

**Dr. David Atkinson**  
**installed as**  
**Brock's fourth**  
**President**  
 See page 4

**Brock University**

---

# Surgite!

Winter 1998

**Brock and**  
**Niagara**  
**College**  
**team up**  
**for tourism**

See page 2

*A quarterly publication for graduates and friends of Brock University*  
*Surgite! /sur-gi-tay/ Latin for "Push on!" The inspiring last words of Maj.-Gen. Sir Isaac Brock*

**H**eld at Brock at the end of October this year was the first-ever Niagara Parenting Conference. Called *Family Matters*, the conference was organized almost entirely by volunteers and was the brainchild of Anne Webster, a speech pathologist, who is currently devoting herself full-time to the job of parenting.

"A wealth of good information on raising children is available but is not always readily accessible," says Webster. "I thought a conference like this would be helpful in bringing together parents and other caregivers with the many experts in this and other communities."

Attracting more than 200 parents, the conference featured a number of high-profile presenters, including Mary Sheedy Kurcinka, author of *Raising Your Spirited Child*, and Terry LaCorte, the developer of an educational family board game about money management. Brock faculty, staff and alumni lead many of the more than 15 workshop sessions which addressed a range of issues, including: fostering self-confidence in kids; supporting them in organized sporting activities; overcoming sibling rivalry; and using the on-line world as a family experience.

## Family Matters

.....  
**A T B R O C K**  
 .....



Helped by two young assistants, Terry LaCorte leads an interactive workshop for parents about raising financially responsible children.

BOGNER PHOTOGRAPHY LTD.

*Family Matters* also attracted the interest of businesses and organizations throughout southern Ontario. Corporate sponsors included Canadian Tire Acceptance Limited, The St. Catharines Standard, and the Canadian Federation of University Women (St. Catharines Branch). More than 30 exhibitors set up displays to showcase their products and services to participants.

Brock's Dean of Social Sciences, Professor William Webster, began the day's proceedings by reiterating the assertion of the *Family Matters* organizing committee that parenting is a profession. "Just as other professionals attend conferences in order to learn and to share and to improve their understanding, so too, parents need their own conference on parenting in order to learn and share and improve."

Participants seemed to agree with this approach and there have been numerous inquiries about when the next *Family Matters* conference will be held. While no dates have been set, organizers have promised to keep *Surgite!* posted. Brock faculty, staff, alumni and friends interested in helping out with the next *Family Matters* are invited to call Margaret Bernat at (905) 688-5550 extension 3740. ♦

## Igniting the love of learning



by **Andrea Hannen**

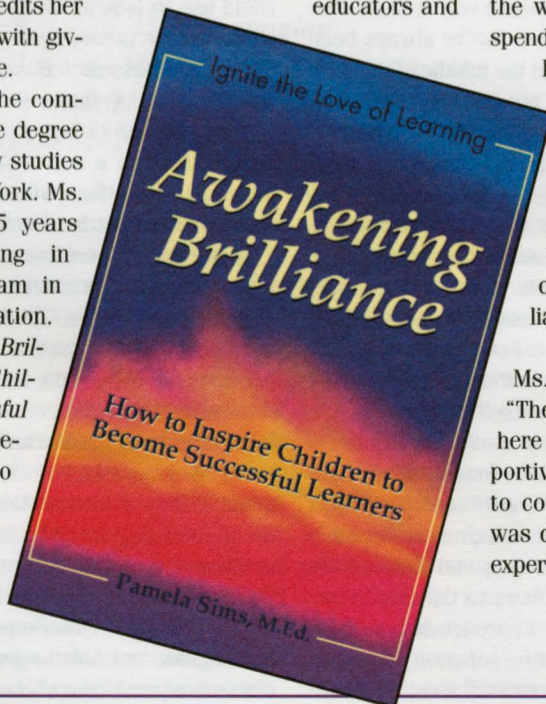
When speaking with educational consultant Pamela Sims (M.Ed. '92) it is hard to imagine that she ever had difficulties in high school. While a very good student in her early years, feelings of

alienation during high school led her to the brink of dropping out. "I didn't feel that the teachers cared about whether I succeeded or failed," says Sims, who credits her mother's encouragement with giving her the will to continue.

After high school, she completed her undergraduate degree at Concordia, followed by studies in Special Education at York. Ms. Sims spent the next 15 years teaching, later enrolling in Brock's graduate program in Educational Administration. Her new book *Awakening Brilliance: How to Inspire Children to Become Successful Learners* is based on the research she conducted to complete her thesis.

Emphasizing the importance of building confidence and self-esteem in both teachers and

students and fostering an environment of acceptance in the classroom, the book has been extremely well received by educators and



parents throughout North America. The first edition sold out in just a few short months.

While another book may be in the works, Ms. Sims is currently spending much of her time traveling to the many speaking engagements and motivational seminars she coordinates for teachers. This spring will find her a frequent visitor to Niagara as the host of a new radio show called "Awakening Your Brilliance" on CHSC 1220.

About her years at Brock, Ms. Sims is extremely positive. "The professors I encountered here really tried to create a supportive learning environment and to connect with the students. It was definitely my best schooling experience." ♦

### ◆ Inside ◆

#### Forum

**Maclean's: The good, the bad and the ugly**

PAGE 2

#### Features

**Homecoming: a time for happy memories**

PAGE 3

**Convocation '97**

PAGE 4

*Alumnews* . . . . .5  
*Brock Briefs* . . . . .7  
*Including: Networking on Parliament Hill and Naming of new CCOVI building*

## Brock University

St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada L2S 3A1  
 (905) 688-5550, ext. 3245

POSTMASTER  
 REQUEST FOR RETURN

**MAIL POSTE**  
 Canada Post Corporation / Société canadienne des postes  
 Postage Paid / Port payé  
 Blk Nbre  
**8800278-99**  
**L8E 2R0**

# Brock University & Niagara College

## Teaming up to meet industry needs

by Andrea Hannen

Given their location in the heart of Niagara, it seems appropriate that Brock University and Niagara College would both be involved in the development and delivery of hospitality and tourism industry training programs. Niagara hosts more than 12 million visitors each year and the region's annual tourism revenues are estimated at approximately one billion dollars. While many Brock students rely on the seasonal positions generated by the industry, increasing numbers of graduates are looking to tourism as a career choice.

It is estimated that in Niagara's tourism-related accommodations, transportation, attractions, and food and beverage sectors, more than 800 individuals are employed in management and supervisory positions.

"Recent years have seen increased international competition, emerging consumer markets in eastern Europe and Asia, and new information mediums necessitating new levels of sophistication in Canada's tourism industry," says Dr. Laurel Reid, Associate Professor in the Tourism Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies at Brock. "Career success in tourism requires far more than just the ability to manage

a facility efficiently or to coordinate quality food and beverage services. Cultural competence is required to attract and serve increasing numbers of international visitors, as is an understanding of the niche marketing opportunities available through the use of new communications technologies." The individual also needs the capacity to think strategically and to develop and execute long-range plans explains Professor Reid. "These have become the essential skills."

Professor Reid knows of what she speaks, she has been involved in tourism marketing for more than 20 years and holds a Ph.D. in Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management from South Carolina's Clemson University. Her consulting clients have included the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Barbados Hotel Association, and the Niagara Falls Canada Visitor and Convention Bureau. She is also Co-designer of the new Tourism Management Professional Certificate Program offered jointly by Brock University and Niagara College.

Co-developed, co-delivered, and co-credited by both Brock and Niagara College, the program was created to meet the professional development needs of managers and supervisors already working in Niagara's tourism industry. Despite ex-

tensive consultation with industry, the program took just a-year-and-a-half to come to fruition. In the process of researching and creating the courses themselves, officials from the two educational institutions created a framework for other cooperative efforts. Says Marti Jurmain, program co-designer from Niagara College, "we were developing the protocols and processes needed by the two institutions to work together in the future."

In fact, many members of the Niagara business community are just as excited by the prospect of the region's two major educational institutions working together as they are about the launch of the Tourism Professional Management Certificate Program itself. As industry demand for highly specialized academic and professional courses increases, educational institutions are having to become increasingly entrepreneurial in the ways they acquire program development resources such as experts, facilities, equipment, and market information. Joint ventures such as the one with Niagara College allow for numerous cost-efficiencies without compromising the relevance or the quality of programming.

"It makes sense on another level as well," says Gregg Crealock, owner of Vineland's Plain & Fancy

Restaurant and chair of the Niagara Economic and Tourism Corporation. "Partnerships, cost-sharing, and co-operative efforts are extremely important in the tourism industry. They allow individual operators to work in teams to create appealing package experiences for a much wider range of customers than they could otherwise reach as individuals. By working together, Brock University and Niagara College are setting an important example for program participants. In our industry, we can't afford to think small. Our business is sharing our culture."

The first component of the Tourism Management Professional Certificate Program, *The Tourism Environment: 2000 and Beyond*, began on January 5 and challenges participants to examine emerging trends in the industry, and how they might use communications and marketing strategies, human resource management practices, and other tools to capitalize upon these changes. Other components of the program include: *Staff Management for Hospitality Service Excellence; Financial Management in Tourism and Hospitality; Advanced Managerial Communications for Tourism; Tourism Marketing Strategies and Tactics; Dynamics of Strategic Tourism Planning; and Advanced Independent Management Studies*. Each course component is five days in length and all are offered in the off-peak season. Participants may opt to take individual courses, a combination of courses, or the entire program if they wish.

Designed for individuals with at least five years of experience in tourism and hospitality, one year of which must be at the management or supervisory level, the program had to be flexible to meet the needs

### Brock University

Chancellor  
Dr. Robert Welch, OC, QC

Chair, Board of Trustees  
Dr. Ken Fowler

President  
Dr. David Atkinson

### Surgite!

Executive Director  
External Relations  
Grant Dobson

Editor  
Andrea Hannen

Design & Layout  
Heather Fox

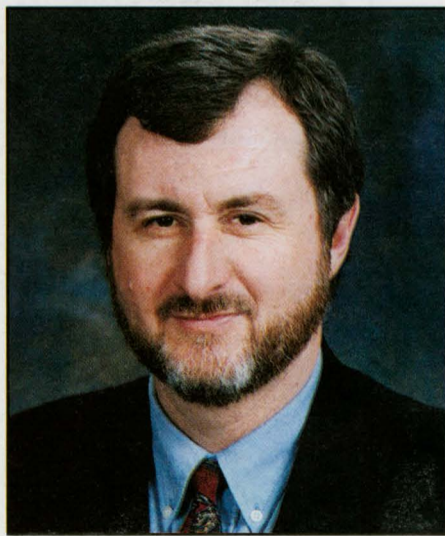
Printing  
Lincoln Graphics

of both employers and employees. "We recognized that we had to offer the program in the off-peak season, but our consultations with the industry also shaped how we have chosen to deliver the material," explains Dr. Reid. "Each course is just five days long, but relates the latest management theories to specific hospitality and tourism settings. Our goal is to give participants knowledge that they can put into practice the day they return to work."

To date, the program has attracted individuals from various sectors of the tourism industry, including a number of facility owners. To find out more, please contact Dr. Laurel Reid at (905) 688-5550, ext. 4367. ♦

### Forum

## Macleans: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly



Pat Beard

by Pat Beard

This past November, *Macleans* magazine published its annual edition devoted primarily to the evaluation (and ranking) of Canada's universities. This is the seventh year in a row that *Macleans* has provided us with its views on what constitutes an excellent university and how close the 51 institutions from across the country come to reaching the ideal. *Macleans* does this ostensibly to assist prospective students in the exercise of choosing which university they will attend. In fact, the issue is a big money maker—the first issue, in 1990, was the second most popular issue in the history of the magazine (after the one covering the

marriage of Diana and Charles). What is equally clear is that the impact of the ranking on the psyches of those institutions (if not their recruitment prospects) has been significant.

Brock has never done very well, or very poorly, with *Macleans*. We've always been placed more or less in the middle of the pack—not excellent, but not bad. This record of apparent persistent mediocrity is, of course, probably more galling than being rated at either extreme. If only for that reason, I believe that the *Macleans* rating game is deeply flawed and grossly misleading. Brock, like every other university in the country, has strengths and weaknesses. It is an outstanding university in many fields and tries to fulfill its mission by offering a range of programs appropriate to that mandate. The main problem with the *Macleans* exercise is that it applies a certain template to all institutions, a weighting of attributes (developed by the editors) which defines excellence in a decidedly idiosyncratic way and then expects all institutions to adhere to that definition. This "cookie-cutter" approach is both misleading and deceptive.

I have no problem with most of the indexes which *Macleans* uses in evaluating the institutions. In fact, Brock (like other universities) uses some of the *Macleans* indexes - and the availability of the data - for its own purposes. While it is true that most of the indexes measure "inputs" rather than "outputs", it is also true that *Macleans* is limited by what the institutions can provide. Brock

(again, like most other institutions) regularly surveys its graduates and asks for an evaluation of its services and programs. However, the fact is there is no consistent data available across the country which *Macleans* could use to look at "outputs". Until the institutions can provide the data, it seems unfair to criticize *Macleans* for our inadequacies. Perhaps the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) should develop a set of "core questions" which all institutions would make a part of their surveys in order to meet this need.

Of course, there are still some indexes that *Macleans* uses which are suspect, if not downright misleading. The index on the proportion of students who come from another province is presented as "a measure of drawing power" (whatever that is!). In fact, it is used because the Maritime institutions all have high proportions of out-of-province students (due to the integration of the systems on an inter-provincial basis). The index on grants per weighted full-time equivalent student places Brock second from the bottom (and most of the Ontario institutions in the bottom half) but fails to give credit for efficiency (we provide excellence for less). Finally, the index on reputation (worth 15% of the total) is a "dog's breakfast" involving the solicitation of uninformed opinions from high school guidance counselors, university administrators and corporate CEOs. Surely there must be a better way to measure quality than relying on rumor and innuendo! This

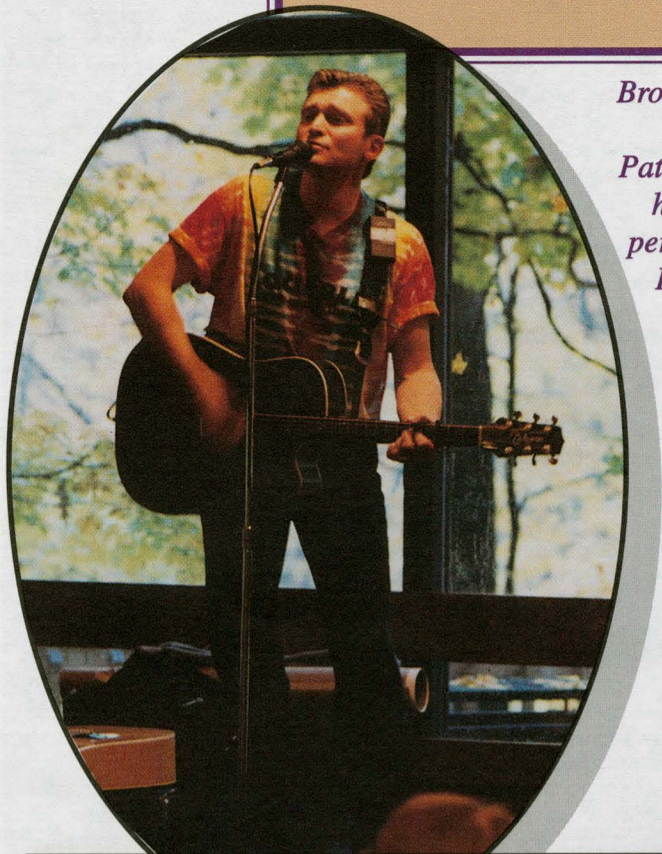
is one index that cannot be improved—get rid of it, please.

Ironically, Brock is currently engaged in an exercise which is likely to have a major impact on this despised reputational index. Under the guidance of our new President, Dr. David Atkinson, we are developing a set of institutional plans and priorities. This will help to sharpen Brock's image outside of the University and, perhaps more importantly, outside of Ontario. By focusing on those things that we do particularly well and by shifting resources in support of those areas of strength, we will be able to promote and develop our public image to a much greater degree. This is not a matter of doing different things but doing things differently. It is an attempt to position ourselves so that the reality of the Brock experience can be communicated in a clear and uncompromising manner. It is also clearly needed in an age of fierce competition among universities and between various parts of the public sector for shrinking resources.

So it is that *Macleans* is both a blessing and a curse. In an era of accountability and customer service, it is no longer enough to "walk the talk", we must also make sure that our message is being received and understood, that Brock's image is a true and accurate representation of our strengths (and weaknesses). It is no surprise that all of the universities that have, in the past, refused to cooperate with *Macleans* are back in the fold. The price of non-participation is just too high. ♦

# Homecoming

a time for happy memories



Brock's favourite singer, Pat Hewitt, gave his farewell performance at Pond Inlet.

The Silver Badgers taking a break from the Homecoming '97 festivities.

From left to right: Peter Sullivan, Michael Hornyansky, Ted Squires, Calvin Hayes, Nancy (Slemon) Cowan, Don Chapman, Philip Beaudoin.



They're back!

The class of '72 shares a laugh together, 25 years after graduation. Back row, from left to right: Andrew Connelly, Wayne Jesseau, Sharon Jesseau, Audrey Bogner, Ken Cruise, George Gasiecki, Marilyn (Dyack) Cottrell, Al Garbens, Thien Aung, Klass Westera.

Center row, from left to right: Dan Bologna, Don Kernaghan. Front row, from left to right: Janet Savard, Susan (Dyke) Szaszi, Patricia (Ruzyllo) Hermann, Valerie Fleming, Joyce (Juhlke) Vidal, Elisabeth (Kiss) Henry, Dagmar (Zapf) Midgley.



After a day of fun and sport, Alumni athletes "refueled" at Isaac's Pub.



For Dr. Thein Aung, this year's Homecoming celebration really was a homecoming of sorts. Dr. Aung attended Brock University from 1971 to 1972 and earned a graduate degree in biochemistry. He describes his year-

and-a-half at Brock as one of the happiest times of his life and has fond memories of spending time with friends at the campus pub (now the University Club.) Dr. Aung attended Brock on a scholarship from his home country of Burma and later went on to complete his PhD at McMaster University.

While at Brock, he worked closely with Professor Allen Bown. After graduation, they maintained their friendship for more than 25 years through letters, cards, and long distance telephone calls. Dr. Aung traveled all the way from Burma to attend this year's Homecoming celebration and 25th Anniversary class reunion, taking advantage of the opportunity to renew a life-long friendship.

Since completing his studies at Brock and McMaster, Dr. Aung has continued his career in biochemistry. He joined the Office of the Chemical Examiner of Burma as biochemist/forensic investigator, later becoming the Assistant to the Director of that organization. Prior to his retirement in 1995, he

served as the Chemical Examiner of Burma—a position of tremendous responsibility.

In Burma, it is not customary for medical examiners or forensic experts to testify, or even appear, in court proceedings. Rather, they prepare an official report detailing all of the forensic evidence involved in a case. Serology, toxicology, narcotics testing, and general analysis findings are presented in writing. The signature of the Chemical Examiner on such a report can, quite literally, mean life or death for a defendant.

Given the scope of Dr. Aung's responsibilities in his role as Chemical Examiner and his being accustomed to a very demanding workload, it is hardly surprising that in "retirement" he has involved himself in a number of work-related interests. He runs two private clinical laboratories in his home country, and is involved in both a restaurant and a construction business.

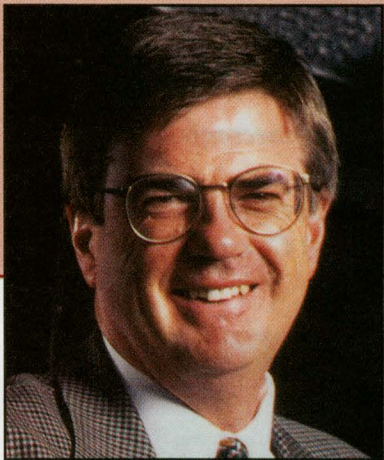
Dr. Aung's high regard for Brock is evident when he speaks of his experiences here,

both as a student and during his current visit. "I love this place," he says. "I miss this place, but I really appreciate the Alumni Association and that they still keep me in touch by sending out *Surgite!* and other newsletters and publications." In a recent interview he commented on the changes the University has undergone since he last visited the campus.

"At the time, the McKenzie Chown Complex was still under construction, and there were far fewer students on campus." He has been extremely pleased by the fact that some members of the faculty and staff who were here in 1972 have continued their careers at Brock. "It's good to see familiar faces and old friends."

Dr. Aung's son, Zaw Min Thein, has followed in his father's footsteps and is currently attending Brock. In early 1998, Dr. Aung will go back to Burma where he resides with his wife, Daw Thein Thein Kyi, and his daughter, Khine K. Sumyat

# Convocation '97



## Brock's new President.

Dr. David Atkinson. In a presentation which stressed the importance of balance and taking time to enjoy life, Dr. Atkinson discussed the challenges facing this year's graduates as they face the "new order of the 21st century."

**"Eminent Chancellor, Distinguished Platform Guests, Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen, and, on this occasion, most importantly, Graduands**

We can all point to the few events in our lives that rise above everything else, and for me this is certainly one of them. It is also, I hope, how you, our graduands, approach this convocation, signaling as it does, a very particular accomplishment in your lives. Like you, I share this event with my family, who have supported me over the years, and who are here today.

Just as your family shares in your accomplishment, my family must share in mine and must take credit for it. And like you, I have many friends here who I must thank for their support and advice. How I feel at this moment is difficult to describe. I feel honoured; I feel privileged to be offered the opportunity to serve as Brock's fourth President, even as I can't help but be humbled by the challenges and responsibilities that have been presented to me. I know the road ahead will sometimes be rocky, but I take great satisfaction in knowing that I have come to a University that embodies so much of what I believe to be important. I am confident about the future of Brock, even as I confront the serious challenges in front of us.

What gives me this confidence is Brock itself. It is the sense of commitment to the University by our faculty and staff, some of whom have been with us since the earliest days of the University, and all of whom give tirelessly to the institution. It is the quality of you our graduates, of whom we can count 35,000 as alumni, over half in the last decade alone. It is the support and goodwill we enjoy from our extended community throughout the Niagara region. It is our sense of established values, which places the student at the very centre of what we do. It is Brock's youthfulness and vigour, which will be so important as Brock moves into the next important chapter of its history. We are honoured to have with us today Dr. James Gibson and Dr. Alan Earp, the first two Presidents of Brock. We owe much to these two men, because it was during their time as Presidents that Brock's unique identity was established as a student-focused institution committed to undergraduate liberal education; whatever Brock becomes in the future, it must remember these foundations. I stand here today willing to make a commitment to the vision shared by Dr. Gibson and Dr. Earp, as well as by those who founded Brock, and who worked so hard to sustain it during its early years.

Brock University has always been a University of the Niagara

region, the very name of our University suggests a special connectedness with place. It is because of the moral and financial commitment of the Niagara region that Brock exists. The land on which Brock University today stands was purchased with funds raised from the people of virtually every part of this region. There has always been a special relationship between the University and the community, but it was my immediate predecessor President Terry White who made a special effort to reach out into our extended community.

This relationship is one that must remain central to Brock's mission. But what of the challenges of the future? Clearly connected to its own community, and with its own set of established traditions, Brock must move forward to become a university for the world, even as it draws on the special strengths that come from its relationship with the Niagara region.

We must rise to the demands confronting us, remembering that we have a responsibility to encourage and to shape change, while never forgetting our special role as a place of careful critical reflection that protects and passes on the best of our past.

Today is a day of celebration for you, our graduates. In all that we do at Brock, it is you who give us the greatest satisfaction; you are what Brock is all about. On the one hand, Brock gave you something—a good education—which lives on in you long after you have left the institution. On the other, Brock is what you have made it. Universities are not simply about one generation of scholars transmitting what they know to another younger generation of scholars. Brock is a community of scholars in which each learns from the other. I have never yet taught a class in which I have not learned from my students. What I am today is the result of the countless students who have passed through my classes. Every faculty member at Brock has had this experience. For this contribution which you have made, all of us here at Brock are enormously grateful, as are future Brock students, who will benefit in the future from the contributions you have made in the past.

We so often hear about the difficult world we live in: that there are few jobs, that the opportunities my generation enjoyed are no longer there for you, that the problems we confront in day to day life are so enormous that we can hardly comprehend them, never mind solve them. But I also believe in the future, and that this future is in good hands because it is in your hands. For me, it is rather straightforward: if we cannot trust the future to you, our graduates, then to whom can we turn? No one denies the enormity of the responsibility, but I would suggest that every generation has confronted its own set of problems, and has said much the same thing about its capacity to find solutions.

What, then, are you as a graduate of Brock? While going to University is very definitely about preparing oneself for the work world into which most of you will be going—and not for one minute do I not see this as an important

role for the universities—I would suggest that graduating from university also means something about being prepared for life. It is about being ready to be a responsible citizen, to be able to participate in the social discourse so important to the well-being of any community. It is not so much about learning information, as it is to be able to reflect and to think about what you know so that you can make informed decisions untainted by bias or prejudice or ignorance.

It is also knowing how to enjoy life and how to enrich that life. So much of what we do today is driven by instrumental value: that everything we do must lead to some additional outcome measurable by how it contributes to our material or economic success. I am struck by the anxiety so characteristic of the world in which we live—we spend so much time worrying about the future that the present escapes us.

Things are never valued for themselves. We are driven by results. Perhaps this is why those things that make us human we too often ignore. Without art, without music and poetry, without literature, our lives would be without substance; these are not insignificant things. Indeed they are a fundamental part of being human; they nurture those powerful responses in us that really define who we are; they are an antidote to the kind of society we worry about becoming, in which value is defined by what is immediate and what brings us material benefit.

We live in a world in which there seems little time simply to enjoy it. A few decades ago we would write a letter and breath a sigh of relief that a response was at least several weeks away. Today, response by FAX or e-mail is instantaneous—and heaven help us if we take our time replying. We glorify in how busy we are. One might ask, is there really anything so important that we cannot afford to be away from a telephone for a few hours? Apparently not—every

airline seat now has a phone. And I have to admit I have succumbed, or some would say I have arrived in Ontario. I am the happy owner of a car phone, and I have convinced myself that I can't be without it. So there I am, like so many others, driving up and down the QEW doing business on my phone, as if it would not wait. Surely I am only fooling myself. We are robbing ourselves of life and we will regret what has passed us by.

We have made life hard work, and we seem to have taken very seriously Samuel Johnson's contention that "Human life is everywhere in a state in which much is to be endured, and little to be enjoyed." While I am fully aware that all of you want to succeed in life, and that this at least in the first instance means finding a job that provides you with a decent income, I would caution that what ought to be a means to an end must not become an end in itself.

The great Indian poet Rabindranath Tagore asks, "In what manner do we accept this world, which is a perfect gift of joy. Have we been able to receive it in our heart where we keep enshrined things that are of deathless value to us?" "We are frantically busy," he allows, "making use of the forces of nature to gain more and more power; we feed and we clothe ourselves from its stores, we scramble for its riches, and it becomes for us a field of fierce competition."

Rather we might be better off remembering the Buddha's simple injunction concerning right thought, that wisdom is found, not by imposing oneself on the world, or by transforming it, or by taking from it; rather it is to see the world for what it is, to gain strength from this wisdom. It is not about grasping; it is about letting go to see the glories of our world.

Wordsworth got it right when he wrote at the end of his great Ode on Immortality, "Thanks to the human heart by which we live./Thanks to its tenderness, its joys, and fears./To me the meanest flower that blows can give/Thoughts that do often lie too deep for tears."

Many would say, that such idealism has little chance of success in a world that, quite frankly, seems out of control, where our

most fundamental values seem often to have been abandoned. So it is, then, that we come back to the University, what it is, and what it stands for. Universities can no longer be cloistered places that fear the intrusion of the outside world; we can no longer be like Tennyson's Lady of Shalott, who deals only with the reflected reality of her mirror. We have an obligation to shape the world, to interact with it through the students we teach and the research we do, even as we appreciate its resilience and creative capacity, and remember our own responsibilities towards the world in which we live.

As a university, we have an obligation because we do attract the best and brightest to return something to the society that supports us—we are accountable. We might not teach morals, but we do teach about them. Today the distinction between what is right and wrong, which once seemed so clear cut, is mired in the ambiguity of post-modern deferral where there are no final answers, and our great philosophical and religious traditions, which used to provide the bedrock of belief, are being constantly challenged.

There can be no more high walls in our university; we are not Christminster trying to keep the Jews of this world out. As we move into a new century, a challenge for Brock, like virtually every other Canadian university, will be to provide the educational opportunities that people need and want, even as we accept our responsibility to provide direction and guidance.

University learning is not something that only takes place between the ages of 18 and 22, and the programs we deliver must reflect this new reality.

Our programs and curriculum must also recognize the new order of the twenty-first century; we must retain our connection with the European tradition from which we have grown, even while understanding that the rest of the world demands equal attention. We must accept our role in supporting the research and development needs of Canada, and increasingly we will need to partner with external agencies and or-

Continued on page 8

**While every Convocation** is special to the Brock Alumni Association, this year's event was particularly noteworthy. It was the first time in the history of the University that the Association was given the opportunity to address the graduates directly and welcome them to a very special international community—that of the Brock alumni.

You are joining over 35,00 graduates who share your unique ties to this university and represent Brock with distinction. Every graduate leaves a valuable legacy with their university. Your participation through the Alumni Association ensures your legacy will grow. Your voice can still be heard at Brock—I invite you to use it."

—Michael B. Robertson  
Alumni Association President

Representing the Association was Michael B. Robertson, then Vice President, now President. "Each of you has been a part of, and helped to create a unique and vibrant community here at Brock. Our university has been enriched by your presence and contributions," said Robertson.

Below, Alumni Association President Michael B. Robertson presents Judy Austin with the Alumni Association Student Award.



# Alumnews

## 1974

**Peter Sancı** (BA, phil) would like to hear from his friends from the class of '73. Peter can be reached at [wp-sanci@interlog.com](mailto:wp-sanci@interlog.com) or through the Alumni Office.

## 1976

**Aranya Lema** (BEd) is principal and project coordinator of GOIG-Handicraft School in Tanzania. The centre deals with disadvantaged girls to teach them various skills which enable them to become self-employed.

## 1977

**John Learn** (BSc, geol) has been promoted to chief geologist of Channel Resources and is now living in the warm climate of West Africa.

## 1982

**Trisha Blasko** (BSc, biol) would like to get in contact with her friends from Brock. She can be reached at [tblasko@nortel.ca](mailto:tblasko@nortel.ca).

## 1984

**Fred Davies** (BA, poli) is the President of Woodrich Furniture Inc. in Welland, Ontario. Woodrich ranked number one in Canada and number 52 of the top 100 manufacturers in the furniture industry in North America for growth in 1996-97. Fred is a former member of the Brock University Alumni Association Board of Directors.

## 1985

**Lynn Howarth-McCue** (BA/BEd) has been promoted from classroom teacher (kindergarten) to project team leader with the Hamilton Public Board of Education.

**John Smale** (BSc, geol) has recently joined Texaco Exploration's North Caspian Sea Region Team as an Advanced Geoscientist in Houston, Texas. John can be reached at [smalej@texaco.com](mailto:smalej@texaco.com).

## 1986

**Patrick Dowds** (BSc, biol/geog) and wife Vicki live in Burlington with their two children Patrick and Andrew. Patrick would love to hear from friends especially those who lived in Hunter House 1982-1983. His favourite memory of Brock was being Boomer the Badger in 1986 for the Brock Men's Basketball team. He now coaches girl's basketball and cross country at the school where he teaches.

**Paul Gibson** (BAdmin, '86) is Director, Human Resources with NOMA Corporation. **Sally-Ann (Gilmartin) Gibson** (BA/BEd, '87) is a teacher with Dufferin Peel Separate School Board. Paul and Sally-Ann have three children, Adam, 3, Victoria, 2, and Jessica, 1.

## 1987

**Peter Vietgen** (BA, geog/visa) is a visual arts consultant/curriculum advisor with the Toronto Board of Education. He is also working part-time on his MEd at OISE in Arts Curriculum.

## 1989

**Darlene (Hawkes) DiSalvia** (BA/BEd) is an elementary school teacher in Hamilton. Darlene and husband **Jack DiSalvia** (BA, geoh, '89) live in Watertown, Ontario. Jack was working in non-profit housing for a private development consultant and the Ministry of Housing - until all of the projects were cut. Jack is now the owner/operator of an M & M

Meat Shop which he opened in Ancaster, June, 1996.

**Duncan Hopkins** (BBE) is still working hard as a jazz musician travelling Europe and North America. He is on over fifteen recordings including two of his own. Duncan visits St. Catharines each month to play at a local pub and see his old friends.

**Omid Salehian** (BSc, biol; MSc, biol, '92) has received his MD from the University of Toronto and is doing his residency and specialization in internal medicine at McMaster University in Hamilton.

## 1990

**Tim Lefebvre** (BPhEd) graduated from CCMH in 1995 and has been working as a Registered Massage Therapist in the Niagara Region at White Oaks, Pillar and Post Spa, and abroad with the National Cycling Team. Tim and fiancée

**Cindy Pearce** (BA, chld, '89; BPhEd, '97) are planning a 1998 Christmas wedding at White Oaks. Cindy graduated from Queens University Faculty of Education in 1992 and has been teaching for the Lincoln County Board of Education for the past six years.

**Kathleen Moran** (BA, psyc/2lan) is working part-time at Nihon Fukushi University in Japan. She is working on her MA in Applied Linguistics at Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia by correspondence. Kathleen says, "it's an uphill battle, but I'm getting there, slowly but surely!"

## 1991

**Christine (Maxwell) Braley** (BBA) is Human Resources Manager for the Gap Canadian Distribution Centre in Brampton.



After Julie Burley (BA, hist '94) completed her studies at Brock, she attended the S. Martin Teachers College in Lancaster, England. She is now teaching at the St. Stephen's School in south London.

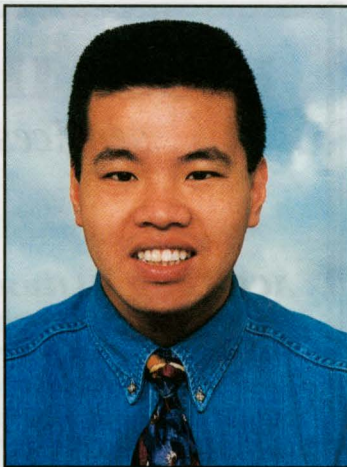
**Daegan Reimer** (BA, euro), lives in California with husband Steve, their two children Zachary and Samantha, two cats and a dog. Daegan says the weather took a little time to get used to but they have now settled in.

## 1992

**Veronica (Gospodaruk) Magee** (BA, cssp) was editor of View Magazine in Hamilton for three years, after which time she did freelance work. She is now Public Relations Officer for Cancopy (the Canadian Copyright Licensing Agency). Veronica frequently contributes to the Country Wave magazine and is currently working on research and proposal writing for her first book which will be about Canadian music.

**Tammy Nolan** (BRLS) and Scot Caldwell started Earthtracks, a business that provides environmental education programs to students, teacher in-service training, Elderhostel programs and much more. Tammy says it's challenging trying to create your own work, especially when the future for teachers is so precarious.

**Kevin O'Neill** (BSc, cosc/list) has completed a PhD in Learning Sci-



John Seto (BSc, '92) was elected to the International Poetry Hall of Fame last fall. Since 1995, he has also received the Editor's Choice Award from The National Library of Poetry and been nominated for the International Society of Poets' Poet of the Year Award.

ences at Northwestern University in Chicago. Kevin married his fellow student and office mate, Laura D'Amico. Kevin is a postdoctoral fellow at OISE, University of Toronto, 1993

**Tamara Baker** (BA, poli/admi) has graduated with Honors from the Mack School of Nursing and has taken a position with the Victoria Order of Nurses, Hamilton.

**Michael Hofstee** (BPhEd) obtained a Doctor of Chiropractic degree in April 1997 from the National College of Chiropractic, Chicago, Illinois. He was married on May 24, 1997 - his wife Michelle is an engineer for Honeywell. They live in St. Petersburg, Florida.

## 1994

**Heather Knapp-Irvine** (BPhEd) after a 13 month wait for immigration clearance is now working as a teacher in Marrayville, California. Heather enjoys living in California in spite of the varied weather conditions - summer heat and winter floods! She hopes someday to get back to Brock to see her old friends at Homecoming.

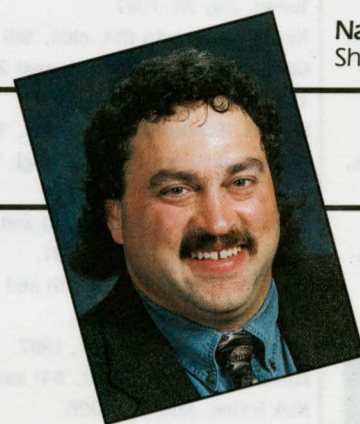
## 1995

**Cisca Haak** (BPhEd) is now teaching grade nine and ten science at her former high school and coaching the basketball and soccer teams.

**Serena (Hazzard) Gennings** (BA, list/Engl) received her BEd in the intermediate/senior division from Nipissing University and is looking for a teaching position. Meanwhile Serena is working part-time at Col-lacut in Kitchener. **Jason Gennings** (BA, Engl, '96) has been promoted to assistant manager at Footlocker in Hamilton.

**Kevin Harkness** (BSc, biol) and **Lisa (Maloney) Harkness** (BRLS, '96), are living in Scotland where

# Snapshot



**Name:** Dr. Stephen Shaughnessy

**Brock Degrees:**  
BSc/MSc  
biology/chemistry

**Place of Residence:**  
St. Catharines

**Position:** Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology, McMaster University

**What's great about your present job:** Teaching graduate students is a pleasure. Their enthusiasm keeps me from getting complacent.

**Claim to Fame:** I don't really have a claim to fame, but I enjoy what I'm doing each day.

**Favourite memory of Brock:** Playing rugby and the friendships that developed from the game.

**Greatest source of pride:** My daughter, Katie, and my son, Daniel. In terms of work, having my research recognized by funding each year.

**Childhood career goal:** My goals changed from day to day—sometimes a geologist, sometimes a scientist, sometimes a teacher. I always had a microscope and a telescope.

**Source of inspiration:** Working with Professor Peter Nichols inspired me to continue in biology and to pursue research work motivated by clinical questions. (Professor Shaughnessy's work is currently funded by the Heart and Stroke Foundation.)

Kevin is studying Veterinary Medicine and Surgery at the University of Glasgow and Lisa is supply teaching.

**April Moon** (BA, labr/soci) has accepted a full-time position as box office supervisor for Roy Thomson & Massey Hall Corporation in Toronto.

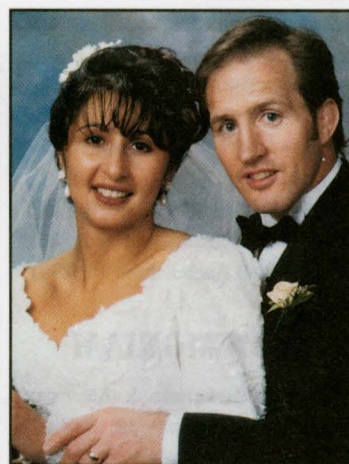
## 1996

**Lisa Demers** (BA, visa) and **Enrico Schirru** (BPhEd, 83; BEd, '84) were engaged June 21, 1997 they plan to marry July 25, 1998

**Nancy Grunstein Reid** (BA, chld) spent four months teaching in Mexico after graduating from Brock. Nancy is presently at Medaille College in Buffalo doing her elementary teacher certification.

## 1997

**Sathya Achia** (BSc, biol) is continuing her education at Humber College in the Advanced Journalism program. She plans to pursue a career in journalism. Sathya was a member



**Maria Natale** (BBE, '90) married Mike Sullivan on May 10.

of the Residence Action Council, '95-'96; Residence Lise Staff, '96-'97; the Yearbook Committee, '95-'96; Tour Guide; and note taker.

**Cheryl Motz** (BSc, boil) is taking

Food Science through the University of Guelph's distance education program. Cheryl is currently working at Pride Beverages in Barrie in quality control.

**Ryan Stephenson** (BBE) works as a mutual funds salesperson at Berkshire Investments in Barrie.

## BIRTHS

**Heather (Wilmot) Alexander** (BPhEd, '79), a son, Robert William Paul Taylor, March 13, 1997.

**Natalie (Brunetta) Chapman** (BA, admi/math, '95) and **Trevor Chapman** (BA, admi/math, '93), a son, Alexander Fenwick, June 16, 1997.

**Robert Curik** (BA, admi/poli, '87), a daughter, Laura Anne, July 3, 1997.

**Lisa (Burton) Dal** (BA, admi/poli, '91), a son, Patrick William, April 14, 1997.

**Sylvia (Agyei) Darko** (BA, admi/poli, '88), a son, Joseph, May 7, 1997.

**Darlene (Hawkes) DiSalvia** (BA/BEd, '90) and **Jack DiSalvia** (BA, geoh, '89), a daughter, Andrea Darlene, August 15, 1997.

**Kathryn (Bryan) Dykstra** (BEd, '92), a son, John Richard Bryan, August 8, 1997.

**Lynn Easson-Irvine** (BA, clas, '93) and **Desmond Irvine** (BSc, cosc, '92), a daughter, Morgan Sarah Easson, June 15, 1997.

**Kathryn (Enns) Emmanuel** (BPhEd, '87; BA, psyc, '88; BEd, '92), a daughter, Rachel Anna, September 12, 1997.

**Heidi (Covey) Franken** (BBA, '92) and **Bob Franken** (BAdmin, '90), a daughter, Sarah Nicole, August 12, 1997.

**Bethany (Desjardine) Kraulis** (BA, geog, '93) and **David Kraulis** (BACC, '94), a daughter, Rebekah Joy, September 7, 1997.

**Sarah (Moore) Machel** (BBE, '90), a

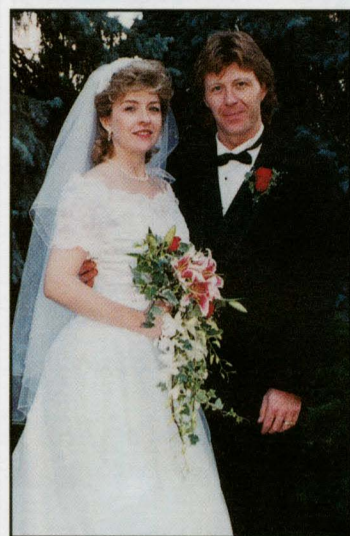
Continued on page 6

son, Kevin James, October 17, 1997.  
**Karen (Poole) Masson** (BSc/BEd, '94) a daughter, Chelsea Reta, October 5, 1997.

**Janet (Redding) McLeod** (BA, psyc, '96), a daughter, Louisa Isabel, February 25, 1997.

**Cheryl Motz** (BSc, boil, '97) and **Ryan Stephenson** (BBE, '97), a son, Joel Ryan Wayne, December 24, 1996.

**Tammy Nolan** (BRLS, '92), a daughter, Mackenzie Nolan Caldwell, November 17, 1996.



Cynthia Bird (BA, soci, '89) married Mark Murphy on October 18.

**Antonia Norgate-Drake** (BSc, math, '95), a son, Austin, June 15, 1997.

**Tracey Norman-Rice** (BA, psyc/apli, '92) and **Richard Rice** (BAdmin, '88), a daughter, Taylor Denise, April 17, 1997.

**Lynn (Child) Piech** (BAdmin, '86; BEd, '88) and **Randall Piech** (BPhEd, '86), a daughter, Alanna Rose, November 9, 1997.

**Carrie (Munroe) Quinn** (BA, Psyc, '94) and **Kevin Quinn** (BPhEd, '92), a son, Connor Daniel, September 18, 1997.

**Daegan Reimer** (BA, euro, '91), a daughter, Samantha Rae Jones, August 10, 1997.

**Lillian (Muckle) Rota** (BEd, '86), a son, Robert, January 31, 1997.

**Suzanne Scott Fraser** (BA/BEd, '88), a son, Scott Robert, March 13, 1997.

**Julianne (Fielding) Sestili** (BA, geoh, '94) and **Nick Sestili** (BACC, '94), a daughter, Claudia Rose, September 12, 1997.

**Lesley (Andrews) Simons** (BPhEd, '91), a son, Owen Liam, August 10, 1997.

**Dean Taylor** (BBE, '85), a son, Zachary, April 5, 1996.

## MARRIAGES

**Marni Barwell** (BA, psyc, '91) and **George Dubiel** (BBA, '91), October 18, 1997.

**Jodi Battram** (BACC, '96) and **Joseph Lycett**, August 23, 1997.

**Cynthia Bird** (BA, soci/uest, '89) and **Mark Murphy**, October 18, 1997.

**Helen Bruton** (BSc, math, '96) and **Steve Sheridan** (BBA, '95), October 25, 1997.

**Karen Collacutt** (BRLS, '94) and **Jared Singleton**, July 19, 1997.

**Heather Collins** (BA, psyc, '96) and **James Isaak**, May 24, 1997.

**Rhonda Collins** (BBA, '93) and **Paul Klosler** (BA, adm/econ, '93), October 17, 1997.

**Christine Czerwoniak** (BAdmin, '81) and **Ferman Amfel**, March, 1994.

**Debra Dombroski** (BSc, math, '93; BA, psyc/uest, '94) and **Ian Van-Groningen**, November 9, 1996.

**Timothy Ellis** (BBA, '94) and **Laura Sharp**, June 7, 1997.

**Carolyn Goodrick** (BEd, '96) and **Matthew Marchis** (BSc, envs, '94), October 18, 1997.

**Mark Gossen** (BBA, '91) and **Joanne Toews**, July 26, 1997.

**Nancy Grunstein** (BA, chld, '96) and **Christopher Saxon Reid**, August 23, 1997.

**Serena Hazzard** (BA, list/Engl, '95) and **Jason Gennings** (BA, Engl, '96), July 22, 1995.

**Duncan Hopkins** (BBE, '89) and **Fiona Kinghorn**, May 3, 1997.

**Catrina Jones** (BPhEd, '95) and **Robert Speksnijder** (BA, adm/econ, '94), June 21, 1997.

**Heather Knapp** (BPhEd, '94) and **Kirk Irvine**, June 14, 1996.

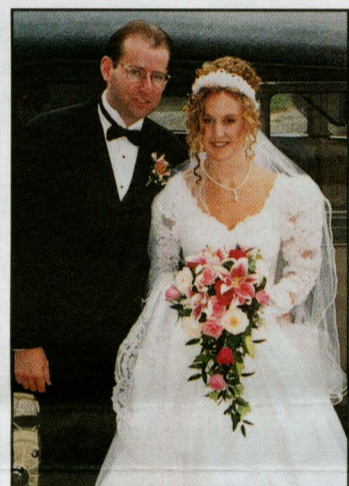
**Paul Kreutner** (BBA, '96) and **Krista Armstrong**, August 3, 1997.

**Janet Latta** (BA, apli, '93) and **Paul Panagiotou** (BA/BPhEd, '93), August 2, 1997.

**Ian Major** (BA, psyc, '94) and **Melanie Roblin**, September 12, 1997.

**Lisa Maloney** (BRLS, '96) and **Kevin Harkness** (BSc, biol, '95), August 3, 1997.

**Carole-Ann Marcus**, (BEd/BSc, '95) and **Sean Hanna** (BEd/BSc, '95), October 20, 1996.



Heather Oke (BA '94 hist/soci) and Paul Baker were married September 6.

**Christine Maxwell** (BBA, '91) and **Herb Braley** (BA, adm/soci, '92), August 17, 1996.

**Jennifer Miscal** (BA, chld, '95) and **Tim Jacobs**, August 2, 1997.

**April Moon** (BA, labr/soci, '95) and **Dicken Wallis**, September 3, 1996.

**Maria Natale** (BBE, '90) and **Mike Sullivan**, May 10, 1997.

**Antonia Norgate** (BSc, math, '95) and **David Drake**, October, 1996.

**Heather Oke** (BA, hist/soci, '94) and **Paul Baker**, September 6, 1997.

**Tammy Passmore** (BA, chld, '94) and **Glen Dean** (BSc, geog/uest, '94), July 26, 1997.

**Norine Reynolds** (BBA, '96) and **Brian Lillycrop** (BACC, '97), September 27, 1997.

**Joseph Sciarra** (BSc, cose, '96) and **Renata**, October 27, 1997.

**Tara Skam** (BBA, '93) and **Kevin Broad**, September 27, 1997.

**Anthony Susi** (BBA, '94) and **Mari-ane Nemet**, July 5, 1997.

**Pelagie Wallace** (BEd/BSc, '88) and **Shaun Wallace** (BSc, biol/geol, '88), a son, William Angus, June 10, 1997.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Betty Anne Birkenstock** (BA, psyc, '77; BEd, '78), February 13, 1996.

**Melissa Cook** (BA, adm/econ, '96), August 11, 1997.

**William Jolley** (BPhEd, '76; BEd, '83; MEd, '90), October 19, 1997.

**Tammi Kostuk** (BA, soci, '95), August 11, 1997.

**David McCrae** (BA, Engl, '71) April, 1997. ♦

## Brock University presents... services and benefits available to our graduates

### ACC Long Distance

Brock University used its significant purchasing power to negotiate substantial long-distance savings for the benefit of graduates, students, faculty, staff and their families. This no-risk plan saves you 30 per cent on all calls to Canada and the U.S. during the phone company's regular daytime hours and on all your international calls, anytime. It also offers 40 per cent off on all calls to Canada and the U.S. during the phone company's off-peak hours. All ACC discounts are over and above the phone company time and day discounts. There are no sign-up or monthly charges, and if you are not completely satisfied, you can cancel at anytime. The plan is available to Canadian residents where ACC offers service. To join the Brock Long Distance Savings Plan, call ACC at 1-800-665-5691.

### ACC TelEnterprises Ltd.

Brock University is pleased to announce that access to the Internet is available to Brock graduates through ACC TelEnterprises Ltd. Get the reliability only a phone company can provide with 28.8K local dial-up access across Canada and 24-hour 1-800 customer service. The Internet is delivered directly to you through our state-of-the-art network utilizing the latest technology. The package includes a completely portable Internet address, allowing you to dial into the Web, and send or receive e-mail from any major centre in Canada. For further information call 1-800-370-0015.

### Brock MasterCard

With the Brock University MasterCard you have the option of the Air Miles or the First Home Program. Brock MasterCard is available to graduates living in Canada. Call 1-800-263-2263 for further information.

**Meloche Monnex** (Monnex across Canada and **Meloche** in Quebec) offers quality insurance products at competitive rates with an emphasis on service and client satisfaction. In addition to their complete home and automobile insurance program, Monnex offers out-of-province emergency medical and travel insurance and Small Business Insurance, designed for independent professionals. For more information, call Monnex directly at 1-800-268-8955 across Canada, or 1-800-361-3821 in Quebec.

**Seaboard Life Insurance Company** offers low cost group term life insurance. Call (416) 498-8319 (Toronto) or 1-800-387-9223 (rest of Canada) for further information.

### Brock graduates are offered these benefits on campus:

- Discount on Brock University library privileges. This includes the James A. Gibson Library, Map Library and Instructional Resource Centre.
- Discount on alumni-sponsored performances at the Centre for the Arts, Brock University. Call The Box Office for more information on upcoming events.
- The University Club offers an associate membership that entitles graduates to dining and special-event privileges. The University Club is open during the academic year from September to April. Applications are available in the Alumni Office.
- Career Services, part of the Student Development Centre, offers a variety of services to help you with career planning and job search. Take advantage of a career drop-in service by bringing your questions to a Career Assistant anytime between 8:30 am and 12:00 pm or 1:00 and 4:30 pm (September - April). Use the career resource library to investigate occupations, employers, educational institutions/programs or volunteer opportunities. Most services are free and available to all graduates.

These programs are endorsed by the Brock University Alumni Association. Money raised by the programs goes to support scholarships and other alumni programs such as Alumni Association membership cards and lapel pins for graduates. For additional information on any of the above services, call the numbers indicated or contact the Brock University Alumni Office, (905) 688-5550, ext. 3816 or 1-800-449-7901.

## Where are they now?

Despite our best efforts to keep in touch with Brock graduates, we have lost a few. If you have an address and/or phone number for any of these people, please contact the Alumni Office at 1-800-449-7901, (905) 699-5550, ext. 3251 or fax (905) 641-5216.

Gray Allen • Scott Bennett • Theresa Bennett • Michael Biro • David Chan • Shirley Chan • Terence Chan • David Clark • John Cole • Charlotte Cottage • Eileen Devaney • Alice Devries • Darwin Dickson • Patricia Dobbie • William Elliott • John Galley • John Garton • Lesley Gibson • Robert Hanley • Patricia Harper • Joyce Hughes • Michael Huntley • Joanne Ivey • Wesley Jack • Mark Johnson • Carola Lane • Richard Lawler • William Lechow • Agnes Lee • Victor Lee • Anne Legault • David Lewis • Dale Linton • Ronald Lurie • John Macbean • John Makin • Chrystyna Mulkewytch • Richard Ozolins • Anne Peace • Edith Petersen • Thomas Petrie • William Powers • Freeman Reid • Barry Scully • Robert Shaw • Dorothy Siebert • Phyllis Smith • Danny Smolka • Kenneth Snider • Unni Soelberg Claridge • Jatinder Tandon • Adriaan Ten Den • Len Turner • Robert Waller • Helen Wockner

## Brock Briefs

### Brock grad gives Schmon Tower cafeteria a face-lift

**B**ack in first-year, Kim Grant (BSc, biol, '88) probably wouldn't have guessed that after graduation she would ever be involved in redecorating efforts at the University. She and three other members of the newly formed Decorative Artists Guild of Niagara spent much of this past summer redecorating the Schmon Tower Cafeteria. The project was the first community effort undertaken by the Guild.

The Cafeteria posed a number of interesting decorating challenges, not the least of which is the fact that the space itself is quite dark. Earthy, Mediterranean colours were selected to convey a feeling of warmth. Depth and interest were added by using a combination of painting and finishing techniques, including colour washing, frottage, and faux-fresco. The counter tops in the dining areas were painted to reflect light and free-spirited prints were selected to adorn the walls.

After graduating from Brock, Kim trained at the Ritins Studio in Toronto. For the past two and a half years she has beautified interior environments for the residential and commercial clients of her firm, Verde. Here, she celebrates a job well done with fellow decorative artists Ingrid Estrella, Lenore Walker, and Wendy Fryer.



**T**hanks to all of those who supported the Brock University Alumni Association's Second Annual Golf Tournament. The proceeds from this year's event went to the Alumni Association's CCOVI Scholarship Fund. Here, Scott Maxwell and Michael B. Robertson present the trophy to Paul Maxwell, 1997's Low Gross Winner.

### Connections assist the parents of children with autism



Terry Nicholls (BA, visa, '96) and daughter Samantha share a ghost story with other guests at the SYNAPSE Halloween party.

**T**hanks to the efforts of three Brock graduates, parents in the Niagara region who have children with autism now have additional information and support resources. Dianne Haist, (BA, Psyc, '95), Fiona McMurrin, (BA, Clas, '92), and Terry Nicholls (BA, visa, '96), founded SYNAPSE Niagara Autism Connection in April of 1997.

Since that time, the organization has held monthly parent support socials as well as numerous activities for families. The organization's Halloween party attracted over 75 parents and children and was a tremendous success. SYNAPSE was incorporated in September, and is currently being considered for charitable tax status. The role of SYNAPSE is to build a community of Niagara parents who understand the challenges associated with raising a child with autism and to educate society about the disorder.

Autism is a neurological condition that affects sensory processing and behavioral responses. The senses are either over- or under-reactive to stimulation, thereby making ordinary experiences overwhelming, painful or confusing. While children with autism often appear to be neurotypical, or "normal," their condition makes it extremely difficult to communicate or learn in an ordinary environment.

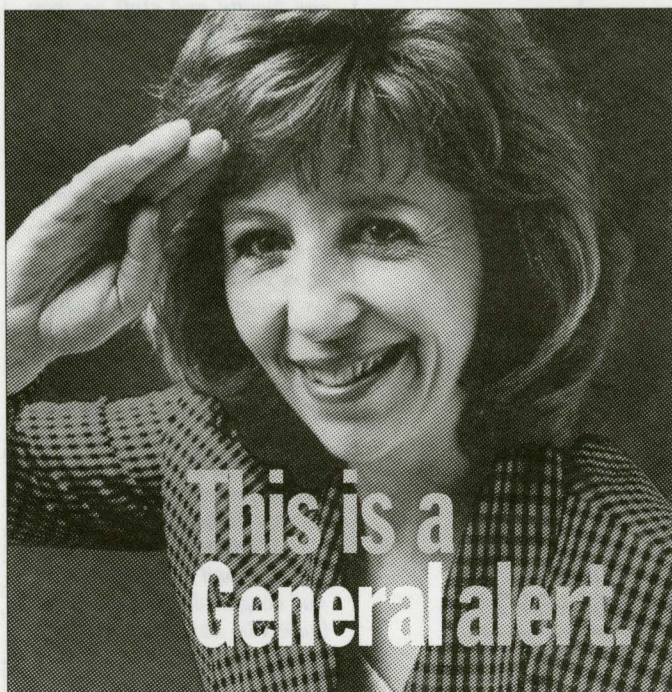
McMurrin, Haist and Nicholls all have children with autism. McMurrin and Nicholl's daughter, Sam, is now 13 and Haist's son, David, is five. Both families feel strongly that the educational and social supports and interventions provided during the first two decades of an autistic child's life make an enormous difference to his or her ability to function as an adult, yet have often found it difficult to convince school officials and caregivers to invest in the types of assistance and resources their special children need to achieve their full potential.

McMurrin and Nicholls, for instance, recently opted for in-home instruction for Sam, rather than to continue sending her to school. "Sam is getting individual instruction 10 hours per week now and is doing quite well," says McMurrin. Sam has also benefitted tremendously from the social interaction made possible through SYNAPSE.

Autism and the behaviours associated with it make it hard for the child or family to spend time with people outside of the home. Since the founding of SYNAPSE, Sam has had the opportunity to form relationships with other children and parents who understand how she experiences the world. "The important thing is that my daughter can now feel more like other people," says McMurrin.

Parents and others involved with and concerned for children with autistic spectrum disorders are encouraged to join the group. For further information please contact (905) 892-2545.

Continued on page 8



This is a  
General alert.

We're the name brand  
for business in Canada.



Karen General, CGA is the Manager, Financial Services for the Regional Municipality of Haldimand-Norfolk. She's also a Certified General Accountant. To give your career the attention it deserves, visit us at [www.cga-ontario.org](http://www.cga-ontario.org) or call us today at 1-888-837-2238.

### Alumnews

Have you moved, received a promotion or changed careers?  
Do you have other news you want to share? We'd like to hear from you.  
Tell us where you are and what you are doing!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Surname at Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_ ID# \_\_\_\_\_  
New Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Employer Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Position/Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Employer Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Spousal Information:  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse a Brock Grad? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, ID # \_\_\_\_\_ Surname at Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Employer Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Position/Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Employer Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Next of Kin: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Is the above information confidential? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
Do you know a graduate who does not receive Surgite!?  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clip this form and return along with your news to Alumni Office, Brock University,  
St. Catharines, Ontario L2S 3A1 OR Fax: (905) 641-5216 or e-mail us at [alumni@spartan.ac.brocku.ca](mailto:alumni@spartan.ac.brocku.ca)

Continued from page 8

**Brock alumni network on Parliament Hill**

**B**rock alumni residing in the national capital region enjoyed a special reception recently on Parliament Hill. Co-hosted by Speaker of the House Gilbert Parent and St. Catharines M.P. Walt Lastewka, the reception marked both the founding of the Ottawa Region Network of Brock Alumni as well as the presentation of the Vanier Gold Medal to Brock Professor Ken Kernaghan. The Vanier Gold Medal is presented by the Institute of Public Administration of Canada as a "mark of distinction and exceptional achievement for leadership in public administration".



Brock President Dr. David Atkinson (left) discussed Professor Kernaghan's unique achievement with Speaker of the House Gilbert Parent (centre) and Professor Bill Matheson (right).

**CCOVI building to be named Inniskillin Hall**

**B**rock President Dr. David Atkinson; John Howard, President of Vineland Estates Winery; Donald Triggs, President of Vincor Incorporated; and Dr. Donald Ziraldo, President of Inniskillin Wines, recently celebrated the presentation of the lead gifts in the capital campaign for the Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute.

Presented by Mr. Triggs, Vincor's \$600,000 contribution will allow construction of "Inniskillin Hall" to begin this spring. This addition to the Science Complex will house the Institute's laboratories, museum and climate-controlled wine cellar, as well as a tasting room named for Vineland Estates. The announcement of John Howard's \$75,000 gift to the Institute was made during the same celebration.



Continued from page 4

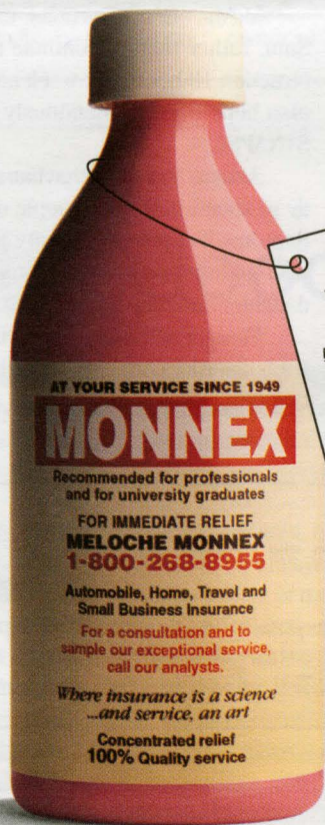
ganizations in meeting our joint objectives. We must fight to maintain the important role universities play in our society, especially as other issues seem to achieve a higher sense of political priority. We must remember that the graduates in front of us today are what Canada will be tomorrow.

We must, as well, accept the critical need for change. It is true that we have much to protect, as places which do not give in to instrumental value and vague principles of relativism. But we must also recognize that the world we serve—and I use that word intentionally—is a world that will demand much of us. The challenge will be to retain the best of what we have been, while being agents of change in a world in which we seem to be constantly racing to keep up with change.

No one doubts the challenges in front of us, in front of our faculty and staff as they shape the Brock of the future, in front of me as President, and, most certainly in front of you as Brock's most recent graduates. Be assured that nothing gives us more pride than your accomplishments, and we continue to take great satisfaction in learning of the contributions we know you will continue to make. As you graduate today, which for most of you will mean, leaving Brock, I hope you leave with the knowledge and appreciation of what you have gained from being here, and I urge you to remain part of the Brock community that extends far beyond our current students.

Congratulations to all of you on behalf of everyone here. And congratulations, too, to all those who have supported you in your endeavours—to parents and partners, you have done a good job. We wish you the graduates of fall, 1997 our best wishes in whatever the next exciting chapter of your lives will be."

-Dr. David Atkinson  
President, Brock University



**TRIAL OFFER**  
YES! I want your fast no-obligation consultation.  
Here are my policy expiry dates:

Automobile: Year/ Month/ Day/  
Home: Year/ Month/ Day/  
Travel: Year/ Month/ Day/

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name \_\_\_\_\_ (Business)  
Telephone (Residence) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Preference:  day  evening

Fax this page today to Monnex  
**(416) 545-6140**  
An analyst will call approximately 30 days before your policies expire to offer you the Monnex solution. 7314

**Recommended to Brock University Graduates for the relief of heartburn caused by fire**

Endorsed by:

**Brock University**

There's nothing more distressing than fire. And nothing more soothing than knowing you're insured with Monnex. We know how to quickly set things right. That's because we truly understand the needs of graduates. We've created a special package combining automobile, home, travel and small business insurance just for you. It's competitively priced and includes the exceptional service of Monnex – Canada's leader in insurance programs dedicated to professionals as well as university graduates.

Call Monnex across Canada  
**1-800-268-8955**  
or Meloche in Québec  
**1-800-361-3821**

**MONNEX**

Where insurance is a science  
...and service, an art

**MELOCHE · MONNEX**

Calgary · Edmonton · Halifax · Montréal · Toronto

www.meloche-monnex.com