

Surgite

Vol. 4, No. 2, September 2012

35 alumni who have done us proud

How Brock turned
Peter Goodspeed into a
foreign correspondent

The alumni spirit burns
brightly in Burlington

A grad who became
the world's weatherman

Alumni Weekend 2012



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Surgite brocku.ca/surgite

Surgite/sur-gi-tay/Latin for "Push on"
The inspiring last words of Maj.-Gen. Sir Isaac Brock

Cover photo: Brock's 35 newest Alumni of Distinction winners.

Editor: Kevin Cavanagh
Design and layout: Diane Coderre
Contributing writers: Peter Goodspeed, Adam Shoalts, Sonya Pancucci, Tiffany Mayer, Kimberley Wright, Paxton Allewell, Kevin Cavanagh, Jocelyn Titone, Elisabeth Walker-Young

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Did you like that cover? For this issue we departed from our standard design to salute the 35 Brock graduates honoured last spring for their contributions of innovation, imagination and commitment.



Christine Jones

This is the second group to be celebrated by the Alumni Association as being representative of many proud alumni who exemplify the Brock spirit through their scholarly, creative, humanitarian or professional contributions in Canada and beyond.

What they all share is "the Brock experience." They are united in their belief that Brock gave them the best start. They learned in an environment that encouraged them to explore, to question and to wonder. At Brock, they discovered that there was so much more to pursue in life. And they did.

Visit our website (brocku.ca/alumni) to hear conversations with these 35 graduates. Each has a remarkable story, a journey that has led them to distinction defined in unique and different ways.

In this issue we also feature one such alum who gives a delightful glimpse into his life as a foreign correspondent for some of Canada's best-known newspapers. Peter Goodspeed (BA '73) is an acclaimed journalist who has covered some of the most memorable and historic stories of our era. For decades his insights have informed countless Canadian readers, and we are thrilled that Peter has graciously agreed to return to campus as a keynote speaker during Alumni Weekend this fall.

Speaking of historic, Brock University soon will turn 50.

We are represented by 75,000 alumni, who each have a story to share. Many maintain their Brock connection through Surgite, social media sites, an alumni network or a favourite professor. As 2014 gets closer, watch for opportunities in which alumni can help define the University's golden anniversary celebrations.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christine Jones".

Christine Jones
Director, Alumni Relations

Confessions of a globe-trotting reporter

By Peter Goodspeed (BA '73)

There have been times when I seriously wondered why or how I ever became a foreign correspondent.

Once, in May 1992, in Thailand while covering a deadly confrontation between pro-democracy demonstrators and the Thai army, I found myself walking down a blood-slicked back alley in Bangkok, my hands raised in surrender over my head while a Thai Marine armed with a machine gun glowered at me, shouting instructions in a language I didn't understand.

To my surprise I found myself singing to calm myself. Only I was shocked to realize what I was singing: "You've Got Put Down the Duckie If You Want to Play the Saxophone. . ." from Sesame Street.

My wife Frances and I were new parents, and our lives had obviously changed far more than I'd realized.

Life is like that sometimes.

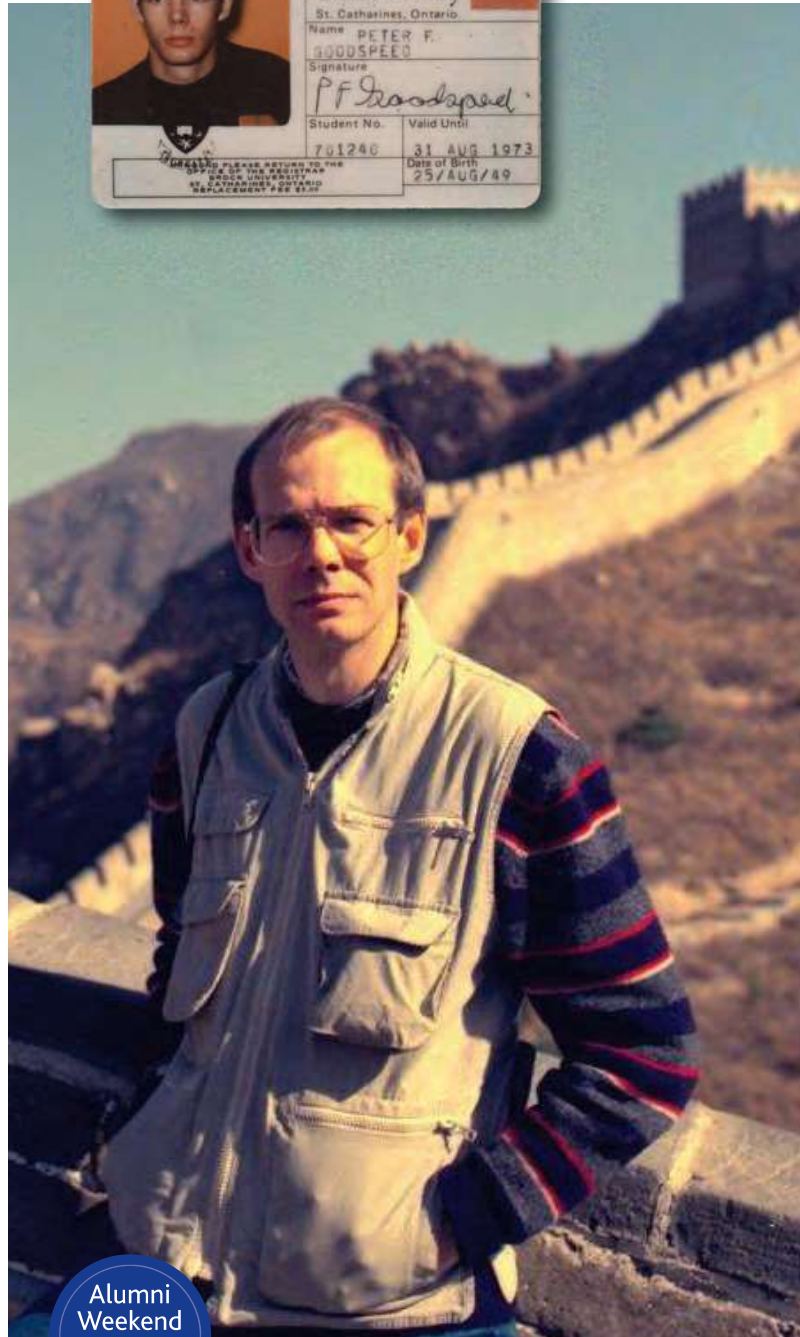
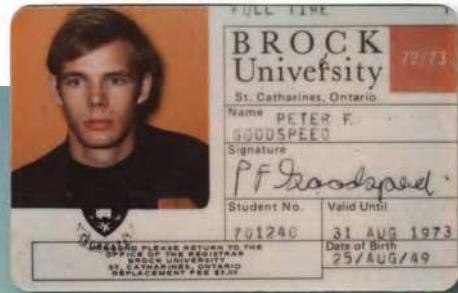
You see, I wasn't supposed to be a journalist. When I went to Brock in the early 1970s, I studied politics and thought I'd become a lawyer. It didn't work out that way, and I blame Brock — and the first Canada-Russia hockey series.

In the fall of 1972, I took a half-course seminar on "Regulation of the Mass Media" with Professor Bill Hull, a weekly three-hour class with a small group of about eight students. Each week, one student would prepare an essay on a specific topic and assign readings to the class to guide the discussion. That essay and seminar accounted for almost 60 per cent of the final mark, so it was pretty intense.

My essay topic was the "Responsibility of the Press." As luck would have it, my turn came early in the autumn schedule — just as Canada came to a standstill to watch the first-ever Canada-Russia hockey series.

Forty years later, it is hard to describe how huge an event this hockey showdown was. Let's just say I didn't get around to actually writing my essay until the day before it was due. You could say it was my first real experience writing to deadline. (Oh, and my classmates didn't get around to doing ANY of the required readings.)

I faced the very real possibility that my seminar presentation would turn into three hours of mind-numbing silence while people picked over my essay as if it were a leftover dinner.



Alumni
Weekend
Keynote
Speaker

“It’s Brock’s fault I ended up as a witness to history”



Then and now: Goodspeed the foreign correspondent in China in 1990 (left), and this summer (above) with pal Murphy in his Oakville home.

But I was wily in my youth and hit on what I thought was the perfect solution (and this was years before anyone had ever even thought of Fox News). I would write a paper that didn’t rely on balance or even-handed calculation. I would be controversial and confrontational. I wrote an essay slamming newspapers as shallow, money-grubbing scandal sheets that, while professing to seek truth, simply chase a profit.

To this day I remember one of my closing sentences. After listing all the idealistic claims reporters make for their profession, I said: “Journalists are really nothing more than poorly paid hacks turning out indifferent copy for an advertising bulletin.”

I was quite pleased with myself. I would be so outrageous that my classmates would be crawling all over themselves to argue with me. I saw my three-hour seminar becoming an impassioned debate.

So you can imagine my shock when, as I entered the classroom to lead my seminar, Prof. Hull took me aside and introduced me to a silver-haired gentleman whom he had invited to sit in on the class: Larry Smith, the Editor-in-Chief of the *St. Catharines Standard*.

Mr. Smith was a well-regarded journalist with a national reputation.

And he was furious. He’d just read my essay and didn’t take kindly to my disparaging everything he had devoted his life to doing.

Unfortunately, most of my classmates were also slightly intimidated by Larry’s presence that day. They froze and sat there like frightened animals (frightened animals who hadn’t done any of the readings).

For the next three hours, I had to defend myself by telling this very devoted and respected journalist what a tawdry life he had led – 60 per cent of my final mark depended upon it.

When the class mercifully came to an end, Mr. Smith said goodbye to me through clenched teeth, politely saying: “If you think you know so much about journalism, you should actually try it.” I felt lucky he didn’t hit me.

But a few months later, as I looked for a summer job to tide me over until law school, I remembered his comment. So I applied to *The Standard* — and Larry gave me a job for \$90 a week.

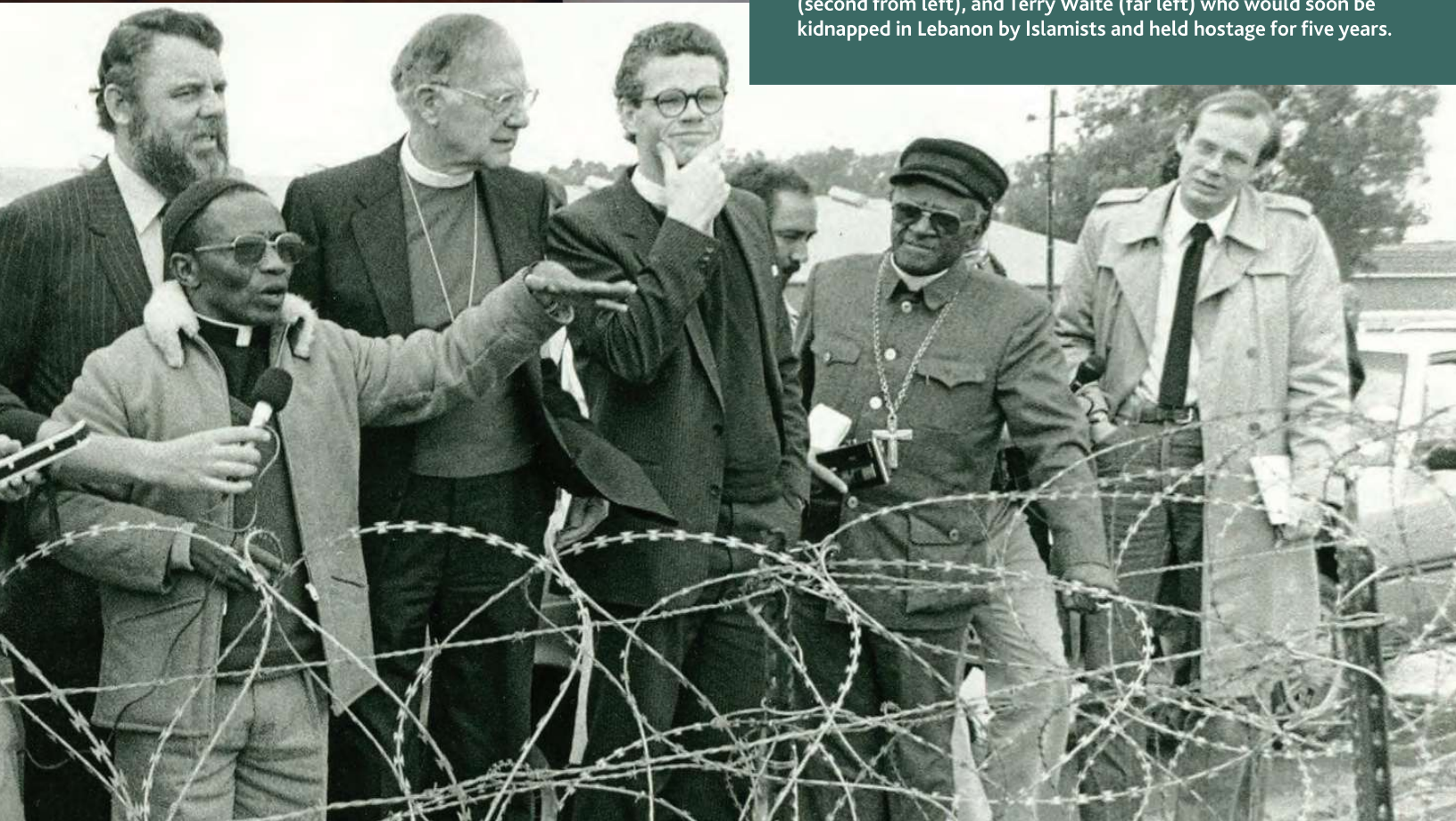
Crossing the border into Haiti to cover the 2010 earthquake.





Above: Press cards from assignments around the world.

Below: Goodspeed (far right), who covered the demise of apartheid in South Africa, is seen in 1986 alongside Archbishop Desmond Tutu (second from right), then-Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie (second from left), and Terry Waite (far left) who would soon be kidnapped in Lebanon by Islamists and held hostage for five years.



“I fell in love with journalism.”

I worked for Larry for nearly five years and would continue doing daily journalism for 39 more, covering everything from City Hall in St. Catharines and Toronto, to the Falklands War in Argentina, Ronald Reagan’s White House, the anti-apartheid struggle in South Africa and the emergence of China after Tiananmen Square.

For the last 14 years, I was a Toronto-based foreign affairs writer for the *National Post*.

I have been very lucky. No other job in the world can give you such a ringside seat for some of history’s most interesting dramas. Whether covering the Iraq War or watching your local city council debate how to pick up garbage, as a journalist I’ve had a privileged role as a public witness.

As a reporter, you get to see things that very few others witness and are given the opportunity to empower the public by informing them about what you have learned.

I spent three years in South Africa—1986-89—at the height of the anti-apartheid struggle, and was constantly amazed at how magical it was to be a journalist there. I got to know South Africa in ways the people who lived there never did. I could spend the day in Soweto, the segregated black township southwest of Johannesburg, and then in the evening attend a reception at the President’s residence in Pretoria.

It was amazing. Sometimes it was dangerous. But it was always interesting and fun. And I have always appreciated the role Brock played in helping me discover and do what became my life’s work.

As a reporter, the most crucial element of any assignment is the time I have to “read in” — prepare for a story — looking for its themes, acquainting myself with some of the personalities, learning the background to issues, generally trying to understand the context of the things I’ll be covering.

The years I spent at Brock were the time I spent “reading in” on my career. Of course, I didn’t realize it at the time.

If I had, I might have learned how to understand: “Don’t take one step closer or I’ll shoot” in Thai.

Still, like that day in September 1972 when I had to briefly drag myself away from the Canada-Russia hockey series to work on my politics seminar, my luck has held.

And I have Brock to thank for that.

Hear more from Brock alumni and award-winning journalist Peter Goodspeed (BA ’73). He will be the keynote speaker at Brock Alumni Weekend on Sept. 22. Visit brocku.ca/brock-days



With British troops in southern Iraq, 2003.

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Experience

By Adam Shoalts (BA '09)

Two centuries after what historian J. Mackay Hitsman called “the incredible War of 1812,” when the United States invaded Canada, bicentennial events are taking place across Canada — including many near Brock University.

That should be no surprise, given that the Niagara Peninsula is steeped in the history of the war. Ruins, forts, battlefields and historic plaques dot the region and serve as reminders of a conflict that left settlements across the peninsula looted and burned.

For example, just beyond the Brock campus lie the remnants of militia captain John DeCou’s stone house, which was Laura Secord’s destination on her famous walk to warn the British of an impending American raid.

And of course, towering above Queenston Heights is the stately monument to the University’s namesake, Sir Isaac Brock, “the Saviour of Upper Canada.”

Growing up in Niagara and then studying history at Brock University, the War of 1812 was seldom far from my mind. I remember my elementary school class taking field trips to Old Fort Erie National Historic Site and to Brock’s Monument. At the latter, I vividly recall disobeying my teacher’s instructions and, with a posse of friends, running off into the woods that envelop the park, thinking we might discover some relics of the war.

Our English class had just finished reading *Jeremy and the General*, Brad Ibbitson’s novel set in 1812. With stirring stories of Brock and his noble steed, Alfred, fresh in our young minds, we imagined ourselves as the Canadian militia, charging up the heights and fighting off the invading Americans.

While I’ve given up playing soldier in the woods, I’ve long believed that it is not possible to understand history behind a desk. History is best done with your boots on: getting out in the forests and fields, finding old trails and routes used by troops and retracing the paths they followed.

Dubbed “experimental history,” it’s what Pulitzer-prize winning historian David Hackett Fischer summarized as an approach predicated on “going there, doing it, then writing it.” To this end, I’ve done my fair share of experimenting.

Last year, for a display at the War of 1812 museum in Fort Erie, I constructed a birch bark canoe from traditional materials obtained in the forests of Niagara. In the process, I learned much about these vessels and the tools used to make them, things I could not have learned otherwise, no matter how many books I read.

Working at Old Fort Erie as an undergraduate, I mastered how to load and fire a flintlock musket in less than 14 seconds and came to appreciate how the army that could



Top: Shoalts prepares for the construction of his birch bark canoe

Middle: The completed birch bark canoe

Bottom: Shoalts giving a tour at the Redan Battery at Queenston Heights, the position Brock was charging when he was shot and killed.

history with your boots on

load and fire fastest generally won. I also learned to load and fire 1812 cannons and mortars, and more than once in my canoe, I navigated the swift currents of the Niagara River that American troops rowed across 200 years ago.

While my normal fare is exploring unnamed rivers in Canada's northern wilderness, in a recent issue of *Canadian Geographic* I detailed another foray of mine into experimental history: a canoe trip through southern Ontario's largest wetland, the Minesing Swamp.

I paddled the same route through this watery labyrinth that British and Canadian soldiers used in the War of 1812 as part of a vital supply chain linking York to Lake Huron.

Unleash the
past and
see it the way
Brock did

My most recent project with *Canadian Geographic* has been helping to create a giant floor map of the War of 1812 for use in schools across Canada. The map, which displays hundreds of battles and forts, will be unrolled in school gymnasiums, allowing students to learn about Canadian history and geography by literally walking all over it.

This bicentennial year is an ideal chance to explore the legacy of the war. There are numerous events taking place

and plenty of resources online, such as discover1812.com. Consider paying a visit to Queenston Heights this October, where a battle re-enactment and ceremony to commemorate Sir Isaac Brock will take place.

Better yet, escape from the noise of re-enactors firing muskets and cannons, and hike into the surrounding woods. Pause to consider the landscape, look out over the Niagara River toward the American shore as Brock did, and try to imagine the events that unfolded here 200 years ago.

Among other awards and honours, Adam Shoalts (BA '09) won the Spirit of Brock Medal, given to graduating students who exemplify the spirit of Sir Isaac Brock. Learn more about Adam at adamshoalts.com.

Alumni
Weekend
Speaker

Brock Alumni Network **Spotlight**

Burlington Brock Alumni Network Committee



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Above: Alumni committee members at the Burlington Performing Arts Centre in March 2012. From left, Vincent Meehan, Barbara Duffus, Debbie Nazir, Sonya Pancucci and Mike Larocque. Missing are committee members Andrea Larocque and Sarah Turley.

By Sonya Pancucci (BEd '93, MEd '97, PhD '10)

In the spring of 2010, Brock Alumni Relations initiated our Burlington Alumni Network to provide events for the growing number of alumni (about 9,000) in the surrounding area. It all began with a gathering at the Queen's Head Pub, where graduates from 1972 through to 2010 met for an evening of reconnection, tasty treats and making new friends.

For many of us, this inaugural event piqued our interest in the Burlington group. We were intrigued to hear about the lives and careers of fellow graduates, our shared Brock experiences providing a common bond we could relate to and build on. It was like getting together a group of friends who had lost touch over the years and feeling that nostalgia that keeps us connected to one of the best experiences in our lives — our time at Brock University.

At the second event, at the Big Tomato restaurant in Burlington, the turnout was limited. That's what spurred me to serve on the organizing committee. It was time to commit my effort and my Brock network connections to the cause.

I was not alone.

Barbara Duffus (BA '75) volunteered because her years at Brock were a wonderful experience and she wanted to support an institution that did so much for her. Barbara enjoys working with the committee, meeting new and old grads and learning about their experiences.

For Andrea Larocque (BA/BEd '99) and Mike Larocque (BBA '96), it was a chance to reconnect with alumni and give back to Brock. The University represents one of the most significant times in their lives and they looked to build on the great relationships they had made there.

Vincent Meehan (BA '83) has always had a strong affinity for Brock and quickly joined the Burlington Alumni Network at inception. The events enable him to connect with old friends and meet new ones. He is also excited that his youngest daughter Kailey is attending Brock this year.

Debbie Nazir (BA '94) has fond memories of her Brock years, including working as a Student Ambassador. So when Lynne Irion of Brock Alumni Relations showed up at a Burlington event and invited Debbie to reconnect with Brock, she jumped at the chance.

Sarah Turley (BA '09), a more recent graduate, joined the committee so she could stay involved with Brock. She shares their passion to make events enjoyable, educational and appealing to fellow alumni. It's what drives us to keep growing and promoting the group.

How does the Burlington Brock Alumni Network work?

Mainly, we share the workload and our network connections. After that, it's a simple formula of meeting every couple of months to brainstorm about events that might interest alumni, often using our contacts as a starting point.

For example, an event last November began with my connection to oenology professor Kevin Ker (PhD '10), whom I'd met during my doctoral studies at Brock. That made me think about having a wine-tasting evening at Appleby College in Oakville — where, incidentally, Vincent had ties as the former food services manager. So Vincent organized excellent hors d'oeuvres, we ended up with two great hosts in Prof. Ker and winemaker Richie Roberts (BSc '04), and guests also got a guided wine tasting with wines from Fielding Estates winery.

Brock graduates went home that night with a memorable alumni experience and a stronger bond to their alma mater.

More recently, Barbara became interested in hosting an event at the beautiful new Burlington Performing Arts



Socializing at the network's wine tasting event in November 2011, from left, committee member Mike Larocque (BBA '96), alumni attendees Sabrina Oliveri (BRLS '01) and Stephen Penner (BED '06), and Brock Alumni Relations Staff Emily Hutton (BA '09) and Meaghan Moore (BA '09).

Centre. Working with Debbie, they took the lead in finding a speaker who could present on networking techniques — a key skill for business graduates. We also had a tour of the new arts complex, the first group they had ever hosted on the main stage. End result: a fulfilling experience for all.

In terms of process, ideas for group events or activities are forwarded from our committee to the Alumni Relations office, whose staff review suggestions then support them with promotion, partial financing and moral support by attending events and helping out. (They also bring giveaways or door prizes, always a good draw.)

Once an event idea is approved, committee members take on roles they're comfortable with. The lead person typically introduces the speaker or welcomes guests, while others take tickets and perform other support roles. Everyone meets and greets guests one-on-one to create a welcoming environment. Personal contact is the key to success.

The group continues to grow and host events where 30 to 60 alumni attend.

Do we sound like a group you would like to join? Then e-mail our committee at Brock.BANC@gmail.com

Better yet, attend our next event. We've called it Brocktoberfest and it will be held Oct. 16 at Better Bitters in Burlington. Come out and enjoy a night of beer tasting, socializing and great times!

Not in the Burlington area? No problem. A growing number of Brock Alumni Networks throughout Canada are hosting network events, social gatherings, and educational sessions throughout the year. For information about events in your area, or if you would like to consider starting an Alumni Network, contact Brock Alumni Relations at alumni@brocku.ca or visit brocku.ca/alumni

The Alumni of D



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Brock
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Alumni of *Distinction* Awards

By Tiffany Mayer

The odds are about one in a thousand — and 35 Brock alumni beat them this year when they were named Alumni of Distinction.

The Brock University Alumni Associations' Alumni of Distinction group of scholars, humanitarians and professionals is now 72 strong, each one hand-picked from among Brock's 75,000 graduates. The latest cast was recognized for their achievements at an awards gala in March.

Honoured, humbled, taken aback, privileged. That sums up the way many of the recipients, who exemplify the spirit of Brock in all they do, felt about receiving the award.

"This means a level of recognition from a place I have so much respect for that I can barely put into words," said winner Jens Coorsen (BSc '86, MSc '89).

Coorsen, who worked with Prof. Peter Rand in the Department of Biological Sciences while he studied at Brock, travelled from Australia to receive his award in person. Coorsen now heads up the Molecular Medicine Research Group at the University of Western Sydney, where he is that university's foundation professor of molecular physiology.

"The fact that I've flown all the way from Australia for this will communicate to you how I feel about it," he said about the honours.

Winning an Alumni of Distinction award was recognition that topped all others for Kathy Belicki (BA '76), who is now a psychology professor at Brock.

"It probably means more to me than anything else I could have possibly gotten," Belicki said. "Brock was the making of me, so it's very dear to my heart."

Distinction

2012 Recipients



- Armstrong, Christopher (BSM '05)
- Belicki, Kathy (BA '76)
- Blazak, Gary (BA '76)
- Bonner, Rick (BSc '84)
- Chesebrough, Jeff (BA '98)
- Coorsen, Jens (BSc '86, MSc '89)
- Dargie, David (BA '68)
- Daté, Anand (BA '96)
- de Repentigny (Corbett), Lesley (BA '83)
- Dominick, Stephen (BA '82)
- Goodspeed, Peter (BA '74)
- Grimes, David (BSc '75)
- Hammond, Sam (Bed '87)
- Hong, Len (BSc '73)
- Iannantuono, Albert (BA '85)
- Ingram (Bowman), Wendy (BA '67)
- Kompf, Michael (BA '82, Med '83)
- Kontkanen, Derek (BSc '02, MSc '05)
- Le Conte, Christopher (BRLS '97)
- Lejkowski, Paul (BKin '03)
- Leip, David (BSc '90)
- McRoberts, Scott (BSM '02)
- Munoz, Ben (BSc '85), MSc '87)
- Narbonne, Guy (BSc '75)
- Pokorny, Patricia (BA '05)
- Power, Rob (BSc '00)
- Raakman, Elaine (BSM '03)
- Sal Debus, Steven (BA '94)
- Salmon, Kirsty (BSc '91, MSc '94)
- Shelp, Barry (BSc '74, MSc '77)
- Smith, Fraser (BBA '92)
- Smol, John (MSc '79)
- Spera, Ed (BA '93)
- Tinnish, Andrew (BRLS '99, BSM '01)
- Tomek, Lydia (BSc '04)

Belicki wasn't alone in her feelings that her years as a Brock student were particularly formative.

Niagara native Gary Blazak (BA '76) was determined to attend the region's hometown university after high school. Though he didn't leave home to get his degree to become the professional planner he is today, Blazak said he still got global perspective at Brock.

"Brock introduced me to how big the world was," Blazak said. "I came from Niagara region, I wanted to attend the local university. But when I got to Brock, I realized there were students from around the world — many different cultures, many different countries, many different backgrounds — and that was a big part of the education I received at Brock as well.

"It really laid the foundation for critical thinking and how big the world really was."

The MC at this year's awards ceremony was Rick Campanelli (BPhEd '94), the co-host of Entertainment

Tonight Canada who himself was part of the first group of graduates to receive Alumni of Distinction awards in 2007.

The accolades are given to alumni who epitomize the spirit of Brock through their scholarly, creative, humanitarian or professional contributions to Canada and the world.

Christopher Capredoni (BBA '91), president of the alumni association, said he continues to be amazed by the accomplishments of Brock graduates and encourages alumni to take some time to learn about Brock's distinguished recipients.

"You may find just the inspiration you need as you head into the next chapter of your lives," he said.

Tiffany Mayer is writer/web editor for Marketing and Communications at Brock University.



VIDEOS



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The world's weather

From melting sea ice in the Arctic to floods in Thailand and drought-driven famine in East Africa, **David Grimes** (BSc '75) has had a busy year.

By Kimberley Wright

As president of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), a United Nations agency, David Grimes (BSc '75) co-ordinates international efforts to better understand the planet's pressing weather, water and climate issues.

Elected in June 2011 for a four-year term, the Brock alumnus is the first Canadian to head the 62-year-old organization. He inherits one of the world's toughest assignments at a time when natural disasters, extreme weather events and global warming fill the headlines.

"I look back and realize I have taken a lot away from my education at Brock," Grimes says. "My fourth-year research project, developing theoretical models, taught me how to think in the abstract. Now, as a science manager, I have to be able to navigate through the abstract to recognize where a real-life solution may lie."

Grimes chose Brock over several other university offers for his double major in mathematics and physics. Brock's appeal lay in its smaller class sizes and the opportunity to work side by side with professors on original research.

"I didn't want massive classes where I had to wait for three weeks to see the professor," he says. But Brock's small campus in the early 1970s had its own challenges.

"I had math classes on the main campus at the top of the hill and physics classes in a renovated refrigerator factory at the bottom. If I missed the shuttle bus, I had to run. I definitely got my exercise."

Upon graduation, Grimes joined Environment Canada where he trained as a meteorologist and has spent 37 years fulfilling policy and management assignments. Since 2006, he has served as Assistant Deputy Minister and head of Environment Canada's Meteorological Service.

Over the next three years, the WMO will tackle several ambitious initiatives. One of the top priorities is to develop a Global Framework for Climate Services, to boost the exchange of climate data among the WMO's 189 member countries and territories, and convert the data into vital information to help governments adapt to climate change.

watcher

"How high should we build the seawall? How close should our hospital lie to the coastline? Where should we locate the next dam? Governments need this information to make decisions that ultimately affect lives and infrastructure investments."

Monitoring climate change in the polar regions also ranks high on the WMO's agenda.

"Buildings in the Arctic are falling over because the permafrost is changing. We see the most overall change in the polar regions and yet, we have the least amount of information."

Grimes aims to change that. He has initiated a Global Cryosphere Watch to monitor the world's snow and ice resources and launched the development of new climate models that are better suited to frigid regions.

"Changes at the poles trigger weather extremes for northern Canada, Alaska and parts of Russia and Norway. It influences everybody's weather and climate systems," he says.

Looking ahead to the rest of his term, Grimes hopes international efforts to curb human-emitted greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) can gain traction with the Durban Platform, a global climate treaty negotiated in late 2011. The deal will shift all countries, even developing nations and the biggest emitters of GHG, towards legally binding emissions targets to come into force in 2020.

"This is promising," Grimes says. "This way, 'everyone is in the tent.'"

Kimberley Wright is a freelance writer who lives in Oakville, Ont.

Releasing your debut album: Priceless

Musician Chad Price (BA '10) released his debut album *In This Dream* this past spring.

By Paxton Allewell (BA '05)

Many of the world's most recognizable songs have been penned in places like London, Greenwich Village or sunny California. In the near future, we may be able to add Brock University to this celebrated list.

This past spring, 26-year-old singer-songwriter and Brock graduate Chad Price (BA '10) released his debut album *In This Dream*. It's a collection that has caught the attention of the music industry and has deep roots from his time at Brock.

Before coming to Brock, playing guitar was just a hobby for Price. He knew he had some talent, but it wasn't until first year, while studying communications with the goal of becoming a journalist, that his passion for music became clear. The realization came at the end of first year in his dorm room at Village Residence Court 8.

"That's when I knew I had to do something with music because it felt bigger than me," says Price. "It was the first thing I was ever sure about in my life. That whole four years I wrote songs and most of the songs are the songs that ended up on the first album."

Like a lot of music these days, Price's work is hard to categorize. But when pressed, he calls it "acoustic soul with elements of pop rock and a little bit of country folk."

However you define it, his music is getting noticed.

Price's first single "Another Day" has been getting regular airplay in Ontario and his song "Where the Stars Come Out" was used in TSN's broadcast of the NCAA Men's

Basketball Championship in April.

After Brock, Price's music career went into hyper-drive. The week after graduation, he recorded demos of five of his songs. A week later, songs in hand, he successfully reached out to Canadian producer Bill Bell through the music website MySpace. Bell, who has worked with the likes of Jason Mraz and Canadian Music Hall of Famer Tom Cochrane, enthusiastically agreed to work with Price. Before long, he was recording his album in Toronto and Los Angeles.

Price signed with independent music label Attack Media Group this past January and his album *In This Dream* was released in March, distributed by Universal Music/Interscope.

"Even though I'm not working in the field that I studied, I wouldn't have been here or known what I would have wanted to do in life without Brock. Without that academic environment, the friends, the different location, the different energy, whatever you want to call it, I owe a lot to Brock."

Price doesn't feel like he's "made it" yet, but he does feel lucky for how quickly things have happened for him and he has high hopes for the future.

One thing Price has learned so far about the music industry? "Expect the unexpected. You never know what's going to be around the corner."

For more information visit: chadpricemusic.com

Paxton Allewell (BA '05) is the marketing communications officer for Alumni Relations at Brock University

By Kevin Cavanagh

After two years of construction and much anticipation, Brock's new \$112-million Cairns Family Health and Bioscience Research Complex is open for business. And the early reviews are hot.

Professors Wendy Ward and Sandra Peters, among the first scientists to move into Cairns, didn't hesitate when asked to assess the spacious open-concept lab where they'll work alongside colleagues from other disciplines.

"It's beautiful," said Peters, whose research includes muscle physiology and how muscle enzymes adapt to exercise.

Ward, who is the Canada Research Chair in bone and muscle development, was emphatic.

"Most scientists go their whole career without ever getting to work in a brand new state-of-the-art facility like this," said Ward, a tenured professor in the University of Toronto's Faculty of Medicine before coming to Brock last year. "I'm looking forward to showing off the building to help attract top grad students to Brock."

Rudi Kroeker — an engineer and international businessman as well as past chair of the University's Board of Trustees — looks at the sophisticated capabilities of Cairns and calls it "an intricate machine inside the skin of an elegant building".

The Cairns Complex will play a key role in advancing Canada's science and technology infrastructure. In addition to world-class work by researchers in areas like cancer, infectious diseases, biotechnology and green chemistry, the facility will also house a business incubator for startup businesses to capitalize on the innovative research and knowledge transfer undertaken at Cairns.

A new era dawns as Cairns Complex comes to life



The Cairns Family Health and Bioscience Research Complex has been called "an intricate machine inside the skin of an elegant building."

Researchers and staff have been busy this summer peeling plastic off new chairs and desks and breathing life into the landmark that will be known for its striking architecture as well as its research facilities.

The Cairns Complex is 176,000 square feet (think more than four acres) of advanced research space filling five floors of striking glass-themed building. The official opening will be in mid-September, though workers will continue to put finishing touches on some of its more advanced features like the Phytotron greenhouse or Ontario's first Level 3 Containment Lab with an insectary.

As classes hit full stride in the fall, Cairns will house about 35 teaching and research faculty, more than 100 graduate students doing research, and about 30 support or administrative staff. That doesn't include faculty and staff at the Niagara campus of the Michael DeGroote School of Medicine or the Brock Biolinc Business Incubator.

The complex got its name after St. Catharines businessman Roy Cairns

and his family made a donation with an impact of \$10 million. The project was made possible thanks to \$17 million in stimulus and other funding from the federal and provincial governments.

The University continues to raise money to help pay its share of the research gem.

Brock President Jack Lightstone said the complex will open doors to previously unknown frontiers of learning that will in turn lead to change.

"Discovering new knowledge and unleashing innovation will be crucial to building a stronger future for Ontario and Canada," said Lightstone, "and Brock is committed to helping make this happen."

Alumni
Weekend
Tour



More than tweets and likes @brockuniversity

What it's really like to manage Brock's social media accounts

By **Jocelyn Titone (BBA '07)**

When I tell people I'm the social media co-ordinator for Brock University, I usually get a response like "So, you get to play on Facebook and watch YouTube videos all day?"

This is not the case — I don't play on Facebook all day. But I admit that my job does have its share of interesting tasks.

Brock's social media presence has come a long way since the University first took the leap in 2008. We have nearly 15,000 Facebook fans and 3,200 Twitter followers, plus our own YouTube channel, Flickr page, Pinterest account, LinkedIn group, Google Plus page and iTunesU channel.

In a span of six months, our Instagram account grew to more than 650 followers. And we're live-streaming events like convocation and Brock Days Alumni Weekend.

Besides the University's official social media accounts, there are hundreds of student-related and departmental accounts, including Brock Alumni.

Social media is a fast, easy, and usually free way to connect with constituents. It's great for proactively addressing customer service issues and receiving feedback. And for Brock, social media perfectly complements the personality of the University's brand — fresh, smart, unpretentious, casual and welcoming.

Ultimately social media is, well, social, and content should reflect this. It should provide value, engage subscribers in discussion and encourage sharing. As the person behind Brock's social media accounts, I get to engage faculty, staff, students, alumni, parents and friends in conversation by responding to inquiries and sharing interesting content.

An equally important part of social media (and my job) is listening. I follow online conversations around Brock to identify concerns or engagement opportunities.

Every day, hundreds of people talk about the University via social media platforms. On average there are more than 300 Brock-related mentions per day.

Of course, if a celebrity visits campus, the numbers can skyrocket — like this past June when Hollywood couple Ryan Gosling and Eva Mendez showed up to watch his mother graduate. Brock University was mentioned more than 3,000 times that day and was "trending" on Twitter — a remarkable first for the University.

Brock's engagement with constituents does not end online, of course. The University's ultimate goal is for students and alumni to take the next step and connect with us offline. We want prospective students to apply to Brock, current students to get involved in campus life and alumni to participate in events like Brock Days Alumni Weekend.

Social media can plant seeds that spur conversation, but it's when our students and alumni take the next step to connect with Brock in a personal way that the relationship truly blossoms.

We encourage you to connect with Brock University online via one of our social media accounts. For a comprehensive list of Brock's social media properties as well as Brock's social media resources and guidelines, visit brocku.ca/social-media.

Jocelyn Titone (BBA '07) is the social media co-ordinator in the Department of Marketing and Communications at Brock University

Tips for the social media novice

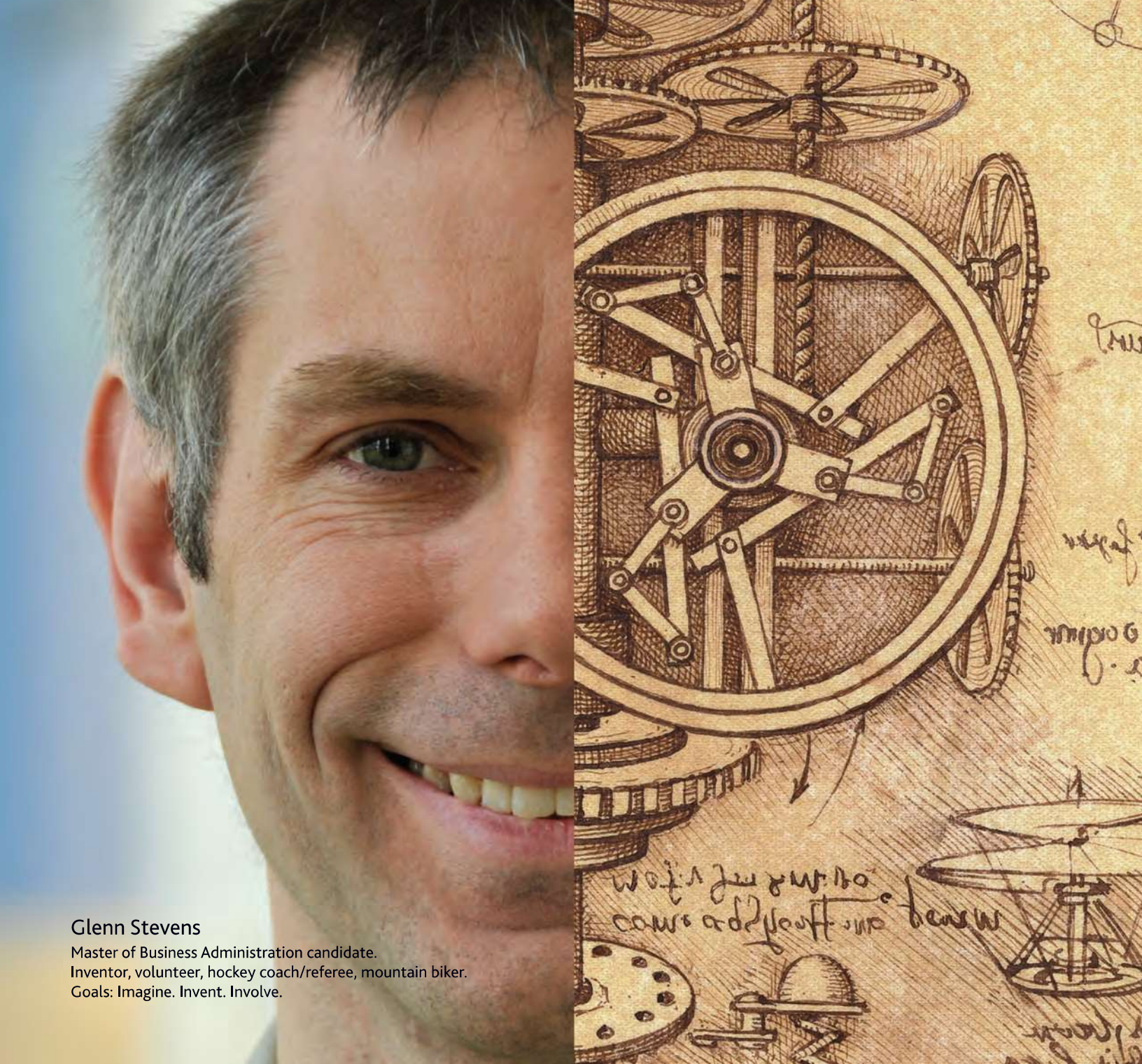
Focus on one social media network and then expand

Be honest, transparent and respectful

Have a personality; use humour

Post accurate, concise and useful information that is relevant to your audience

Be present: respond to comments on your content.



Glenn Stevens

Master of Business Administration candidate.

Inventor, volunteer, hockey coach/referee, mountain biker.

Goals: Imagine. Invent. Involve.

For both sides of the brain.

Welcome to Brock, a university designed to develop well-rounded human beings. It's a place that not only recognizes but nurtures both sides of the brain – where diverse passions are not only welcomed but celebrated, and students become better versions of themselves. And what could be more important than that?

Just ask MBA student Glenn Stevens. He has two U.S. patents and looks for discoveries in all pursuits, whether they be hockey, cycling, culinary arts or wineries. The term 'well-rounded' just might have been invented for him.

With a diverse array of more than 70 undergrad and 40 graduate programs, what could be better?

Well, how about being situated right in the heart of the Niagara region of Ontario?

Check us out at brocku.ca



London

Beaming medallist
Tonya Verbeek on her
Olympic achievement.



calling

Brock's ambassadors show their mettle at the Games.

By Kevin Cavanagh

There's a distinct Brock University flavour to this summer's Olympic and Paralympic Games in London.

At least seven Team Canada members have Brock roots. In terms of athletes, the list includes alumni Tonya Verbeek (BRLS '00, BEd '03, MEd '06) and Joel Dembe (BSM '07), as well as student Colin Russell. Meanwhile, alumni Marty Calder (BPhEd '92), Terry Paul (BPhEd '87), Elisabeth Walker-Young (BPhEd '02) Jeff Dunbrack (BPhEd '03) and Jennifer Turner (BPhEd '02) are in key roles as coaches or team leaders.

Brock student Jessica Lewis is also on the big stage, representing Bermuda.

But it was wrestling star Verbeek who rose to become a national hero, winning three of four matches to capture Olympic silver and become Canada's most decorated female wrestler of all time. And Brock cheered her on. On a steamy August afternoon on the main campus, hundreds packed the student pub to hoot and holler as Verbeek — who wrestled for Brock as a student and coaches at the University — took the mat for the championship bout.

"Today, Tonya cemented her legacy as one of the greatest female wrestlers in Canadian history," beamed Robert Hilson, Brock's Director of Athletics, speaking above the din at the student pub just after Verbeek's match. "She provided the Brock and Niagara community with a day they will remember for the rest of their lives."

Verbeek's London triumph marks the third consecutive Olympics where she put Canada on the podium, having won silver at Athens in 2004 and bronze at Beijing in 2008. She also has three world medals and will compete at the world championships in Edmonton in September.

Staff and students gathered at Isaac's campus pub to watch Tonya Verbeek compete for a silver medal in the London.



The rest of the Brock connections to this summer's big games include:

Colin Russell — On the men's 4x100-metre freestyle swimming relay team, Russell made his second trip to the Olympics. The graduate student in Applied Health Sciences also competed in Beijing in 2008 where he helped set Canadian records for the 4x200-metre and 4x100-metre freestyle relays.



Jessica Lewis — Lewis heads to London to make her mark in the 100-, 200- and 400-metre wheelchair track events.

The inclusive and therapeutic recreation student competes for her native Bermuda, though she holds dual citizenship. Lewis is

Bermuda's first para-athlete to compete in wheelchair track, a sport she started training for in 2008.



Joel Dembe — Alumni Joel Dembe (BSM '07), who is ranked No. 1 in Canadian men's wheelchair tennis, competes in singles and doubles events at the Paralympics. This is his first Games. In 2011, he left the security of a marketing job in Toronto's financial district to

train full-time for world competition.



Marty Calder — The legendary wrestler and two-time Olympian, Calder is now in his sixth season as Team Canada's head coach and his 18th with the Brock men's and women's wrestling program. He has coached Verbeek throughout her Olympic and international career.



Terry Paul — The senior men's national rowing coach was Team Canada's cox when they won gold at Barcelona in 1992. Paul has since coached Canadian men and women rowers as well as the Swiss national team. Paul rowed for Brock from 1983-87 and led Canada to a

bronze at the World University Games in 1987. In 1990 and '91 he helped Canada to back-to-back silver medals at the World Rowing Championships as cox.



Jeff Dunbrack — A former varsity rower (1998-2003) who helped the Badgers to several championships, Dunbrack is in his first Paralympics as lead coach of National Adaptive Rowing. Since 2010, he has coached the team to gold and silver medals at the world

championships. He also served as performance co-ordinator with Wheelchair Basketball Canada between 2006-10.

Elisabeth Walker-Young — Only the second Canadian Paralympian to serve as Canada's Assistant Chef de Mission for the Paralympics, Walker-Young has competed in Paralympics at Barcelona, Atlanta, Sydney and Athens, winning three gold medals, one silver and two bronze. She was a member of the Brock Badgers swim team from 1997-2002, winning nearly every race she entered and setting multiple national and world records.

Jennifer Turner — The Brock alumna and former Badger swimmer is the chiropractor for Canada's national cycling team, helping to keep Canada's track, road and BMX cyclists in tune.

The last word

Brock alumna **Elisabeth Walker-Young** (BPhEd '02) is in London this month as the Assistant Chef de Mission for Canada at the 2012 Paralympic Games.



Who knew when I graduated from Brock that I'd be able to serve Canada in such a leadership and groundbreaking fashion? I'm proud to be the second Paralympian in Canadian history to be in this role.

In support of the Chef de Mission, Gaetan Tardif, my tasks as Assistant Chef de Mission include being a diplomat, cheerleader, planner and spokesperson.

Preparing for the Games has been a big part of the job. In the past two years, I've been on a number of site visits to the U.K. On one of those visits, representatives from all the national sport organizations joined us, an invaluable experience. The opportunity to get a sense of London's setting and facilities was not only fun but informative. It enabled us to do detailed early planning, which is important, and to share the information with our sponsors, partners, team leaders and — most importantly — the athletes.

London has done a fabulous job of juxtaposing the old with the new. An example is Canada Paralympic House. Located in the 19th-century Bishopsgate Institute, Canada Paralympic House provides a variety of services to Canadians who are in London during the Games. It will be a meeting place for Team Canada's family and friends, or a place to just relax after cheering on a Paralympic event.

Since it first opened in 1895, Bishopsgate Institute has been a hub for culture and learning. Its modern elements against its backdrop of historic architecture are

something to behold — and a great venue to centralize the Canadian spirit and energy during the Games.

London is actually a homecoming for the Paralympic movement. In the years following the Second World War, injured British veterans were introduced to sport as a form of rehabilitation by the forward-thinking neurologist Sir Ludwig Guttmann, who has come to be known as the father of the Paralympic Games.

From its modest beginnings, where archery was the sole event and only a handful of nations participated, today's Paralympics are the epitome of high-performance sport, involving 4,200 athletes from 160 countries.

For the London Games, Team Canada has set the goal to be top eight in the world by gold medal count.

This busy summer has flown by and before we knew it the flag-bearer was leading Canada into opening ceremonies at the 2012 Paralympic Summer Games.

As a Paralympian, I'm honoured to be trusted to represent Team Canada, to synthesize and disseminate important information to everyone. I'm proud to bring that athlete perspective to planning to allow for successes and changes that encourage growth within the Paralympic movement in Canada.

When she's not working for the Paralympics, Elisabeth Walker-Young (BPhEd '05) is the program development officer for Curl B.C. She lives in Deep Cove, B.C. with her firefighter husband Ian Young, who is also a Brock grad (BSM '02).

Brock Days Alumni Weekend 2012



Highlights Include:

- Alumni Association Golf Tournament
- "Back-to-Class" seminars, workshops & tours
- Keynote address by Peter Goodspeed (BA '74)
- Cameo Club
- Fine Food, Fine Wine, Fine Art
- RBC Steel Blade Hockey Tournament
- N-O-T-L Alumni Wine Tour
- Wine and food seminars

And lots more!

Sept. 21 to 23

Register online
brocku.ca/brock-days

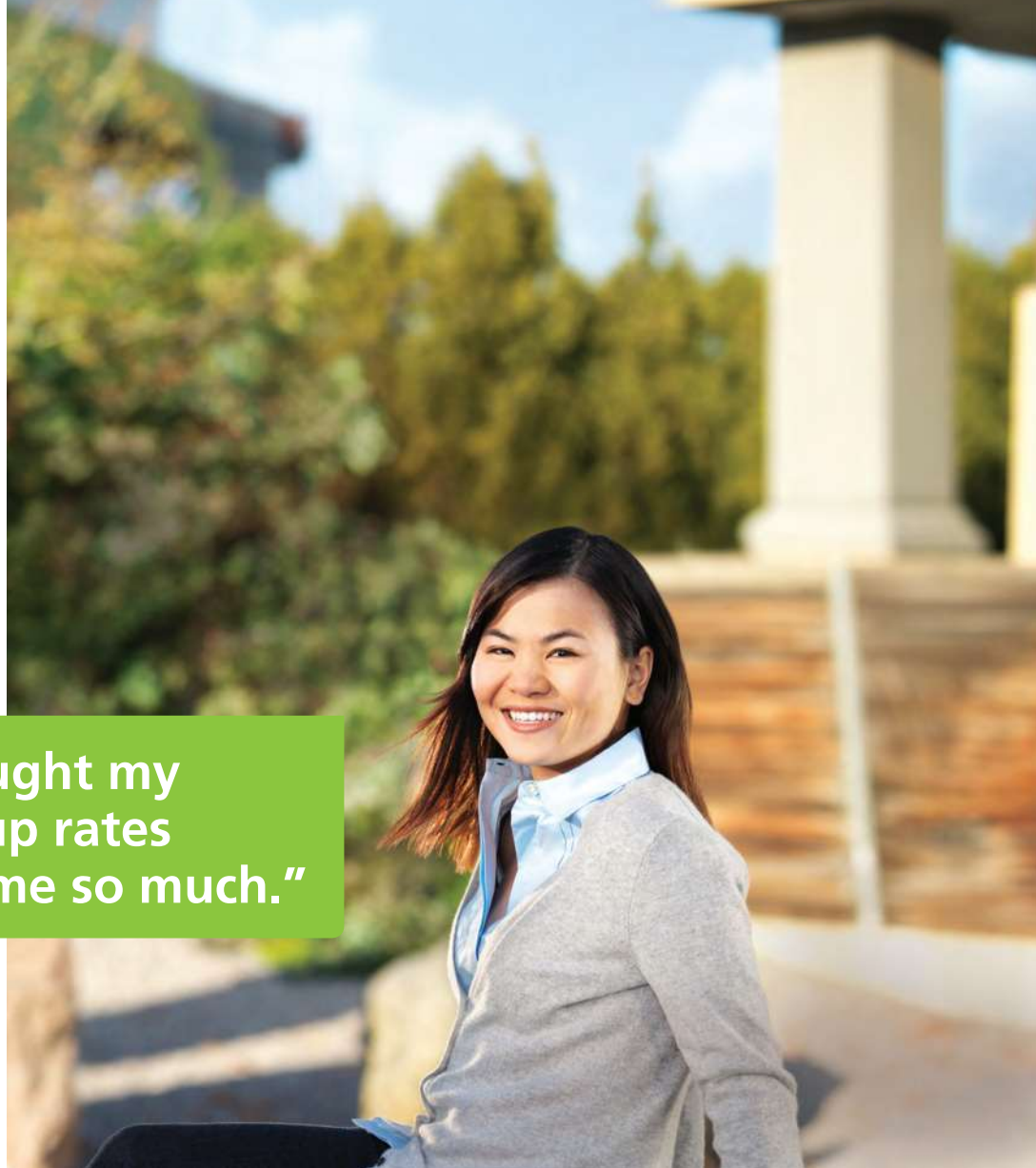
Friday, Sept. 21		Saturday, Sept. 22		Sunday, Sept. 23	
11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.	Alumni Association Golf Tournament Beechwood Golf Course	8:30 to 9:45 a.m.	BUAA annual general meeting & breakfast Welch Hall 203	11 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Niagara-on-the-Lake Alumni Wine Tour Sponsored by Niagara Classic Transport, Meet at Inniskillin Hall on campus
1 p.m.	Women's soccer vs. McMaster Brock Soccer Field	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Meet on campus to volunteer in the community	1, 2:30, 4, 5:30 p.m.	Educate Your Senses: Wine Seminars in the Park Montebello Park – Culinary Theatre
3:15 p.m.	Men's soccer vs. McMaster Brock Soccer Field	10 to 11:15 a.m.	Faculty speaker – Lorne Adams "What the teacher has learned: Lessons from students," AS 215		
6:30 to 10 p.m.	Tribute! To Les McCurdy-Myers, Pond Inlet		Alumni speaker – Adam Shoalts (BA '09) "Exploring in the 21st century," AS 216		
7:15 p.m.	RBC Steel Blade Hockey Classic Brock vs. Guelph Seymour-Hannah Centre		Photography workshop – Hosted by 344 Photography "Tips for the amateur photographer," AS 217		
			Lunch buffet Market Hall		
			Campus tours (every hour on the half hour [5 in total]) Meet by the red wall between Walker Complex and Academic South		
			Past is Present: community scavenger hunt Brock University campus		
			Keynote speaker: Peter Goodspeed (BA '74), senior reporter, international affairs, National Post, AS 204		
8:30 to 10:30 p.m. (pub open until 2 a.m.)	Pub night The Mansion House	12:45 to 2 p.m.	Educate Your Senses: Wine Seminars in the Park Montebello Park – Culinary Theatre		
		2:15 to 3:30 p.m.	Faculty speaker – Barry Wright "Leadership and Organizational Change," AS 215		
			Alumni speaker – Christine Rougoor (BA '11, BEEd '11) "Extreme living with a disability," AS 216		
			LinkedIn workshop – Hosted by Kevin Magee "Growing your professional network," Classroom A, Matheson Learning Commons		
		3 p.m.	Women's rugby vs. Guelph Brock Rugby Field		
		3:30 to 5:30 p.m.	Reunion Station Social Alphie's Trough		
		5:15 to 6:30 p.m.	Cameo Club Cairns Complex, 4th floor lounge		
		6:30 to 9 p.m.	Fine Food, Fine Wine, Fine Art Pond Inlet		
			Tour of the Cairns Family Health and Bioscience Research Complex, Meet at the Campus Store in the Plaza Building		
			Tour of the Brock Tunnels Meet at the Schmon Tower		



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