two years ago and so I went to procrastination and productivity workshops and listened to a podcast on study tips. **Why did you decide to go back to school?** I always wanted

to go to university and knew it would be there when my ski career ended. The MBA was my first choice because I thought it would give me leadership skills for running Fast and Female (a not-for-profit that empowers girls, eight to 18, through sport by introducing them to Olympic role models) and open up vocational options in my life. **What have you been doing since you retired from skiing?** I began expanding Fast and Female and started my MBA. Then I got married and moved to Calgary from Canmore. Then I got a puppy (named Stella) and a job at National Bank and got pregnant


on our honeymoon and had a daughter two weeks after I graduated with my MBA. **How did you manage all that?** I have a super-supportive husband and family and stayed sane by doing 30 minutes of exercise every morning. Mentally, the most important skill I learned was to let go of trying to look like I knew what I was doing and just ask for help. Once I became more comfortable asking what felt like stupid questions, life opened up and everything was way better. **How will you apply your new skills that you learned in studying for your MBA?** I am already thinking how to make Fast and Female more efficient. Before my MBA, I had no idea how to analyze how successful our events were financially and how to cultivate longevity and power. I also learned that my former leadership style was passive and likely ineffective.

I now view my leadership as a product and my team as customers and that I need to make it work for them. That has not been an easy process. **What is your idea of perfect happiness?** I am interested in the concept of Eudamonia that pertains to human flourishing. The key is the pursuit of challenge. **Which living**

**person do you most admire?** Sharon Wood, the first woman to climb Mt. Everest. **What is the best advice you've ever received?** I just found a birthday card

from my dad where he drew a road and wrote, "The road less travelled leads to all the best places." **What are you reading these days?** *New Yorker* magazine, the weekend *Globe and Mail* and parenting books like *How to Raise an Adult* and *Raising Bebe* (hilarious). **Did being an Olympic athlete help train your brain for taking an**

**MBA?** Definitely. I was already used to positive self talk, breaking down tasks, not taking failures personally and generally focusing on doing my best and not worrying about others too much,

except to learn from them and encourage them! **Do you have a personal motto you live by?** "No regrets!" I guide a lot of my actions and decisions by trying to imagine if I'll regret it later. In ski racing, I'd say, "If I don't do my core exercises every morning and eat egg whites and veggies for breakfast and get as fit as possible, I will regret that. If I go to the party instead of resting my legs for tomorrow's workout, I will regret that." **What is your most treasured possession?** Thirty journals, which I started writing when I was 10. **If I had met you at 18, what would you have said you'd be doing in your 30s?** I think my absolute dream was to win a gold in skiing and use it for a motivational career of some kind . . . a bit like Sharon Wood. — Deb Cummings 





## Brianna Guenther

BHSc'09

Associate lawyer at Burnet, Duckworth & Palmer and volunteer extraordinaire, Brianna Guenther suffered a concussion seven years ago that left her on bed rest for six months — but that didn't thwart her drive to attend law school. Here, the fifth-generation Calgarian, a recipient of the prestigious Chancellor's Club scholarship, ruminates on her greatest weaknesses, biggest heroes and how a scholarship can alter a life.

**What is a Chancellor's Club scholarship?** It's a scholarship program [at UCalgary] where 10 high school students can receive up to \$40,000 collected from Chancellor Club membership fees. I was one of those grateful recipients who didn't have to worry about money — I could just focus on being a good student and worthwhile volunteer initiatives. **Why did you**

**choose Bachelor of Health Sciences as your undergrad degree?** People

do make fun of me when I tell them that I thought the best way to prepare for law was to take the hardest thing and, for me, that was this program. **Who are your heroes?**

Hands-down, my parents, but also Dr. James Orbinski [co-founder of Doctors Without Borders Canada, who accepted the Nobel Peace Prize on the organization's behalf in 1999]. He came to talk to us while I was at the U of C and affirmed that all of us can make a difference. I had helped raise \$15,000 for Doctors Without Borders that year, so it was neat

to meet a hero of mine whom we were supporting. **How did you wind up working for the Embassy of Papua New Guinea in Washington, D.C.?** The networking that happens at Chancellor's Club dinners is extraordinary. That's where I met the ambassador of Papua New Guinea, who was formally an international lawyer based out of Australia. He offered me a summer job which involved doing a lot of research on the HIV/AIDS situation in Papua New Guinea, as well as shadowing him through D.C.'s political spheres. I loved it. **Have you had any mentors along the way?** So many, but when I had a concussion in my last year of undergrad, Joanne Cuthbertson [a former UCalgary chancellor] was unbelievable and helped coordinate my studies so I could finish writing my papers from home. Because that helped my brain heal, I could go to law school at

Queen's that September. **Did you ever want to be anything else besides a lawyer?** Frankly, I failed in my first career, which was to be the first-ever female CFL player! Every time I watch *Rudy* I still think maybe, just maybe, I could make it as a Stampeders. Dickenson, if you're reading this — please give me a try-out! **Speaking**

**of Rudy, what other movies do you like?**

*Beauty and the Beast*. I think Belle was a very strong female character for her time.

And *Grease*. My best friend and I know every lyric in that movie ... and we still fight over who gets to sing Sandy's parts. **What are your guilty pleasures?** I spend a lot of time watching the Calgary Stampeders, the Flames, *The Bachelorette* and *Friday Night Lights* (generally accompanied by a lot of junk food and prosecco). I have a drawer that is full of Cheezies, glosette raisins and chips.

**Do you have a favourite motto you live by?** When I didn't know if I should go to

Georgetown for a year to take my Master's of International Business and Economic Law, Mr. Palmer (the "P" in BDP) said: "You rarely regret the things you do. More often you regret what you don't do." And so I went — and have never regretted it (although I did miss my husband a lot). **Have you travelled much?** Not enough. When my husband and I were students at Queen's, we spent a semester in France and took 14 trips while we were there. Currently, we like going to big U.S. cities to see sporting events. Recently, we've loved D.C., Chicago and Austin. **What are the qualities of a good lawyer?** Attention to detail. Desire to get things done. Resourcefulness. Being a team player. **Any advice for students?** There are so many naysayers in this world — don't listen to them. Never accept "no," and remember, you can accomplish things at any age that really matter! — *Deb Cummings* **U**





# It's Been a Hard Day's Night — The Quest for Sleep

*We are a nation of unhealthy sleepers, discovers insomniac Mike Fisher, who checked himself in to a sleep clinic*

A blue electronic box dangles from my neck, as if I've been tagged in the forest; a wayward, sleepy biped newly outfitted for tracking in the laboratory.

The box sprouts red and yellow and green wires. A black curling thing snakes to the nape of my neck; it prevents the wires from tangling as I lay down. A patchwork of electrodes on my body feeds information to the box and a computer.

I wanted this, desperately.

I'm one of the 2,000-plus patients yearly who seeks hi-tech help at the Centre for Sleep & Human Performance in Calgary. It's an accredited, state-of-the-art facility that uses cutting-edge technology to help visiting and local patients grab for the Holy Grail — a good night's sleep.

So how did the Centre for Sleep become a mecca of sorts for the bleary-eyed legion of poor souls like me for whom lying down at night is almost always a Mexican standoff with the unblinking ceiling?

### Canadians Yearn for Slumber

In the past 25 years or so, sleep's become a valuable commodity that's harder than ever to acquire. The advent of personal computers widened our world, but electronic devices make us available 24/7,

#### ZZZZ RESEARCH

always beckoning. Before bedtime, the eerie blue-light glow can affect your body's natural production of melatonin — and eat into sleep like acid.

There's also the worldwide rise of corporate culture with deadly punchlines such as, "You can sleep when you're dead." And there's the flood of pharmaceuticals to try and hasten and maintain slumber, with mixed results. We're washing away restorative nighttime when we should be enjoying recovery, regeneration and rest.

While there are no hard statistics detailing precisely how many Canadian adults struggle to gain sleep, the 2016 *Canadian Sleep Review* reports sleep times range between five and more than seven hours a night — amounts Canadians wish were

longer and of better quality.

The study, funded with support from the Dairy Farmers of Canada, warns that lack of sleep burdens individuals, society (loss of human resources with decreased productivity and increased absenteeism) and relationships.

We're actually getting about the same amount of sleep as people in recent decades, according to a 2013 Gallup Poll in the United States that considers data back to the early 1900s, but it's not the good stuff — the necessary, deep slumber that helps us to recover cognitively, neurologically and metabolically.

Why?

### Switch Off, says UCalgary Researcher

Dr. Charles Samuels, a physician and University of Calgary clinical assistant professor, Cumming School of Medicine and Centre for Sleep Medical Director, is the president-elect of the Canadian Sleep Society.

While he's helped pro hockey players,





## Tips for Getting a Good Night's Sleep

Routine, routine, routine is the best recipe for healthy slumber. Same bedtime, same wake time, including weekends, reinforces your body's natural rhythm.

Put your tech toys away at least two hours before bedtime. Set an alarm to do so. The blue light emitted by electronic devices alerts your brain to wake up.

With your electronic devices away, dim the lights before bedtime. Pull the shades to block outside light. For sleeping, an eye mask can help.

Keep your sleep environment like a cave — cool, dark and quiet. A room temperature between 16-19°C helps facilitate sleep. Your body temperature naturally drops as you fall into sleep.

Try to take regular daytime naps. A restorative, daily 20-minute nap works best for adults. Between 1-4 p.m. works best, but even a short power nap can make you more alert and productive. Nap 30 minutes or more and you're in the deeper stages of sleep, likely to awake groggy.

— Source: Centre for Sleep & Human Performance

Bettmann/Contributor

Breaktime for steel workers caught snoozing 800 ft. above Manhattan, circa 1930.



## Little Known Sleep Facts

20% of Canadians have used prescription sleep meds

87% would pay up to \$500 for a week's worth of restful sleep

36% would choose a luxurious bed to ensure a restful sleep every night over a weeklong dream vacation

20% would describe sleep as a rare luxury

— The Canadian Sleep Review 2016 (with support from Dairy Farmers of Canada)

police officers and Olympians gain shuteye with research into how sleep works to improve athletic performance, his research also applies to improving sleep for better overall health.

What's the worst enemy of good sleep? "Technology," says Samuels. "It's constant and it's unhealthy. Do not look at your phone before you go to bed. Do not model this behaviour for your children. Do not allow video games before bedtime."

So, while tech can destroy sleep, it can also be used to probe how to improve slumber. Some patients arrive at the Centre for Sleep through a doctor's referral, while others have submitted a self-referral form on its website.

"If you have non-restorative sleep, can't fall asleep within 30 minutes or snore, these may be signs of an underlying sleep disorder," says Amy Bender, a researcher at UCalgary's faculty of kinesiology and Centre for Sleep & Human Performance. "You'd likely benefit by seeking help from a sleep professional."

A UCalgary and Centre for Sleep study of the Canadian women's rowing team prior to the Summer Olympics in Brazil reduced team members' time spent in front of computer screens that were interrupting their sleep patterns. The payoff was enhanced mood and reduced anxiety, says Bender.

I'm no Olympian, but, after technicians monitored me overnight in a bedroom at the Centre for Sleep with the same attention they'd spend on a pro athlete, I met with one of the sleep specialists. A detailed report showed I had, "overall moderate sleep-disordered breathing," preventing me from getting good sleep.

I was given choices, including using a CPAP (continuous positive airway pressure) machine, which would keep my airways open and prevent snoring and disruptive awakening during sleep, or a dental device that could help do the same. In the end, I'm still trying to decide. I think I'll ditch my iPhone tonight and sleep on it — or, at least, I'll try. **U**

Is technology in classrooms causing a deeper shift in how students learn? How are the Internet and search engines impacting student research skills? Discover the answers in this issue's debate as two different professors invite us into their classrooms where, in one, technology is embraced and, in the other, less so.

**Michele Jacobsen, BEd'93, MSc'95, PhD'98, is dedicated to disrupting common beliefs about teaching. As associate professor in the Werklund School of Education, her area of research focuses on technology-enabled learning and teaching in both real time and online, from K-12 to higher education.**

## **What kind of technological devices and practices do you use in your classroom?**

I encourage students to use their mobile devices and laptops during class to capture key ideas, access and share resources and expertise. I am thrilled when students live-tweet ideas and insights in class, or post a reflection or photos on their blog or add articles they have found to our D2L learning space. I tend to experiment with a range of technologies that include Google apps, Dropbox, Twitter, blogs, clickers, mobile apps, web conferencing, wikis, virtual worlds, digital games, video editing and so on.

**How has access to online information impacted the teaching profession?** One of my greatest joys is to support students in building upon what is known and to create new knowledge, to contribute new ideas to the discipline and to collaboratively critique and debate existing knowledge and ideas. The professor's role has expanded from the important task of engaging students in a learning community to also helping students develop digital-literacy strategies for critically assessing the value, relevance and impact of information and ideas.

**In what ways can the use of technology improve/detract from teaching and learning?** Conventional brick-and-mortar images of higher-education classrooms with a "sage on the stage" have expanded to include a wide range of technology-enhanced learning experiences. I use the Internet, virtual worlds, social networking and audio or videoconferencing, online publishing and programming to provide support for global conversations beyond class, for digital media and information-sharing and for knowledge-building in community. Students and I use our networked mobile devices, tablets and laptops to access and contribute to blended and online courses, to capture, edit and publish audio, video, images and animations from anywhere and at anytime, and by adding our voices and

ideas to online spaces and forums beyond the course so that, as a learning community, we can influence global conversations.

**How do you use technology to communicate with students?** I use technology to connect with students who are in Calgary and also around the world. In a course, I set weekly online office hours so students can connect with me synchronously, as well as I set up individual meeting times with students using Skype, Google hangouts, virtual world and the telephone. I use Adobe Connect to hold synchronous online seminars in my classes, and also to meet with my research and teaching teams, and I set a generous timeframe for email inquiries and requests.

**In the age of easy access to online information, what has changed in the way students learn?** I hope that widespread online access to information and to each other changes the type of work we design for students in higher education. For example, professors are called upon to be increasingly creative in designing tasks with questions that are not Google-able. Professors, today, should be challenging students to critically inquire and evaluate the knowledge base, to collaborate with others in analyzing and synthesizing knowledge and to forge new ideas and share perspectives on issues, debates and problems that characterize our disciplines, versus simply borrowing and repeating well-worn ideas.

**How do you see the classroom changing in the next 15 years?** An ongoing challenge will be to continue to engage with the broader community as part of the ongoing review, design and renewal of our programs so that teaching and learning on campus reflects the disciplinary knowledge, technological advancements and 21st-century competencies that today's students require to become leaders in a connected world.

# Connec

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Today's students require disciplinary knowledge, technological advancements and 21st-century competencies to become leaders in a connected world.





# tivity Clashes

When it comes to using technology in her classroom, Julie Sedivy, adjunct associate professor of psychology and linguistics, languages and cultures, follows a motto: “No more than is necessary.” She believes that, when class time is devoted to asking and exploring difficult questions, students become more curious and critical and that can lead to taking greater intellectual risks.

## What kind of technological devices and practices do you use in your classroom?

It depends. In some lab classes, we use computers to simulate experiments. But, for “lecture” classes, I often ask students to put away all of their devices, including laptops. I started doing this about five years ago,

and I was startled at how much it improved student performance and how much more interesting and alive classes became. I think that minimizing these devices reduces distraction, as well as it also shifts emphasis away from the idea that lectures are about transferring information from teacher to student. Instead of scrambling to transcribe the teacher’s words, students are free to focus on thinking.

**I think that email has actually reduced the communication between students and profs.**

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## How has access to online information impacted the teaching profession?

In principle, it should have helped professors focus on what they really have to offer, but I don’t think it’s worked out that way. I think students have come to see outside sources as replacements for professors, to see in-person contact with profs as redundant or dispensable. Maybe that’s because both students and professors have made the mistake of thinking that the role of professors is as keepers of content, rather than as expert guides who know what to do with that content.

## In what ways can the use of technology improve/detract from teaching and learning?

I think the biggest pedagogical mistake we’ve made with technology is in failing to ask exactly this question. We need to be clearer about saying, “Such and such a technology is good for this, but it’s bad for that,” and act accordingly. It’s great for being able to present complex visual information and do useful demos. It’s great for being able to access research articles in a fraction of the time it used to, but it can be a real barrier to deep, engaged discussion, the kind where you break out in a mental sweat. And I think that, because it has made certain aspects of intellectual work easy, it has created the illusion that intellectual work is, or should be, easy. In fact, it’s very, very hard and it should be very, very hard — or you’re just not doing it right.

**How do you use technology to communicate with students?** I use email. I use discussion boards. But these can be brutal-

ly inefficient for substantive discussion. In general, I think students dramatically underuse office hours. Oddly, I think that email has actually reduced the communication between students and profs — it has made students feel that in-person contact is bothersome to the professor (and maybe the student), but, at the same time, there’s a real limit to what you can deal with over email. Students who are having trouble understanding the material enough to formulate a specific question over email end up just not asking — because saying, “I’m confused, help!” is just not a useful email question.

## In the age of easy access to online information, what has changed in the way students learn?

On the positive side, students have become much more independent in terms of searching out information that they think is relevant. But, because it’s become so easy to find out what someone else thinks about something, there’s a danger of becoming too focused on reporting conclusions, rather than formulating arguments. As more students interact online, I think that they lose out on what can be gained from in-person discussion and working through a problem together. Very few students seem to study together or simply throw ideas around. In my classes, I try to give students a taste of how powerful these kinds of intellectual exchanges can be, and it’s one of the big reasons I ask them to put away their devices.

## How do you see the classroom changing in the next 15 years?

I like to think we’re going to get much smarter in how we use technology. I hope that we’ll use digital tools to free professors up from those aspects of teaching that are repetitive and uncreative to allow them to focus on creating relationships in which they can mentor, guide, provoke, challenge and inspire. If we don’t do this, I’m not sure that universities can succeed in the long run. **U**



Illustrations by Travis Sengaus

## Packed with Promise



**W**e are in the middle of a remarkable year for the University of Calgary.

As it celebrates its 50th year, the university was recently ranked in the top 200 universities in the world — a terrific achievement for an institution so young. Being in the top 200 will help attract research funding, help make graduates more competitive in the labour market and make the university more attractive to prospective students, faculty and staff.

The university's strategic plan, *Eyes High*, that has guided the institution's most recent progress, is in the process of being reenergized to guide future progress through to 2022. With widespread consultation on campus and in the community, alumni are invited to participate in a customized online survey as well as by focus group. (Discover more at [ucalgary.ca/alumni/energizing-eyes-high](http://ucalgary.ca/alumni/energizing-eyes-high).)

Also worthy of celebration is the unveiling of the university's fundraising campaign, *Energize*, an ambitious plan to raise \$1.3 billion to support growth and excellence in a number of areas. With more than \$725 million raised to date, *Energize* will be transformative for our community. Learn more at [ucalgary.ca/campaign](http://ucalgary.ca/campaign).

Here are some noteworthy opportunities for alumni to help celebrate UCalgary's anniversary over the next 12 months:

- *50 Years of Art* is now open at the Nickle Galleries, showcasing 70 pieces selected by alumni as their favourites.
- On Feb. 2, 2017, the university will again partner with Mount Royal University and the Calgary Flames in the Crowchild Classic. This popular annual event features the men's and women's hockey teams entertaining the 12,000-plus fans packing the Scotiabank Saddledome.
- On Feb. 26, the School of Creative and Performing Arts will present the *Celebrating 50 Years: A UCalgary Anniversary Gala* at the Jack Singer Concert Hall.
- In March, the university will feature a *Walrus Talk* on the leadership of Calgary, and we expect an alumni presence on the panel.
- Next September, UCalgary will host the second Alumni Weekend, featuring activities on campus and online. This is when we will recognize the successes of our alumni at the Arch Awards.

With so many programs and events happening, we hope to see you at some of them. Be sure to stay in touch at [ucalgarycelebrates.ca](http://ucalgarycelebrates.ca) or [ucalgary.ca/alumni](http://ucalgary.ca/alumni). **U**

**Vern Kimball**

President of UCalgary's Alumni Association

## Scaling Up



**A**s you've read throughout the magazine, we are in midst of the university's 50th year, and a tone of celebration, along with looking to what's next, is present across the University of Calgary.

At UCalgary Alumni this year, we've caught the buzz, too.

For this year's alumni program, you'll find many of the familiar favourites are returning.

**Skate with Santa** is back on December 4 at the Olympic Oval.

**Learn, Laugh, Lead**, with its assortment of personal and professional enrichment opportunities for recent graduates, is also back. We're bringing **Idea Exchange**, a collection of interesting lectures from alumni and faculty, home to Calgary to complement the regional series that's been in place for the past couple of years. And we'll continue to expand **Alumni Connect**, through which many alumni have connected with each other via general or topic-specific online networking sessions.

Of course, you can continue to read all about alumni stories and the university in this *UCalgary Alumni Magazine* and its digital counterparts — *UCalgary Alumni News* and *UCalgary Alumni Bulletin*. After two years with Kelsy Norman at the helm, the *Peer Review* podcast series is back with a new host who will share a unique collection of stories from notable university family members.

But, as you might expect, we are also looking to what's next and seeking more and more ways for alumni to engage.

Central to this year's growth is our **50 for 50 series**. With a tip of the hat to ESPN's 30 for 30 for the inspiration, we're featuring a minimum of 50 activities for alumni to take in during the course of the year, from lectures and networking events, to publications and online webinars. Details of what's upcoming are always available at [ucalgary.ca/alumni/50for50](http://ucalgary.ca/alumni/50for50).

We'll also launch an online book club this year and welcome the alumni travel program into the mix for its first full year. In addition, on the back of the successful series at the start of 2016, we'll also be ramping up our career-focused programming area.

We know that we're competing against many other options out there, so we'll stay focused on what we've heard you want — interesting intellectual content, a sense of what's happening at the university, stories about your peers — all through a variety of program options.

Do check us out — you're sure to find something! **U**

**Mark C. Sollis**

Associate Vice-President, Alumni



# RISKY BUSINESS



What, *exactly*,  
are we willing to risk when  
we leave academia for the “real world?”

Is it true that, on any adventure —  
whether it’s in a corporate boardroom  
or summing Mount Everest — you are  
the greatest risk to yourself?

**Mike Fisher** finds out

Illustrations by **Jason Esteban, BA’96**



If life is a mountain to climb, then, these days, we're hunkered down for a storm. The economy's taking a beating. Politicians are at each other's throats. The future is foggy. Getting ahead is like trying to gain traction on an increasingly slippery slope.

Yet we stick our necks out. We inch a bit further. We try and reach for a way forward. Every day, we risk making the wrong move, just to get along in the world.

"There's no way to avoid risk," says Dean Curran, a University of Calgary assistant professor in the Department of Sociology, whose research considers various facets of contemporary risk. "If you think in the broadest possible terms, living involves risk and, depending on the context, even *not* taking a risk is taking a risk."

So we pivot on moments, daily. We size things up, go with our gut, extend our reach, take the risk and occasionally, satisfyingly, seize the day.

"Sometimes, you can achieve valuable things by taking risks, whether in business or your personal life," says Curran. "If the values associated with taking the risks are worthy, at least you can say, 'I took the shot for the right reasons.'"

In Calgary, most of us can look west and see the mountains, so seemingly close that we can reach out and touch them. Anyone who's climbed them knows that sometimes, to earn the view, your toes have to be smeared onto rock that is dime-thin, your sweaty fingers groping for purchase — precisely what makes climbing (and those views) so alluring.

Here are stories of UCalgary alumni, faculty, degree-holders and award-winners for whom a crucial risky moment called for action, provided sure footing and propelled them successfully forward.



## WALK THE TALK

**JENNIFER KOSHAN, BSc'85, LLB'88, UCalgary law professor, 2013 Canadian Association of Law Teachers (CALT) Prize for Academic Excellence, 2015 Alumni Achievement Award**

*A passionate lawyer, scholar and member of UCalgary's faculty of law, Koshan consistently battles for social justice and law reform. Multiple awards honour her achievements in both the courts and the classroom as she fights violence against women and works for positive social changes.*

The woman had grey hair and glasses, bent slightly forward in the wood-paneled courtroom, working her knitting needles.

The Supreme Court of British Columbia was hearing a constitutional challenge on a heated and deadly case. This was 20 years ago, during a time when zealots who were eager to stop access to legal abortions at clinics were shooting their opponents.

On the one side, where the woman sat, anti-abortion activists were fighting to have the protest-free bubble-zone legislation that provided space around abortion clinics removed so that they could blockade access to clinics.

Jennifer Koshan, who was working as a graduate student and legal director for the West Coast Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF), sat with a group on the other side, that was intervening on behalf of the BC provincial government to support the bubble-zone law.

As Koshan listened, she noticed the woman who was calmly knitting, then focused hard on the needles. Then she realized why.

"It struck me," Koshan says. "Knitting needles have huge symbolic importance for those who advocate for abortion rights. When women don't have access to abortion services, knitting needles can be a way for them to perform their own abortion."

Her mind went to the worst. "I have two small kids. There have been recent shootings and deaths of abortion service providers. My role was to speak to the media. Should I be taking these risks?"



## JENNIFER KOSHAN

**DEFINING MOMENT:** Courtroom drama sparks insight.

**CLAIM TO FAME:** Koshan was a founding member of the Women's Court of Canada, a shadow court that rewrites judgments from a feminist perspective. The Supreme Court of Canada has cited her work in equality rights decisions.

**ADVICE:** "Working towards social justice is a long and winding road, often with no apparent end in sight, but even small steps forward are well worth it."



Zachary Maina

Jennifer Koshan and her partner, Greg Francis, stop for a quick photo op during their ascent to Lenana summit at 16,500 ft. on Mount Kenya, April 2012.

Wavering between the danger she feared on one side and the duty she felt on the other, a flare of insight lit a path for Koshan. She would walk it many times for others, as a lawyer and activist and teacher and mother, for as far and as long as she could go.

"At that moment, I decided that, as a lawyer, as someone who has expertise and training to fight against injustice, it is my duty to speak and fight on others' behalf," she says.

The road has led her many places, most lately to mountainous Kenya, where she helped to lead The Equality Effect's 160 Girls project, which aims to protect girls in Kenya against rape while ensuring justice. And that case 20 years ago? The law in the abortion case was upheld.

**"I feel very strongly about my duty to speak up and speak out on behalf of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups. I have academic freedom protected at the University of Calgary and I am grateful for it."**



## SABIHA ZAMAN

**DEFINING MOMENT:** Making the leap from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to Calgary.

**CLAIM TO FAME:** So far, seven members of the growing Zaman family have earned a total of 10 degrees at the University of Calgary, with more in the queue.

**ADVICE:** “Consider the challenge and make the best of it.”



A family of UCalgary alumni (and student, Waheed) stand in front of their first home in Canada, the Kananaskis Hall residence building.  
**Left-right:** Maliha Zaman, Madiha Zaman, Sabiha Zaman, Hameed Zaman, Adnan Ahmad, Waheed Zaman.

Riley Brandt



## MAKING THE LEAP

**SABIHA ZAMAN, BSc'02, MBT'02, MSc'07,**  
**coordinator/instructor with the master of biomedical**  
**technology degree program at UCalgary**

*Every member of the Zaman family is involved in Calgary communities with volunteering, mentoring and sports.*

The Zaman family, who moved from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to Calgary in 1998, is a juggernaut of University of Calgary accomplishments. UCalgary degrees in chemical engineering, biological sciences, biomedical technology, computer science, electrical engineering, medical science, petroleum engineering, business — the list boggles the mind, yet it's growing.

The family is like an academic Pac-Man that keeps finding new pathways to explore, devouring knowledge along the way, racking up achievements and then generating bridges that benefit the broader community.

The fact that their first step on that academic odyssey began in residence (Kananaskis Hall), which was literally the family's first home in Canada, makes the journey even more remarkable.



In 2007, Sabiha Zaman (centre) received her master degree in medical science. Here she is on Grad Day with her parents.

To complete the circle, of the two members who've gone on to be employed at the university, Sabiha Zaman — program coordinator/instructor, master of biomedical technology degree program at the Foothills campus — now helps students find their way in what can be a maze of tough decisions.

"We'd never heard of Calgary before my father [Nooruz Zaman] decided he wanted to move the family here for university," says Sabiha, who has earned three degrees and is considering more options in the Cumming School of Medicine and Werklund School of Education. "There were few universities in UAE and they were very expensive. When my father attended an academic fair in Dubai, he met someone representing the U of C and was so impressed, he decided to make the move."

When Sabiha and her siblings learned of their father's plan, they were taken aback. The UAE had been their home for so long, living near the sea amidst palm and date trees — a move to Canada would be like going to a different planet.



It was tough at first. Nooruz, a government engineer, and Shaheena, a homemaker, changed their careers so that their children could have more opportunities for education.

Jeanna Parsons Leigh, research assistant professor, Department of Critical Care Medicine, who wrote her dissertation on international migration, acknowledges immigrants face many challenges.

**"By moving to Calgary, I was risking stability. We came for the education — so, main campus was literally our first Canadian home."**

"Canadian social norms, institutional policies and expectations can be vastly different than what a newcomer to Canada is used to," she says. "Immigrants often have to adjust on multiple levels and many have to do this in the context of fragile social and economic circumstances."

Even seemingly small events can take on huge significance.

"One night, soon after we arrived, a stranger helped us get a tea kettle at Wal-Mart, so we could make some tea that would remind us of home," says Sabiha. "It was a little thing, but I remember that first sip; it was so comforting, and, for a few minutes, it was just like we were back in Abu Dhabi."

Sabiha, now a mom, has more than adjusted to Calgary — she revels in it. Being so close to the mountains and having the winters to ski and the summers to hike are among her favourite things.

"The changing weather, you always know that when it is too hot or too cold, in a few hours, it will get better," she says.

"There's always that element of hope."





## WHITNEY ROCKLEY

**DEFINING MOMENT:** Dreaming big while starting small at a downtown park.

**CLAIM TO FAME:** One of a handful of women in the venture capital game in Canada. Her Toronto-based firm, McRock Capital, manages more than \$65 million and deploys about \$10 million yearly in companies throughout Canada and the U.S.

**ADVICE:** “In order to get comfortable, you have to get uncomfortable. Entrepreneurship is about living a few years of your life in a way that most people won’t, so you can live your life later in a way that most people can’t. Believe in yourself passionately. Reach for the life that you have not yet experienced. When starting McRock, we went 1,067 days without a paycheck. You’ve gotta believe.”

Kissed By Light

Less than 19 per cent of business news mentions ventures led by women — women such as Whitney Rockley, co-founder and managing director of McRock Capital.

## SMARTER TRAVEL

There are countless ways to travel but few are as illuminating and as satisfying as a UCalgary Travel Study trip. From your fellow travellers to a local expert in his or her field, the depth and scope of next year’s trips are unbeatable. Whether Spain, Iceland, the Falkland Islands or India is on your bucket list — you’ll likely find your dream destination on our roster.



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
Alumni

Discover more by contacting Kevin Gardner at: [kevin.p.gardner@ucalgary.ca](mailto:kevin.p.gardner@ucalgary.ca) or 403.220.3398



## DARE TO BELIEVE

WHITNEY ROCKLEY, MBA'97, co-founder and managing director of McRock Capital

*Whitney Rockley gives anonymous donations to families that don't have financial means. She and McRock's other co-founder and managing director, Scott MacDonald, go to Tim Hortons from Monday to Friday. At the end of every year, they tally how much they've spent there and give it as tip money. Here's what she says about risk.*

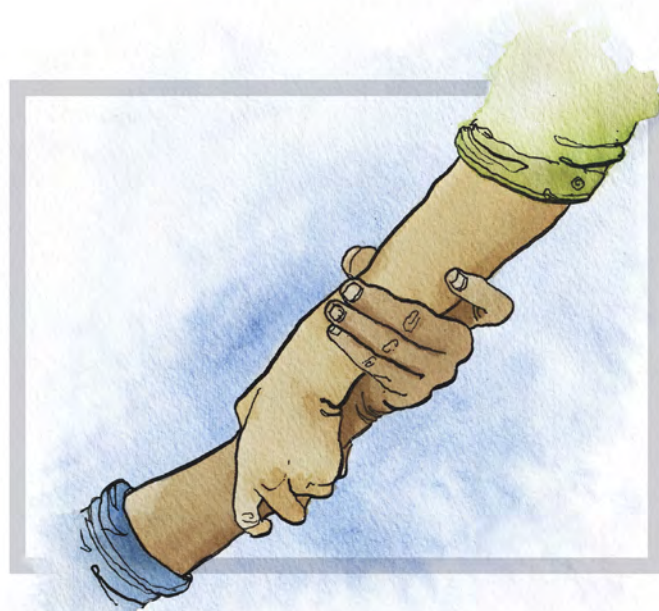
**"I would like to inspire people to listen to their inner voice and just do it. Nike had it right: risk can turn into wonderful reward. Part of my reward is helping other entrepreneurs live out their dreams."**

A big, burly taxi driver with tattoos all over his arms drove me to my first photo shoot as a model at Prince's Island Park. It was a warm September day. I wore pink suede running shoes and posed on a bike as a couple's daughter.

I was 10 years old (my mom was working that day and couldn't take me), but I really got into the groove of it. I loved the work, the people, the excitement. Right there, I thought, I want to own my own business one day, a modelling agency like this one.

It took a while. When I left home at 17, I stopped modelling, went to Ryerson [University] in Toronto and found myself increasingly interested in how products might be invented, how patents might work, how business works.

Then I chose the University of Calgary to do my MBA because the program was entrepreneurial. Back then, starting your own business



wasn't considered sexy or exciting. We were ahead of the times.

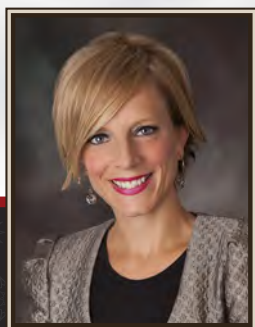
I worked doing tech analytics and it eventually led to my work at McRock, where we focus on the Industrial Internet of Things — digital oilfield, advanced manufacturing, grid automation, smart cities.

Now I have a Norman Rockwell portrait in my office [*Boy On a High Dive*, 1947]. He's on the high diving board, clenching the end of it with his hands, peering over. That's the moment of risk. Everything's at stake — personally, professionally, emotionally and financially — and you must step past your fears. That's where we were when we started McRock.

My quote in my Grade 12 high school yearbook at Western Canada High was: "May your dreams turn into reality." Years later, my daughter bought me a key, and you know what she had stamped on it? "Believe."

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## PLAN YOUR APPROACH

**CHARLIE LOCKE, BComm'68, owner of Lake Louise Ski Resort, oilman, ranchman, mountaineer, environmentalist and philanthropist**

*The Hunter Centre for Entrepreneurship and Innovation was created in February 2013 after a \$5-million lead donation from Doug and Diane Hunter and nearly \$3 million in additional support to be bestowed over 10 years from Charlie Locke and three other local entrepreneurs. Lake Louise Ski Resort has assisted communities and groups in various ways over the decades. Locke was recognized in 2014 at the World Ski Awards (the Oscars of the ski industry) as the individual in the Americas with the most outstanding contribution to ski tourism.*

Charlie Locke and his wife, Louise, sat at a scarred kitchen table, one they bought at an auction more than 40 years ago for \$15, looked out of their ranch house window to the snow-capped mountains and took another run at it.

"Do we want this or not?" asked Louise. Their five-year buy-back option of the Lake Louise Ski Resort was approaching in 2008. They'd sold the resort — along with some other holdings in what was known as Resorts of the Canadian Rockies (RCR) — to another businessman after a combination of a poor snow year, economic downturn and other factors forced their hand.

Now they had the chance to take back the reins of the business that they'd started when Charlie had assumed full ownership of what was known as the Lake Louise Ski Area in 1981.

Charlie always had both feet planted firmly in the Canadian Rockies. He traversed them, always returned to them and sang their



praises to the world. He'd bought the family ranch house from Parks Canada in 1973 for \$2,400 and, over the years as oilman, cattleman and businessman, he'd made some great investments.

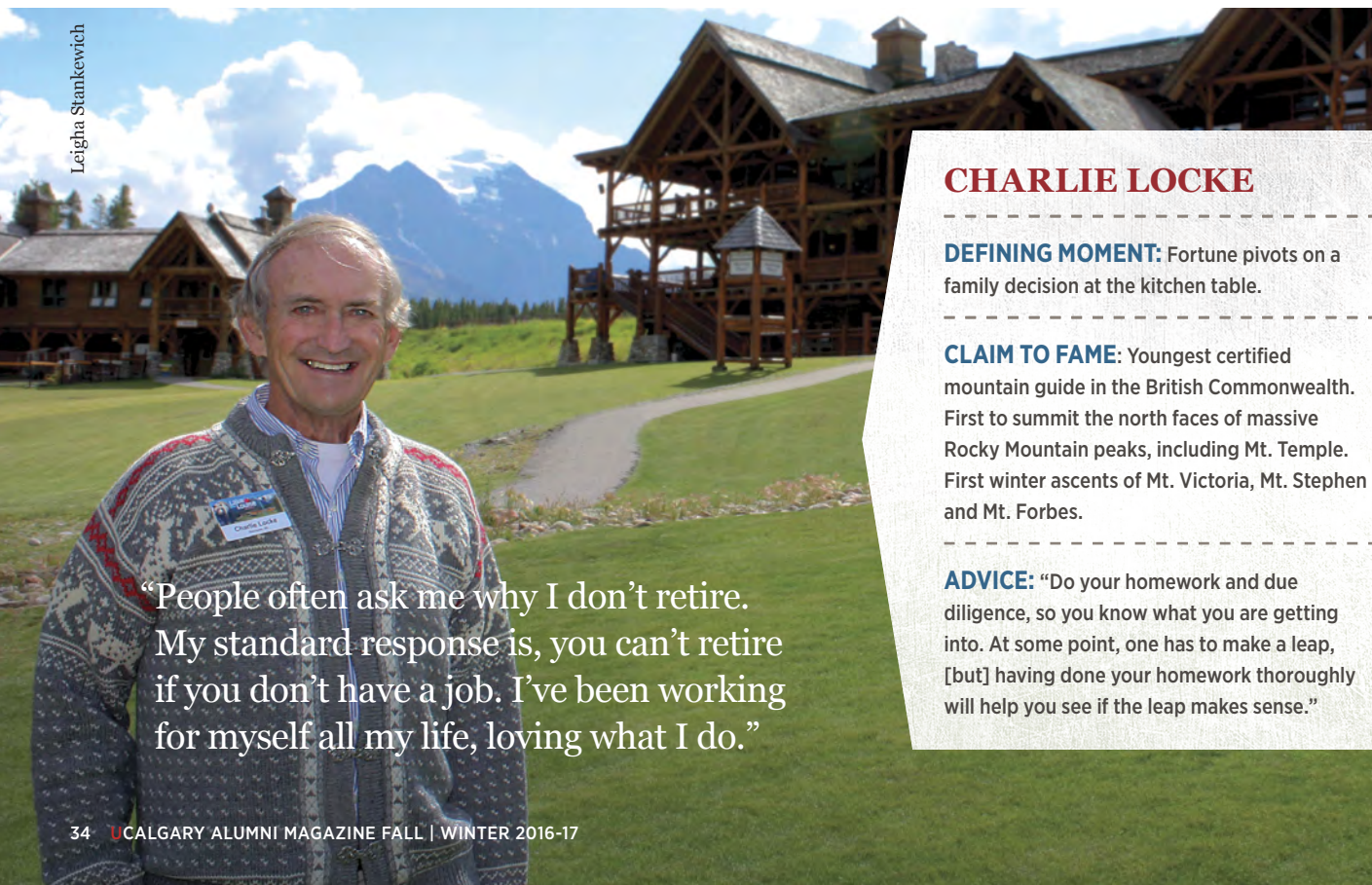
Lake Louise, though — for Charlie — it was business. But it was love, too.

"Buying back the Lake Louise Ski Resort could be construed as a risky decision and certainly, amongst our family, we talked about the risk factor, as some of us are more risk adverse than others," recalls Charlie. "However, Lake Louise was our first investment in the ski business and we knew it had always been a solid financial performer."

So Charlie and Louise turned it over and over, considered the deal from all angles and, in the end, jumped back into the powder-filled, iconic ski resort with both feet. In turn, a new generation is rising. Their two daughters, Robin and Kim, have grown into the business, both vice-presidents with an eye on environmental stewardship.

Charlie Locke sports one of his famous Dale sweaters outside the Lodge of the Ten Peaks at Lake Louise Ski Resort.

Leigha Stankewich



### CHARLIE LOCKE

**DEFINING MOMENT:** Fortune pivots on a family decision at the kitchen table.

**CLAIM TO FAME:** Youngest certified mountain guide in the British Commonwealth. First to summit the north faces of massive Rocky Mountain peaks, including Mt. Temple. First winter ascents of Mt. Victoria, Mt. Stephen and Mt. Forbes.

**ADVICE:** "Do your homework and due diligence, so you know what you are getting into. At some point, one has to make a leap, [but] having done your homework thoroughly will help you see if the leap makes sense."

"People often ask me why I don't retire. My standard response is, you can't retire if you don't have a job. I've been working for myself all my life, loving what I do."



## SHARON WOOD

**DEFINING MOMENT:** Life or death on Mount Everest.

**CLAIM TO FAME:** The first woman in North America to reach the 8,848-metre summit of Mount Everest, the world's highest peak, and the only woman to do so by a new route and without a sherpa. She did so when she was 29; now, she's 59.

**ADVICE:** "You are daunted with fear and doubt before you even start. That's the game. It's about penetrating those self-imposed barriers and getting to commitment, which is a hard place to get to."

"Getting to know what's really inside and what it feels like to fire on all cylinders — it's a bit addictive."

## REMOVE THE OBSTACLES

SHARON WOOD, honorary doctor of laws '87, certified alpine guide, motivational speaker and president of Adventure Dynamics

*The mother of two sons, Sharon Wood is a veteran mountaineer who became the founder of an alternative private school in Canmore. She's volunteered to teach everyone from kids to 79-year-olds "how to rock-climb with elegance and balance." Here is her story.*

We're nearing the end. My climbing partner, Dwayne [Congdon] and I have spent the last three days in storms. We've been too high, too long. The next day is the summit. There's no waiting around at 27,000 feet. This is it. You get a 24-hour window. Or you can die. We start late that morning, way too late. We have one bottle of oxygen we plan to use for the entire day. It takes us three hours to get over fairly simple ground with crampons and ice axes. Another 200 ft. will get us to the crux of the climb, a 500-ft. section of mixed rock and ice.

At this point, we are climbing apart. Every step I take is one more step I will have to take to get back to safety.

We get to the crux and look up at this wall. I'm thinking we've done a great job to get here, but . . . there is no way I can do this. I'm just too spent.

I turn to tell my partner this isn't going to be happening. Meanwhile, he's preparing the belay stance. We are highly compromised, physically and mentally. It's over. He just pushes the rope to me and says, "It's your lead."

His response jolts me right out of my perspective that "this is impossible." He knows that if I lead, I'll have to get committed.

Here, there is no net, no parachute.

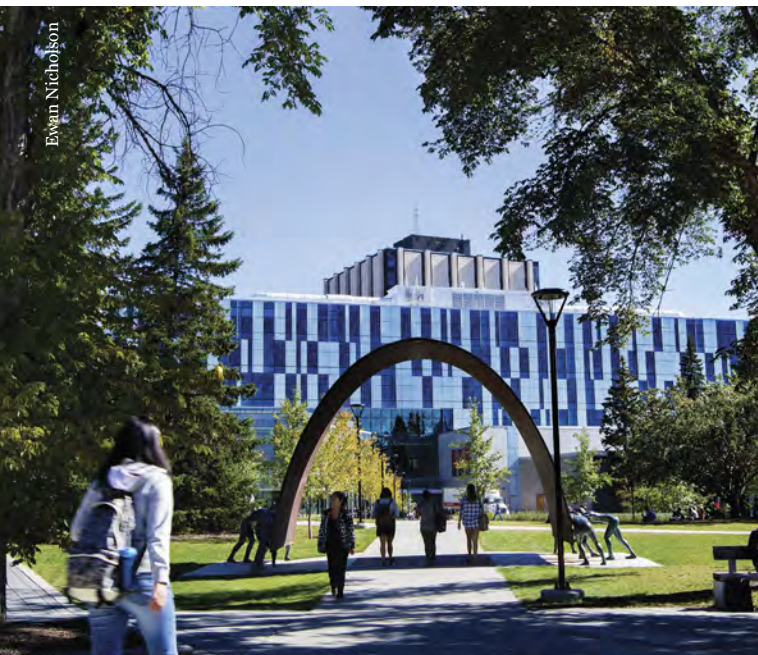
I feel a sudden hush. And then, remarkably, there is a voice. A benevolent, encouraging, inner voice, and it's coaching me. I take one move, then another. Now I'm climbing, rising with 30 lbs. on my back and more strength than I ever knew I had.

There were many moments of doubt. It's not about finding more strength, I learn. It's about removing the obstacles. **U**

Can't get enough of the wild ones whose default is risk taker? We feature more profiles of extraordinary alumni at [ucalgarymag.ca](http://ucalgarymag.ca)







# A GENERATION

by Theresa Tayler

**There's bad news, folks.** No matter what generation you come from — Traditionalist, Baby Boomer, Generation X, Millennial, iGeneration — at the end of the day, we all turn into our parents. You can do your best to avoid it. You can try your hardest to ignore it. But the end is nigh.

"It's funny how you just end up turning into your dad," says Oliver Trutina, BA'03, with a smile and a long sigh. "I can see it happening, by the hour." The University of Calgary Economics alumnus is sitting in the corner office of his family business, Truman Homes. The vice-president of the company is sporting a pair of stylish high-top "chucks" (sneakers) and jeans, not exactly the stereotypical picture of buttoned-down corporate attire.

"Am I going to go to work in a suit?" Trutina says, with a laugh. "No, that's not who I am, and you have to be true to yourself."

Trutina is kidding around, but he's also making a valid point about personal values. While the Baby Boomers and their parents may have thought it sacrilegious to arrive at the office in anything less than a power suit with a briefcase in tow, Trutina — who, at 34, sits somewhere betwixt Generation X and Millennials — prefers a more casual approach to not only business garb, but corporate culture.

Since its birth in 1966, the University of Calgary has witnessed more than 170,000 students walk its hallowed halls. Each group

has made their impact on the world, but just how much do each generation's worth of change-makers, innovators and other movers and shakers vary in their ideals and outlook on life? As it turns out, even though we may think we're, *ahem*, "completely different than our parents," our values may be more similar than not.

However, there are some defining factors that set the various graduating classes apart.

According to Bruce Cameron, president of Return On Insight, the cultural and sociological elements that commonly influence a so-called generation's values, seem to flow from the arts, politics, technology, geography and economics.

Cameron is an Alberta pollster who has been identifying trends in advertising, media relations and market research for more than 25 years. He says generations are most frequently categorized into these colloquial cohorts: the Greatest Generation (or Traditionalists), Baby Boomers, Generation X, Generation Y (or Millennials) and the iGeneration (or Generation Z).



**Far left:** One of many green spaces on campus.

**Middle:** Students protested and demanded control of student funds and space allocation in the new Students' Union Building in 1967.

**Right:** Students at this year's Induction Ceremony.



*"Since its birth in 1966, UCalgary has witnessed more than 170,000 students walk its hallowed halls."*

"Trying to categorize people is never tidy or clear, and it varies a lot by geography and economy," he adds.

### A Sharp Sense of Place

Truman Homes, a Calgary-based developer, is a family affair. While three of the four Trutina siblings — Oliver, BA'03, Tony, BA'03, and Martin, BComm'12 — received their formal business education from UCalgary, all four say they inherited their entrepreneurial spirit and savvy from their Boomer parents.

"I'm an entrepreneur. That's who I am," says Oliver. "The key influences in my upbringing would have to be my parents and the city I grew up in — Calgary. Ultimately, however, it's just what I'm good at, what I value doing and what I care about."

Aritha van Herk, Calgary-based novelist, cultural commentator and UCalgary English professor, agrees that place and history play a huge part in helping shape world views.

## TALKING 'BOUT MY GENERATION

Canada Census categorizes generations by year of birth:

**1919-1945**

*The Greatest Generation/Traditionalists*

**1946-1965**

*Baby Boomers*

**1966-1980**

*Generation X*

**1981-2000**

*Millennials/Generation Y*

**2001 onwards**

*The iGeneration/Generation Z*





Riley Brandt



Adrian Sheppard

**Top:** English Prof. Rebecca Sullivan says activism is strong on campus. **Bottom:** UCalgary law student Danielle Douglas is involved with Pro Bono Students Canada.



Riley Brandt

Calgary-based novelist and English professor Aritha van Herk believes geography contributes to our culture of risk taking.

## THE GREATEST GENERATION

- ⊕ Education — a dream
- ⊕ Respects authority
- ⊕ A generation that survived economic depression and the Second World War
- ⊕ Values that centre around personal responsibility, duty and honour
- ⊕ A generation that values saving and economic prudence

"We are profoundly affected by geography, and, in Calgary, we have a keen sense of it," she says. "There are a lot of gifts here. Think about the nature around us, the mountains and the climate. The landscape and weather can be harsh, but they are also awe-inspiring. Geography plays a role in our culture of risk-taking and entrepreneurship. And I think economy and nature play a role in our generosity."

Van Herk explains that each of those elements play into the student experience, which in turn, shapes our character.

"If you can't get a summer job, you're in a whole different position than someone who has one," she says, noting those students who decide to live and work in Calgary after they complete post-secondary tend to invest in the city. "Calgarians have a tendency to give back, big-time. It's in our subconscious as a value."

### Economics and the Growing Impact of Social Enterprise

UCalgary law student Danielle Douglas is a prime example of a young philanthropist who is committed to paying it forward. Far from the stereotypical picture of a cutthroat legal eagle or an entitled Millennial, she is one of the student directors of the Calgary

Chapter of Pro Bono Students Canada and devotes a significant portion of her time to volunteer work.

"When I first thought about what I would take in post-secondary, I considered social work," explains the 26-year-old who will graduate in 2017. "But I like to argue and I applied to law school and got in. I now see it as a career in which I can help people. If you think about it, lawyers are there to try to fix problems — whether it concerns human rights, immigration, family or environmental issues; they are all areas that are incredibly exciting and satisfying for lawyers."

Since the mid 1990s, Calgary's chapter of the Pro Bono Students Canada group has been rapidly growing, contradicting the "me first" attitude that has branded this cohort. The group's yearly survey shows the number of UCalgary law students who say they plan to continue volunteering their legal services after graduation has risen by five per cent in 2015 over 2013-14, pointing towards a growing population of young UCalgary lawyers who are keen to give back while also pursuing a lucrative career in the for-profit sector.

An example of social enterprise at work is UCalgary grad Taylor Scobbie, BA'10, BComm'10, who, along with his team at IMPCT, an organization that builds sustainable education day-care models for the world's poorest, received the \$1-million Hult Prize in 2015, awarded to them by former U.S. President Bill Clinton at a final competition in New York City.

According to Cameron, the concept of social enterprise — for-profit structures that also contribute to the good of the community — is gaining traction with the local Millennial and iGen population, softening the stereotypes of self-absorption that has stuck to them. In political terms, Millennials are liberals on the surface united by the common value of individualism. This explains both their personal optimism and social mistrust, the passion about



*“We are profoundly affected by geography as a society, and, in Calgary, we have a keen sense of it...”*

causes like gay marriage and their enthusiasm for an uploaded world where everyone will be transparent to everyone else.

“It doesn’t surprise me that there are a lot of people trying to advance goals for the common good,” says Cameron. The iGen population has grown up with the idea — not even the idea, with the acceptance — that what’s happening on the other side of the planet impacts them and that they can also communicate and work with those on the other side of the world.

“Calgarians have a ‘can-do’ attitude,” he adds. “If there’s a problem, Calgarians don’t tend to focus on, ‘How can government fix this?’ The focus and value system seems to point them in the direction of saying, ‘How can we fix this?’”



Neil McElmon

Vice-president of Truman Homes, Oliver Trutina, says his parents and Calgary shaped his values.

Geography and the woolly West may indeed be a factor, however, Trutina says the concept of social enterprise is simply a natural part of building a healthy business community.

Through a partnership with the City of Calgary, Truman Homes helps provide attainable homes to Calgarians who fit specific criteria through its non-profit organization, Liberty Home Ownership in Calgary.

“We operate on a socially responsible business model, because it’s important to us,” says Trutina. “Whether we are calling this stuff social enterprise, philanthropy or whatever, it’s a value that transcends generations.”

Truman Homes is also a partner builder in the University District area, an upcoming urban village community adjacent to the UCalgary campus. It is led by West Campus Development Trust, with profits benefiting the university.



UCalgary Archives

**Left-right:** UCalgary Orchestra’s student soloists Nicholas Atkinson and David Rea with conductor Quenten Doolittle in 1972.

## BABY BOOMERS

- ⊕ Education — a birthright
- ⊕ Ambitious
- ⊕ Challenge authority
- ⊕ Team players
- ⊕ Idealistic
- ⊕ Optimistic
- ⊕ Strong work ethic
- ⊕ Consumers
- ⊕ Loyal to Children
- ⊕ Buy now, pay later

## Down to a Fine Art

While many of UCalgary grads are leaders in the board room, there is a select group of influential change-makers whose values are entrenched in a commitment to culture and creativity.

“Arts students, regardless of generation, share many of the same values. Perhaps because the arts is not an easy world to exist in,” says Quenten Doolittle, who, along with his wife, Joyce, were founding professors in the university’s Department of Fine Arts.

The couple — Quenten in the Department of Music and Joyce in Drama — began teaching at UCalgary in the early 1960s. They immigrated to Canada from the U.S. and the couple agree they were eager to embrace a nation that shared their own “progressive” values.

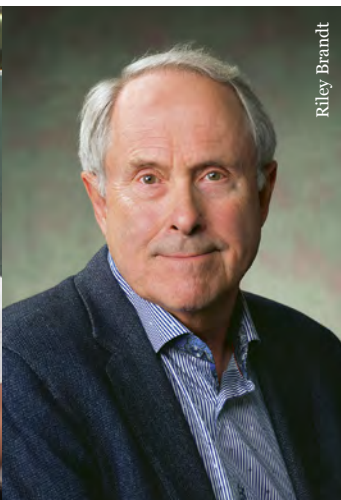
“We admired Canada and saw a great opportunity in Calgary,” explains Quenten.

“We loved listening to CBC Radio because we lived in the northern states at that time,” adds Joyce. “When Quenten got the job offer at what’s now the University of Calgary and asked me if I’d want to move here, it was a no-brainer. I said, ‘Oh boy! The CBC without static? I’m in!’ We’ve never looked back.”

At that time, Joyce adds, students shared strong ideals about their future.

## GENERATION X

- ⊕ Education — a way to get there
- ⊕ Angry, don't know why
- ⊕ Big gap with Boomers
- ⊕ Self-starters
- ⊕ Results-driven
- ⊕ Work/life balance
- ⊕ Conservative with money
- ⊕ Skills are more key than work ethic
- ⊕ Techno-literacy



**Left:** Ezra Levant pins *The Gauntlet* newspaper co-editor Bob Barnettson at a fundraiser for the Calgary Inter-Faith Food Bank in 1992. **Right:** UCalgary professor emeritus of political science, Tom Flanagan.

"Drama students — their values, their hopes, dreams — don't change that much from generation to generation. By the time they get to university, they have decided that the arts are important to them," she explains.

"They've likely had to explain to their family why they're doing something that may not lead to a job. Ironically, we have a very high success rate at UCalgary regarding students who have gone on to great careers in the arts — but it's not always easy."

### It's politics man . . .

Tom Flanagan, UCalgary professor emeritus of political science, explains that, in his experience, public policy students are a "completely different beast," who have always understood that decisions are made by those who turn up.

The American-educated professor began teaching at the university in 1968, "right at the peak of the rise of the 'new left,'" he says, noting it was during this time UCalgary's often-subversive newspaper, *The Gauntlet*, was established.

The 1960s and '70s were a time when left-wing activism flourished. "We had many intellectual debates and discussions at that time," says Flanagan, adding student values in the political science department began to shift in the '80s, when more undergrads began enrolling for purely economic and vocational reasons.

"They were coming not just to study politics, but to build a career for themselves. Many used political science as a means to get into law school, journalism or another career stream," he says. "Things really accelerated in the '90s when 'we got another major political wave with the foundation of the Reform Party in Alberta,"

recalls Flanagan. Led by Preston Manning, the later Reform Party of Canada (which existed from 1987 until 2000 when it evolved into the Canadian Alliance) was founded primarily by a group of Albertans in Edmonton and Calgary.

Flanagan, an author, professor and conservative political influencer, could see that polarizing political views and values were beginning to take flight during this time. This came in the form of public debates, political clubs and through a group of outspoken political influencers such as Danielle Smith, BA'97, (journalist and later leader of the Wildrose provincial political party) and Ezra Levant, BComm'93, (journalist and lawyer), as well as Naheed Nenshi, BComm'93, (current mayor of Calgary) and Chima Nkemdirim, BComm'94, (Chief of Staff to the City of Calgary) — all of whom once graced lecture halls in the political science and economics wings of UCalgary.

"They didn't always agree politically, but I remember that group being tight, being friendly and having rollicking debates," Flanagan says. "Campus was a very exciting place in the '90s — getting a national political leader [Manning] from our immediate region left a huge impact.

"Universities are traditionally centres of liberal thought. However, during the '90s there was this period when the right-wing students — who were far and few between — felt there was a place for them. From a purely cultural standpoint, it was a very interesting time to watch," adds the former advisor to Prime Minister Stephen Harper,



Student Naheed Nenshi splashes green paint on the Rock during Environment Week, in 1991.

## MILLENNIALS

- ⊕ Education — incredible expense
- ⊕ Confident
- ⊕ Diversity-focused
- ⊕ Attached to parents and gadgets
- ⊕ Optimistic
- ⊕ Entitled
- ⊕ Extremely techno savvy
- ⊕ Politically savvy (like Boomers)
- ⊕ Hotly competitive
- ⊕ Want to please others



*“Right now, there seems to be another incredible wave of activism and community-building on campus.”*

According to the Calgary Gay History Project, Call spoke at a session hosted by the university's Civil Liberties Association billed as Homosexuality: A police industry, focusing on sexual equality and legalization of homosexual acts. More than 300 people attended.

While Calgary may have been stereotyped as a conservative city from the 1960s to the '90s, there were stark opposition movements and liberal schools of thought mushrooming across campus.

“Right now, there seems to be another incredible wave of activism and community-building on campus. It's been re-energizing for me to witness student activism flourishing again,” Sullivan says. She is referring to recent positive strides that have taken place around the larger LGBTQ2IA+ communities.

In 2016, UCalgary sociology student Quinn Nelson went on record with the CBC, calling for Canada's long-form census to include the option to identify oneself as transgendered. At last June's convocation, transgender student Naomi Hiebert, BSc'16, walked the podium with a software and engineering degree. According to a *UToday* story, Hiebert has become a role model for transgender youth in Calgary as an active member of the University's Q Centre and an advocate for gender-neutral washrooms on campus.



UCalgary students in MacEwan Student Centre protesting university underfunding in 1991.

BA'85, MEc'91, and a member of the so-called “Calgary School” (a term that refers to a UCalgary cohort of right-wing academics and graduates of political science, economics and history departments).

The Calgary School includes current and past professors, politicians such as Ted Morton (also a UCalgary professor), as well as their former students (Levant and Smith), among several other UCalgary notables. They were christened the Calgary School in Canadian pop culture because its Calgary-based members shared political beliefs and social values that tended to centre around Libertarianism.

### You Gotta Fight, for Your Right ...

While prominent right-wing students were finding their collective voice in the political science wings of the university in the 1990s, another under-represented group of grads was fighting to be heard.

“What isn't really well-known about the University of Calgary, but has been revealed through the Calgary Gay History Project, is that the university and the student organizations on campus were early advocates for queer rights and justice,” says Rebecca Sullivan, UCalgary English professor who specializes in feminist media and cultural studies, adding that student involvement with social-justice movements is fundamental to a generation's identity in exploring their sense of self and community.

Sullivan notes UCalgary has a rich history of social and political activism, including Indigenous, feminist, queer and racial activism.

“Historically, we have had many events on campus that brought in queer activists and legal and policy experts and this was when homosexuality was illegal,” she says, pointing to events such as the 1969 lecture by gay publisher Harold Call at MacEwan Hall.

## THE iGENERATION

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| ⊕ Education — expect high grades | ⊕ Very close to family                     |
| ⊕ Speed demons/multitaskers      | ⊕ In touch with global issues and cultures |
| ⊕ Early adoptors of technology   | ⊕ Communicate every possible way           |
| ⊕ Always present in a social way | ⊕ Need constant reinforcement              |
|                                  | ⊕ Idealistic                               |

“It's amazing to watch the values and conversations change. Five years ago, the topic of gender-neutral washrooms on campus might have been a debate,” Sullivan says. “The students of today, who are coming in to study, they're just like: ‘Why are we talking about this? Of course people need a washroom of their own.’

“Activism ebbs and flows,” adds Sullivan. “Topics keep coming up, but every generation needs to remember its past and fight for its future.”

Some studies are framed by rigid lines connecting generations to a tidy bucket of values, but new data and what we discovered at the University of Calgary suggests that attitudes reflect a broader pattern —influenced by geography, economics, politics and, as Trutina admits, our parents.

Perhaps Mark Twain put it best: “When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years.” **U**



# The Philanthropic LIFE

Philanthropy is a game anyone can play — all it takes is the right inspiration at the right time (road map not included). There are as many reasons for giving to one's alma mater as there are ways to give. These four philanthropists have found joy in making gifts that reflect their

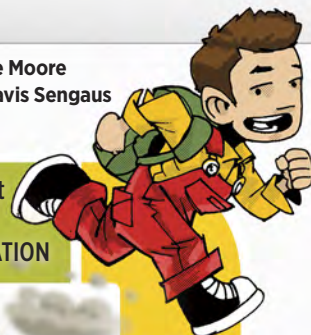
Profiles by Jacquie Moore  
Illustrations by Travis Sengaus



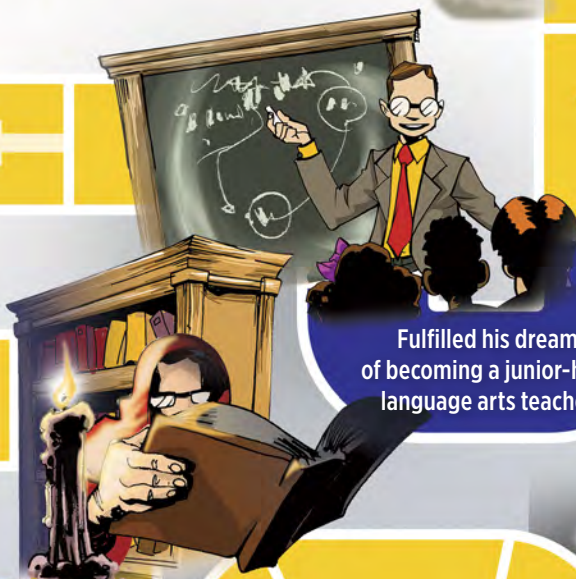
## Dennis Sumara

UCalgary's Dean of Education believes the arts can enable social change in the world — his gift will ensure future change-makers are supported.

Born in Lethbridge to immigrant parents who taught him the importance of **OPTIMISM** and **EDUCATION**



Focused **DOCTORAL RESEARCH** on how imaginative engagement can help us understand social diversity



Fulfilled his dream of becoming a junior-high language arts teacher

**EPIPHANY!** Literature can help young people **EXPLORE THEIR IDENTITIES**



Celebrated appointment as Dean of Werklund School of Education at UCalgary



Leads with belief that education is about "creating conditions for other people to empower themselves"



Dennis pledges gift **TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO FURTHER RESEARCH SUPPORT** for grad students using critical arts practice in support of social change for disenfranchised groups





dearest values and passions. Be it support for individual students with a named award, funds to enhance a particular program or a bequest to leave a “legacy” gift for future initiatives, every philanthropic gift counts toward the *Energize* campaign goal of fuelling student experiences, community partnerships and revolutionary research. So roll the dice, make your moves and cheer on these philanthropists whose gifts are changing the world.

The Philan Thro Pic Life



## Hal Kvisle, MBA'82

*The high-level, low-key superstar of Canadian business found wisdom in the woods — and has ensured future leaders will find it there, too.*

Watched pipeline crews move through town during 1950s oil boom

Born in Innisfail

Got first serious job with Dome Petroleum

Studied to become an engineer; spent summers working as a refinery operator

Accompanied Norwegian-outdoorsman father on mountaineering adventures

Fell in love with the Rockies

Moved to Rocky Mountain House; commuted to UCalgary to pursue MBA

Honed his excellent leadership skills and respect for the environment

**DETOURED INTO WOODS**  
for frequent hiking trips

**RETIRED**

Created the **HAL KVISLE LEADERSHIP ADVENTURE EDUCATION FUND** at the Haskayne School of Business to provide experiential outdoor learning experiences for students

Became CEO of Fletcher Challenge Energy Canada

...then CEO of TransCanada Pipelines...

...then Talisman Energy



## Dr. Daniel Joo, MD'08

An ER physician pays tribute to his tireless parents by lending a hand to undergraduate medical students.



Parents struggled with restrictions of living in **SOVIET-OCCUPIED HUNGARY**



Parents escaped Hungary and arrived in Calgary, where Daniel was born six months later



Mother was discouraged from becoming an MD; became a chemical engineer instead



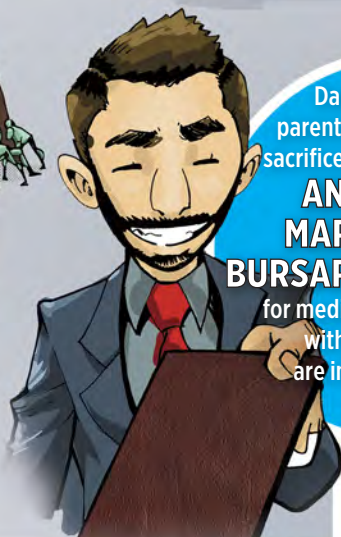
Father played bassoon in the Budapest Opera House



Mom and dad worked tirelessly to help pay for him and his two siblings to attend university



Daniel thanked his parents for their work and sacrifices by establishing the **ANDRAS AND MARGARET JOO BURSARY ENDOWMENT** for medical school graduates with disabilities who are in need of financial support



Graduated from med school at UCalgary in 2008





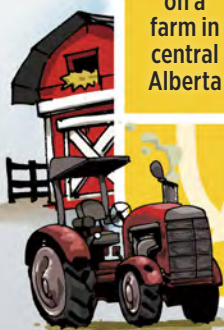
## Karen Ganzlin, BA'82

The Philan Thro Pic Life

A legacy donor follows her career with the TD Bank to Omaha, Nebraska, and aims to help ambitious students fulfill their dreams.



**GREW UP**  
on a  
farm in  
central  
Alberta



Believed parents when they told  
her getting a university education  
was "NON-NEGOTIABLE"



Took a year o™ to work  
in commercial banking



...back to Lethbridge

Moved from Calgary  
to Lethbridge,  
to Hanna

Fell unexpectedly in love with  
banking and gave law school a pass

Made plans to  
attend law school

...then Toronto

...to Calgary

Transferred to  
Omaha,  
Nebraska,  
when TD  
merged in the  
U.S. with  
Ameritrade

Graduated  
from  
UCalgary,  
BA Economics '82  
(management  
minor)

...to Edmonton

### Karen made a **LEGACY BEQUEST**

in her will to UCalgary  
because she believes education  
is an equalizer, and wants to  
"help young people with intellect  
and ambition who may not  
have the financial resources  
to reach their  
full potential"

# Class Notes

## 1970s

**Kevin Peterson, BA'72**, former *Calgary Herald* publisher, died of cancer on March 30, 2016. Former colleagues remember him as a "trailblazer," "an incredibly gifted leader who tried really hard" and "an innovator who really cared about this organization and ensured it achieved excellence." He was a fledgling reporter with obvious talent that propelled him quickly up the ladder to become one of the *Herald's* youngest publishers at the age of 40.

**Dan Doherty, BComm'78**, received the Rotary Club's highest honour: the Service Above Self Award. It is given annually to only 150 Rotarians around the world who have shown an exceptional commitment to volunteer their time and talents to help others.

**Gabriel Yee, BSc'79**, won the top prize of \$10,000 at the second annual Big Rock Short Film Festival in June for his documentary *Olga – An Arequipa Story*. His five-minute film tells the heartwarming story of a Peruvian girl whose club foot is treated by volunteers from the Medical Ministry International Canada.

## 1980s

**John Janssen, BComm'81**, coordinator of gliding and paragliding at UCalgary's Outdoor Centre, set a new national hang-gliding distance record of 109.77 km between up to three points. Soaring in the sky for more than five hours, Janssen was able to pull off the feat with the help of ideal weather conditions.

**Michelle Christopher, BA'82, Jean Munn, BA'83, LLB'88, Valerie Prather, LLB'88**, were designated 2016 Queen's Counsel for outstanding contributions to legal and public life.

**Stephen Harper, BA'85, MA'91**, resigned his seat in the House of Commons on August 26, 2016. The former prime minister and MP for Calgary Heritage stepped down as Conservative party leader in October 2015, after he lost the federal election to Liberal leader Justin Trudeau. Harper & Associates recently became affiliated with the international law firm, Deacons.

**Carson Pue, BED'85, MA'99**, has joined Trinity Western University's executive leadership team as the special assistant to the president. He will advise President Bob Kuhn on fundraising, leadership development and church relations.

**David Eaton, MSc'89, PhD'92**, a UCalgary geophysicist, has co-authored a new study that suggests hydraulic fracturing of oil and gas wells is causing earthquakes triggered by human activity in Western Canada.

## 1990s

**Gregory Francis, LLB'90, Rhoda Dobler, BA'88, LLB'92, Sean Smyth, LLB'93, Robert Armstrong, LLB'98**, were designated 2016 Queen's Counsel for outstanding contributions to legal and public life.

**Linda Carlson, BSc'91**, received a UCalgary Long Service Award 2016 for 15 years of service. She is an award-winning professor and Enbridge Research Chair in psychosocial oncology at the Cumming School of Medicine, director of research, Psychosocial Resources Department at the Tom Baker Cancer Centre. Her research on mindfulness-based cancer recovery is well-published in numerous journals, manuals and book chapters.

**Kelly Ernst, BA'92, MSc'95, PhD'99**, is the new executive director of Calgary Outlink Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity — Calgary's only LGBTQ+ service organization.

**Tara L. Moore, BA'95**, is an associate professor in the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology and director of the MS program in forensic anthropology at Boston University School of Medicine.

**Milena Radakovic, BComm'95**, received the Women's Resource Centre Distinguished Alumna Award 2016. The president and owner of Nexus Exhibits Ltd. helped start the Calgary Chapter of the Women in Leadership Foundation. She was also nominated for the 2016 Alberta Women Entrepreneurs Celebration of Achievements awards.

**Cari Gulbrandsen, BED'96, BA'98, MEd'07**, received the Women's Resource Centre Distinguished Graduate Student Award 2016. She is a passionate PhD student in the Faculty of Social Work.

**Lana Wells, BSW'96, MSW'97**, received the 2016 John Hutton Memorial Award for her outstanding contribution to the profession of social work and the community. The associate professor at the University of Calgary is also the Brenda Strafford Chair in the Prevention of Domestic Violence and a 2015 Peak Scholar.

**Rod Durrant, BKin'97**, was named Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) Men's Volleyball Coach of the Year. In his tenth season as head coach of the Dinos, Durrant led his team to 18 wins and a national ranking in the Top 5.

**Sherri Tankchak, BSW'97, MSW'02**, was awarded the prestigious \$15,000 scholarship from the Alberta Human Rights Commission and Student Aid Alberta for her research in how social workers recover from the trauma of workplace bullying.

**Bradley Somer, BSc'98**, was named one of 2016's Emerging Artists at the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Arts Awards in June. The writer's works have appeared in dozens of literary magazines and anthologies over the past 15 years. His latest novel, *Fishbowl*, has been shortlisted for the Georges Bugnet Award for Fiction and was listed as one of the Best Books of 2015 by the *San Diego Union Tribune*.

Send us your news.

Wedding, birth, promotion,  
retirement or award?

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"Class Notes" at  
[netcommunity.ucalgary.ca](http://netcommunity.ucalgary.ca)

Read more alumni updates at  
[ucalgarymag.ca/issue/fall-winter-2016/article/class-notes](http://ucalgarymag.ca/issue/fall-winter-2016/article/class-notes)

**Kathleen Chaput, BSc'99, MA'01, PhD'13**, led a new study that found among new mothers experiencing breastfeeding difficulties, those that received positive breastfeeding support were less likely to experience post-partum depression. The research was published in the *CMAJ Open* journal.

**Carolyn Emery, MSc'99**, led a new study that found neuromuscular warmup training reduced the injury rate in youth soccer players by 38 per cent, hence saving \$2.7 million in health care costs in one soccer season. The research was published in the *British Journal of Sports Medicine*.

**Neil Fassina, BSc'99**, was named the eighth president of Athabasca University on August 17, 2016. The former Provost and VP Academic of the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) will lead Athabasca University as it "develops sustainable solutions to its financial challenges and modernizes its work to serve students in an increasingly digital world."

**Chris Hsiung, BSc'99**, won the Best Documentary Over 30 Minutes at the 2016 Alberta Film and Television Awards. The first-time nominee's film, *Elder in the Making*, premiered at the 2015 Calgary International Film Festival on September 26, 2015. It explores the historical and current impact of the Blackfoot culture on Alberta.

## 2000s

**Daniel Heng, BSc'00, MD'02**, led a study that found men with metastatic testicular cancer who are disease-free two years after diagnosis and treatment have a 98 per cent cure rate. His research team collected data from 1,000 patients over a 12-year period. The findings are impacting medical guidelines around the world.

**Lindsay McLaren, BSc'00**, is a PhD student in the Cumming School of Medicine and O'Brien Institute for Public Health who led a study that showed tooth decay worsened after fluoride was removed from Calgary's water supply. McLaren's research compared the baby teeth of Grade 2 students in Calgary with those of their peers in Edmonton where water is still fluoridated.

**Tony Truong, BSc'00, MD'02**, an assistant professor in the oncology and paediatric



rics departments at the Cumming School of Medicine and a member of the Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute, led a study showing nine out of 10 children reacted extremely well to stem cell transplants. The research is published in the January edition of the *Journal Bone Marrow Transplantation*.

**Amanda Melin, BSc'03, MA'06, PhD'11**, an assistant professor of biological anthropology at UCalgary, has debunked the myth that zebra stripes offer camouflaging protection against predators. Her findings were published on January 22, 2016, in the journal *PLOS ONE*.

**Katrina Olson-Mottahed, BFA'04**, launched the country's first Canadian International Fashion Film Festival in Calgary last July. Olson-Mottahed wanted to present "a new way of seeing fashion" by featuring short-film productions of fashion at the Glenbow Museum during the two-day celebration.

**William Mark Giles, MA'05, PhD'12**, was a finalist in the Amazon.ca First Novel Award for his book, *Seep*.

**Narda Simpson, BEd'05**, has grown her company, Oyaco, to be one of the largest baby product distributors in Canada. Founded in 2001, her high-quality infant, toddler and maternity products can be found at 600 independent retailers across the country, including Toys R Us, Chapters and Costco.

**Ricardo Miranda, BA'06**, MLA for Calgary-Cross, was sworn in in February 2016 as Alberta's Tourism and Culture minister. The former refugee from Nicaragua is the first openly gay cabinet minister in the province's history.

**Roda Siad, BA'09**, and her sister, Asha, daughters of former Somali refugees, wrote and directed a documentary, *19 Days*, for the National Film Board of Canada. It follows refugee families from Burundi, Sudan and Syria as they experience their first 19 days in Canada. The film was streamed on World Refugee Day on June 20, 2016.

**Shane Sinclair, PhD'09**, assistant professor, Cancer Care Research Professorship, and Graham McCaffrey, PhD'12, associate dean of the Faculty of Nursing, spearheaded an interdisciplinary symposium called "Compassion Under Contemporary Conditions," with a keynote address from Canadian author Margaret Atwood, on May 29, 2016.

## 2010s

**Rosalynn Peschl, BComm'10**, and a team of UCalgary community health science students, placed second at the Dubai regional competition for the prestigious 2016 Hult Prize. Thousands of the brightest university students from more than 150 countries took part in regional competitions across five cities. Their task: to solve a key global social challenge.



Riley Brandt

## Smart Insoles

Earlier in the year, when CEO and co-founder of Orpyx Medical Technologies **Dr. Breanne Everett, MD'09, MBA'13**, got a call from the Governor General's office, she assumed it was about her brother, Shawn, who had just won a Juno Award.

But the 32-year-old, who left a medical residency in plastic and reconstructive surgery at UCalgary to pursue an MBA, was wrong. The call was for her, informing the co-founder of a revolutionary sensor-based shoe insole aimed at improving blood flow for diabetics that she'd snagged one of six Governor General's Innovation Awards.

"I was speechless," says the **2014 Arch Awards Graduate of the Last Decade**, over a breakfast burrito back in her hometown, Calgary. "In fact, the whole week that I spent with the other winners was surreal — like being in *Alice in Wonderland*."

**With three degrees behind you and a couple of years left to finish another in reconstructive surgery, do you wish you had altered your career path?**

I am very happy with where I am today but if I could do it again I think I would have chosen engineering as my undergrad degree. My understanding of our business would be deeper and the way that I approach the world might be a little bit different if I had that background and not biochemistry.

**You got married when you were working on your MBA in 2012, had your first son in 2014 and second son a year later, plus you launched a company in that period which makes you superhuman in our books. How do you manage?**

With a lot of support. It's all about balancing and managing the pressure to do more in every way — work more, be at home more. It's hard.

**Now that you're a parent do you ever wonder how your parents raised such high-achievers — two physicians and an award-winning musician?**

I do. They were remarkable in how they treated all three of us very differently. I was likely easy to raise because I was mainstream, wanted to do well in school and knew I wanted to go into medicine. My brother, however, was not strong academically and was a drummer growing up. My parents never discouraged him — if anything, they encouraged him to the point of being sort of ridiculous. We shared a wall and his drumset was on the other side of, basically, my bed. He would drum on a school night until midnight, while I would be trying to sleep. They always said they had to encourage him to do what he loved so there were no noise rules. That shows you the kind of parents there were. Shawn (her brother) attributes his recent win to how our parents raised us. It's hard for parents to support risk-takers — I hope I can emulate that some day. — *Deb Cummings* **U**

**Vera Krejcik, MD'11**, won the 2016 Canadian Medical Association Award for Young Leaders (Resident). Prior to entering residency in internal medicine, she suffered a stroke after an elective surgery. She lost the full use of her left arm and leg, but forged ahead to complete her medical education. She will finish her psychiatry residency in 2019. The Cochrane native has become a national leader, advocate and role model for the Canadian Association of Physicians with Disabilities.

**Christa Sato, BA'11, BSW'14**, was awarded the prestigious \$10,000 scholarship from the Alberta Human Rights Commission and Student Aid Alberta for her master's research on second-generation Filipino male university students in the province.

**Benjamin Ross Hayden, BFS'12**, won the Best Screenwriter (for drama over 30 minutes) category at the 2016 Alberta Film and Television Awards for his sci-fi feature film, *The Northlander*. The award-winning Métis filmmaker was also the youngest Canadian to be accepted to the prestigious Telefilm micro-budget program in the roles of director, writer and producer for this feature.

**Faye Stenning, BKin'12**, is ranked top female Spartan Racer in the world. What started off as a fun weekend hobby of jumping walls, crawling under barbed wire and throwing spears is now a serious career for Stenning. She turned pro in April 2016 and is competing in the NBC-televised U.S. Championship Series that finishes with world championships in Lake Tahoe, Calif., in December 2016. **U**

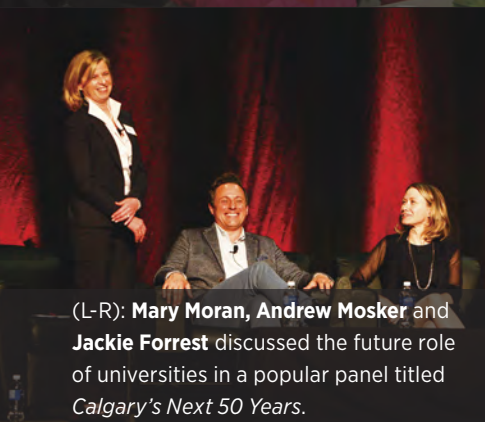


# 2016 Alumni weekend

Spanning four different faculties and three generations, the **Goodwin** tribe attended the Alumni Weekend's Sunday brunch. (L-R): grandsons **Sam and Jack; Duncan Jr.** and **Duncan Sr.**



Many of the weekend's events — from scavenger hunts and comic-making to CJSW Radio tours — were multigenerational.



(L-R): **Mary Moran, Andrew Mosker** and **Jackie Forrest** discussed the future role of universities in a popular panel titled *Calgary's Next 50 Years*.



Professional drummer **Tristan Wolfgang Knox** led a drumming circle that left the lower level of Mac Hall vibrating.

## Classes without Quizzes

The dancing Heebie-jeebies.  
Paint-the-rock sessions.  
Running clinics. Campus tours.  
Reunion brunches.  
Rollicking panel discussions.  
Quantum dots. Fairness, bias.

All of these events and topics were highlighted last April at the University of Calgary's first-ever Alumni Weekend. More than 1,200 graduates, friends and families attended the educational extravaganza that launched UCalgary's 50th anniversary that will continue to be celebrated throughout 2017.

While some alumni were content to swap memorable stories with former classmates and professors, others toured their offspring under the red arch, stopping at our very own prairie chicken before letting them paint one of our iconic rocks. And then there were those who came out to be students again — to absorb what new graduate-level research is taking place that keeps UCalgary an intellectually-vibrant campus. From provocative panels and interactive clinics to readings and entertaining brunches, one of the challenges was deciding what, *exactly*, to do.

Now, deep in the plans for next year, we hope you'll attend Alumni Weekend 2017. Details and dates will soon be posted at [ucalgary.ca/alumniweekend](http://ucalgary.ca/alumniweekend) — **Deb Cummings** 

*Photography: Brent Davidson*



**VIDEO** Relive the weekend.

Visit [ucalgary.ca/alumniweekend](http://ucalgary.ca/alumniweekend)





*Running 101* was a sold-out workshop that gave personal assessments on running gaits and techniques.



The "rock" was stamped by hundreds of handprints.



The Calgary-based, all-alumni Heebie-jeebies kicked off the weekend. (L-R): **Ken Lima-Coelho** and **Jonathan Love**.



(Back row, L-R): Singer-songwriter **Matt Masters (Burgener)**, **Amanda Burgener**, **Nora** and baby **Charles**.



Philanthropist, alumnus and business leader (L) **Geoff Humming** chats with (R) **Kelsy Norman** (producer of podcast *Peer Review*) during a sit-down lunch in Mac Hall.



They're here, they're there — they were everywhere.



Discussing Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission were (L-R): **Phil Fontaine**, **Lorena Fontaine**, **Kathleen Mahoney**, **Fred Kelly** and **Leroy Little Bear**.



More than 60 caricatures of alumni and their children were drawn by two artists from Shiraz Creative.



Bouldering at the Outdoor Climbing Centre was a huge hit with all ages.



(L): English professor and historian **Aritha van Herk** and (R) UCalgary president **Elizabeth Cannon** were two of the panelists who spoke at the Sunday brunch in the just-opened Taylor Institute for Learning.



(L-R): One of the drumming circle's participants kept the beat with the session's facilitator, **Chantal Chagnon**.



# Beyond the Wall

Riley Brandt

**W**e are gawking at a 10-metre-tall ribbed concrete wall that straddles one of the oldest buildings on UCalgary's main campus and one of the newest. But appearances can be deceiving. You could mistake this thick slab of greyness for an exterior wall — and, once upon a time, you would have been correct. However, like so many areas on our 50-year-old campus, things and purposes change. Today, this piece of Brutalist architecture is inside a space that is full of pretty things — “things” that pop with colour and movement, reminiscent of what blows in the wind in Newfoundland Tourism advertisements (that is, indeed, a clue!).

This mysterious space, named after a generous male donor, has led a long and circuitous life. Its original home, constructed in 1979, was a field away. While both spaces remain about the same size (12,000 sq. ft.), it's the new storage area that is so much larger. Plus, the new area has a dedicated loading dock, which is a huge deal considering the number and size of goods that move in and out of this area. Some of the goods may be local, while others may hail from as far away as China and Uzbekistan. Depending on the wares, some pieces may do time in the space's backroom deep freeze.

Last year, about 22,000 people (an even split between students/staff and the general public) took a detour off one of the busiest intersections on campus into one of the three areas that occupy this campus space. Dubbed “dynamic,” this area is consistently in flux — the walls can be reconfigured like giant

Lego pieces and the content in these fluid floor plans can change up to 12 times a year. Seeing that we are giving out clues, here's another: a few years ago, this area was home to a big latex lighthouse. And, not so long ago, part of it was zigzagged with clotheslines full of summer frocks.

If you pop in at noon on a Thursday you'll see scores of people listening to a speaker. Once a month, on Saturday afternoons, workshops with the City of Calgary also occur here, as do numerous receptions that salute what's in this space and beyond. Those lucky enough to get a “backstage” tour will find cabinets, vaults and rows upon rows of thousands of “things.” Some items are hanging, others are rolled and some are several hundred years old. Here's another little-known fact: about 20,000 “things” are itty bitty and are kept in a vault.

If you trek upstairs, east of “the” wall, you'll find whitewashed rooms full of . . . well, you never know, exactly, what you'll find until you go a-wandering. As someone who toured me around this region said: “Here, we tell stories with objects.”

Or, you can just enjoy an existential Pink Floyd moment and rock out on *The Wall*. — *Deb Cummings* **U**

### How to Play

Identify the cryptic location where the photograph was taken and you could win a \$70 gift certificate to the University of Calgary MUSEO shop. Visit: [ucalgarymag.ca/wherearewe](http://ucalgarymag.ca/wherearewe)





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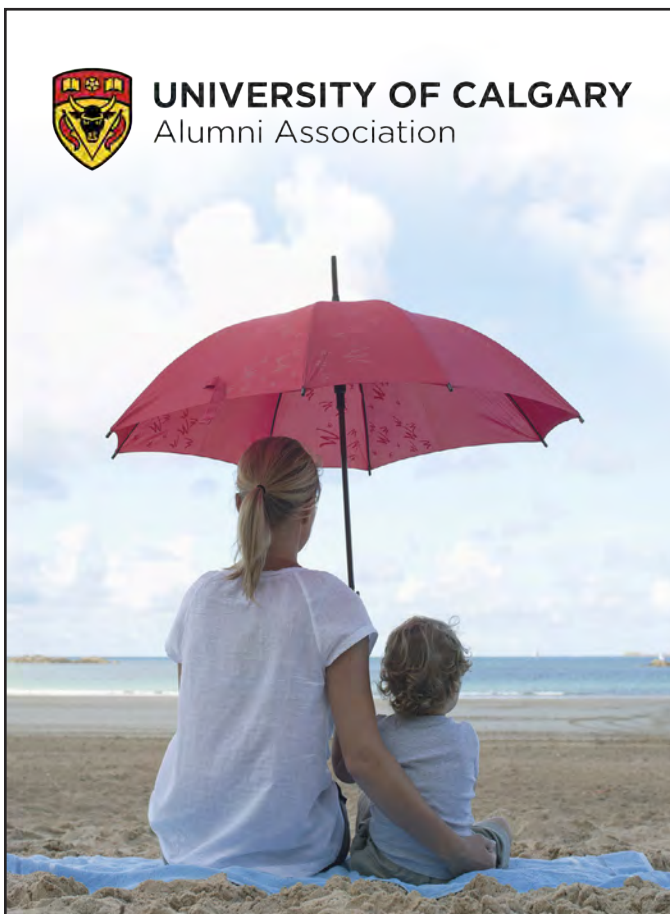
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