

The Social

Western Social Science Magazine

***Celebrating
50 years of success
in Sociology &
Economics***



**Western
SocialScience**

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Welcome to the first issue of The Social, the new newsletter for our Faculty. Our goal is to keep you up to date on some of the biggest developments in the Faculty of Social Science. We plan to produce two issues a year, one in the fall and one in the winter. I'd like to acknowledge all of the great work that Rob Rombouts, our communications officer, has done to make this newsletter a reality.

As one of the largest Social Science faculties in Canada, our faculty is very diverse, and there are plenty of exciting things happening. Whether it's new and important research, special events in departments, or involvement from our students, we hope to highlight and recognize the contributions our dedicated people make to our academic community and the wider world.

In this first issue, we take a special look back at 50-years of history for two of our departments. The Department of Economics and the Department of Sociology were both founded in 1966, under the leadership of Grant Reuber. With the guidance of successive department chairs, the Departments have grown and established international reputations from very modest beginnings.

Just celebrating our past successes is not enough, however. It is very important we plan for the future. We are moving forward quickly in our shared enterprise to make our faculty the best place to do social science in the country. We are working hard to build on the reputation of all our departments, with a strong focus on research excellence. Hiring new faculty members, focusing on areas of research strength and developing new research centres and the Institute for Social and Economic Policy are all part of making us a world-leader in important and impactful social science research.

I encourage you to explore the exciting developments in the Faculty.

Sincerely,

Bob Andersen
Professor and Dean

Shaping Policy for a Prosperous Future

The past several decades have been marked by many important social and economic trends, including a slowdown in economic growth, rising inequality, and increasing ethnic diversity. As a result, Canada and the United States are at a cross-road in terms of their social and economic prospects. New research is needed to develop policies and practices that will support sustainability, well-being and economic growth in the twenty-first century.

Starting in the fall of 2016, Western's new Institute for Social and Economic Policy will produce world-class research of relevance to social and economic policy to promote economic security and growth. Housed in the Faculty of Social Science, the Institute will generate evidence-based policy research through a multidisciplinary approach with a goal to influence social and economic policy in Canada and North America more broadly.

The goals of the Institute are to use advanced data creation, management, and analytic techniques to provide theoretically driven and evidenced-based research that will inform social and economic policy. Our research will focus on

issues related to educational attainment, poverty, inequality, immigration, diversity, population change, local government, urban affairs, and community development.

"Western University, and especially the Faculty of Social Science, is home to excellent faculty conducting world-class research relevant to social and economic policy in Canada and the United States. The Institute for Social and Economic Policy will bring together some of our best researchers to conduct multidisciplinary research to shape policies for a prosperous future," said Bob Andersen, Dean of the Faculty of Social Science.

Through conferences, working papers, policy briefs, newsletters and events, the Institute will reach policy makers, think tanks, academics and influence media personnel with interest in social and economic policy.



Artist rendering of the Institute of Social and Economic Policy

Reuber planted the seeds of success for Economics and Sociology

The Departments of Economics and Sociology are each celebrating their 50th anniversary this year. The separate development of these departments owe much to the focus and work of Grant Reuber.

The study of Economics and Sociology at Western have a long history. The first economists joined the Faculty at the then University of Western Ontario in 1913. The first sociologists joined the department in the 1940s. The disciplines were housed under departments with various names.

Mark Inman, head of the Economics and Political Science from 1939 to 1962, hired Grant Reuber and Ron Wonnacott in the late 1950s. Reuber and Wonnacott were both Western alumni who went on to study at Economics at Harvard.

In 1962, Reuber took on the role of Head of Economics and Sociology.

While the mix of sociology and economics may seem strange now, "these were all social science departments, it was not an unusual mix," said Reuber. "But as you had more people with more disciplines a more specialized focus developed, with concentration in areas."

Reuber began to recruit to build the capacity of the Department, building on the existing strength. "The Economics Department was always seen as having more people," said Reuber. "It was part of the development of the institution. There were many students that studied economics that went on to business school."

Reuber's plan was to develop each area with a particular strength and focus, and with that in mind, focused on recruiting demographers and macro-economics.

Reuber focused on demography for its connection to economics: "Demography is very much a part of economics, and many economics trends are affected by demographics" he said. "But it's not a central feature for most economics departments."

As the capacity developed, the idea of separate departments gained strength as a "natural evolution."

"We weren't casting off people, as they themselves preferred to be on their own and I agreed," said Reuber. "It (sociology) is a separate intellectual discipline and they wanted to do their own thing, and that's fine. There was enough people with capability and training. There was no problem with separation."

"Other groups were quite happy to be more independent of economics; it wasn't their subject particularly," said Reuber. "Economics didn't want to interfere with political science, demographic studies or other aspects of sociology."

After serving as Chairman of Economics, Reuber was Dean of the Faculty of Social Science (1969-75) and later Vice President Academic of the University.

In these roles, Reuber remained involved and watched as the departments expanded. "The departments grew quite a lot, because the university grew, all the major disciplines got substantially larger," he said. Through targeted hiring and support of students and faculty, the reputation of the departments improved. Both departments would come to be recognized as among the best in the world.

"As Dean he (Reuber) was ready to make sure money was available to do thing that made the department attractive," said Clark Leith, Chair of the Department of Economics from 1972-76.

"The growth that occurred in 1960s and 70s was quite rapid and remarkable" said John Whalley, a professor in the Department of Economics said. "Much of the credit in building the Department goes to Grant Reuber."

Speaking on his time as Dean, Reuber said the "biggest part of my job was trying to recruit the best faculty I could find. I spent a lot of time chasing around good students at Harvard, Princeton, Chicago and so forth, and Canadian universities; when we got them would try to fit them in and get the most of their talents."

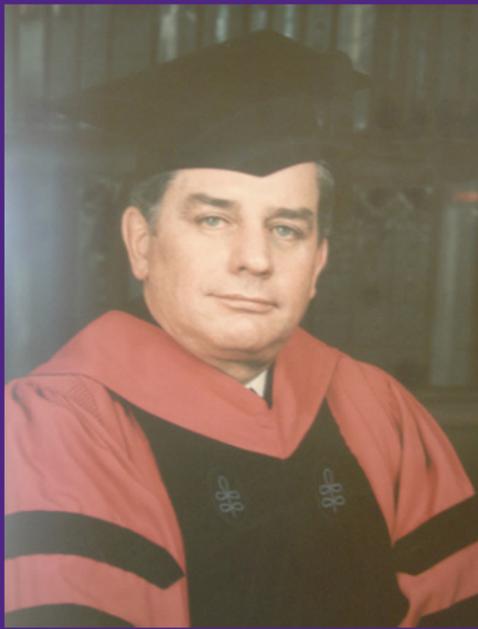
"We tried to focus on a few areas that we did quite well. We also tended to pay attention to whether people were actually writing articles and doing work of academic value or weren't and what their success was to improve their skills and qualifications over time," said Reuber. "That didn't just happen, that happened because people in the department bought into that model."

Reuber will be speaking during a Gala Dinner as part of the Department of Economics' 50th anniversary celebrations on October 29.



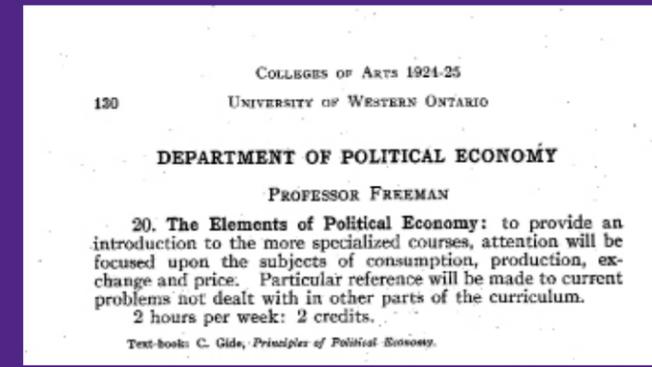
GRANT L. REUBER
B.A.
Kitchener, Ontario
 Honours Economic and
 Political Science
 Debating Club
 I.A.D.G.
 Polycon Club
 University Choir
 Zeta Psi

Grant Reuber BA'50

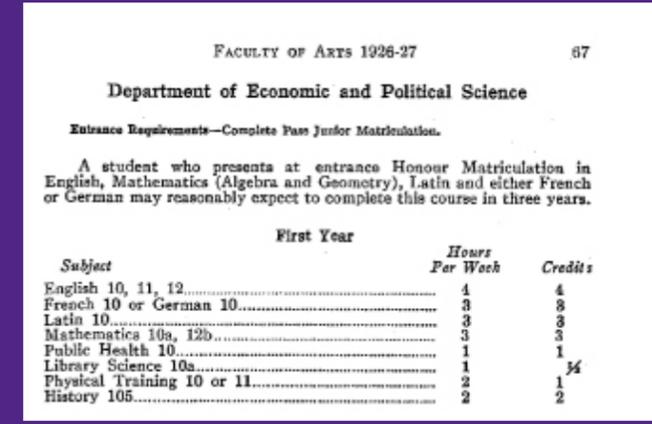


Dean of Social Science 1969-75

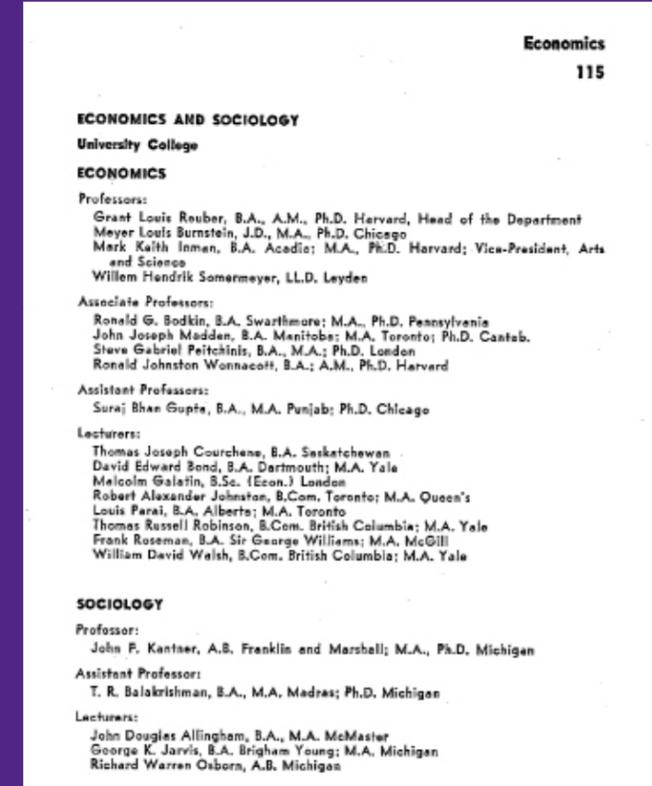
Economics and Sociology were part of many departments before 1966-67



1924-25 Academic Calendar



1926-27 Academic Calendar



1965-66 Academic Calendar



Strength in numbers – Department of Sociology celebrates 50 years as leader in demography

The Department of Sociology at Western developed around demography and quantitative analysis, a strength it carries to this day.

During the 2016/17 academic year, the Department of Sociology is celebrating its 50th anniversary. While sociology had been part of Western since the 1940s, the earliest sociologists were based in Economics, in what was then the Department of Economics and Political Science. Through the 1960s, Grant Reuber, chairman of the Department, began to hire sociologists with a focus in demography.

Demography provided a strong quantitative base, which Reuber, an economist by trade, supported, as opposed to what he viewed as “the softer side of Sociology.” Demography also set the Department out among other Sociology departments; only the Université de Montréal had a similar focus. The Department officially opened in 1966, with five

faculty members, offering an undergraduate major and a Master’s degree in Sociology.

“Grant’s vision was to establish a department that was demographically focused, which shares techniques and approach with economics, as they are both quantitative focused areas of study,” said Tracey Adams, Chair of the Department of Sociology.

Eddie Ebanks, one of the first faculty members in the department said that Reuber, “as an economist, could recognize demography.”

T.R. Balakrishnan was one of the group of five faculty members; like the others, he was focused on demography, but the first faculty members had to be flexible. “We had to offer a full complement of courses, so all of us were teaching outside our field,” Balakrishnan remembers.

All five of the first hires, and many of the subsequent hires, came from the United States. “The 1960s were years of rapid growth for all Canadian universities, and there were very few qualified Canadian PhDs at the time,” Balakrishnan said. “Canadian universities aren’t producing PhDs in the field of demography, but the PhDs from Western do have jobs all over Canada.”

Early graduates from the Master’s program went on to roles in universities across Canada, and internationally. Other graduates took roles with Statistics Canada, the European Commission and other government agencies around the world.

Sam Clark joined the Department in 1972, and was among the new faculty hires not focused on demography. Others included Peter Archibald and Paul Grayson.

Clark saw Western as having a Department that was growing, and while he was not focused on demography, he “always believed the strength of the Department should be on demography. It was one thing the Department does better than any other department in English Canada.”

“Early on, it was clear that this Department was going to be a leader in Canadian sociology,” Gail Perry wrote. “It also served as a ‘training ground’ for students to be active in social movements and social protest.”

Through the 1970s students at Western took a very active role in expressing their opinion on the state of the university. This was most visible in 1974. Students were upset that a professor on a one-year

contract did not have her contract renewed. The Sociology Course Union felt that, when making the decision the hiring committee placed too much emphasis on research and not enough on teaching. The union expressed their discontent through protests, occupying the Department for three days. A mass rally brought out more than 250 students, and a Committee of Inquiry was formed to look into the hiring decision-making process. In the end, the committee sided with the department’s decision.

“Students were looking for something to demonstrate about. The students viewed this as a case of worker oppression and grabbed on to it,” said Clark. “It was a tumultuous period on campuses, and the Department was seen as rather conservative, especially as compared to others across Canada.”

The protest was reflective of the involvement and passion students had, as well as the debate between what was important to the university – teaching or research.

The 1970s saw growth in both these areas, with the establishment of two research Centres – the Population Studies Centre and the Health Care Research Centre, as well as increased enrolment in the Master’s programs and the establishment of a PhD program in Social Demography in 1978.

While the Department wanted to offer a more general PhD program, the government ministry in charge of universities felt this could be a duplication of the five existing Sociology PhD programs in the province, but encouraged an application in Social

1966	1970	1975	1976	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2016
Major in Sociology Master's in Sociology	Honors Program added Health Care Research Centre opens Population Studies Centre opens		PhD in Social Demography 30 faculty; 58 courses offered Interdisciplinary Group on Aging		26 faculty, 6 limited term PhD in Sociology	Centre for Aging and Health Research Workforce Aging in the New Economy	Major in Criminology added 29 Faculty, 4000 students Honors specialization in Criminology	Centre for Population, Aging and Health CRC in Migration and Ethnic Relations				
Jack Kantner (1966-68)	Ed Pryor (1968-71)	John Kunkel (1971-76)	Paul Whitehead (1976-81)	C. G Tom Burch (1982-85)	Carl Grindstaff (1981-82, 85-89)	Balakrishnan (1989-92)	Eddie Ebanks (1992-97)	Kevin McQuillan (1997-2002)	Jerry White (2002-06)	Mike Carroll (2006-10)	Tracey Adams (2010 ~)	



Demography. With that expansion, Western was the only university in Ontario to offer a PhD in demography.

“The demography focus served a good purpose,” said Ebanks. “The demography program was what got people employed in government and universities.”



Rod Beaujot joined the Department in 1976. His focus was population dynamics and joined the other faculty focusing on demography.

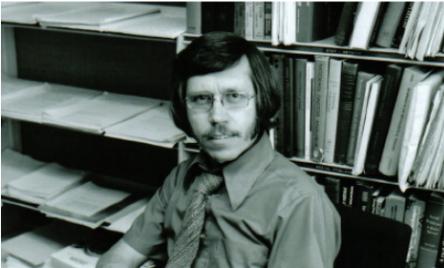
“With the group of seven demographers, the Department was well positioned to attract students,” said Beaujot. This included graduate students from various countries. In order to obtain a degree from the Department of Sociology, students were also required to have a minor in another area of Sociology, and take courses in both Sociological Theory, and Methods and Statistics for Social Research.



Enrolment ebbed and flowed, with a decline in the 1970s, and a dramatic increase in the 80s and 90s, reaching a point where students were being turned away.

Through the 1980s, the Department expanded its teaching and research focus. Faculty collaborated with other Canadian departments with strengths in population studies, especially at University of Montreal and University of Alberta, and with various federal ministries.

Faculty members also secured large research grants, and “the 1980s were a time when the Department firmly established itself as a leading institution in the field of sociology not only in Canada but worldwide,” said Perry.



In 1990, the graduate program expanded to be a wider PhD in Sociology. The number of people applying to the program with a demography focus remained dominant initially, but more students turned to other areas of sociology.

Through the 1990s, the first group of faculty members began to retire, and the focus on demography began to shift.

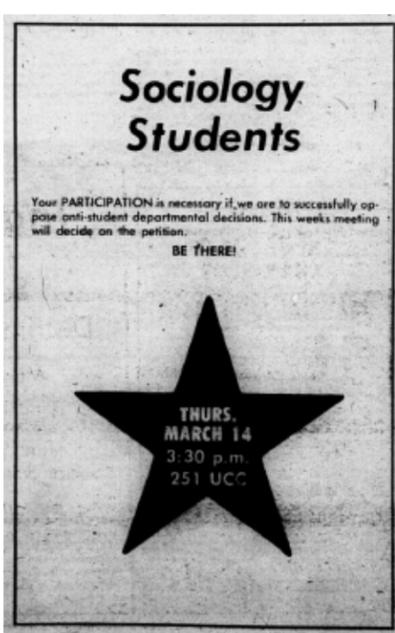
Across the study of Sociology “there was a change in the nature of demography from formal to social,” said Clark. “At Western, we also saw the emergence of other areas of focus, including health and aging, and inequality.”



“There was a push to have a diversity of faculty and to cover various areas of strength,” said Beaujot. “This disciplinary change included a move to the more qualitative and theoretical orientations. In that, sociology at Western followed a trend in Canada and throughout the world.”



In 2005, a Criminology major was introduced, followed by an Honors specialization in 2007, expanding the undergraduate offerings and increasing the number of students.



Through the last fifteen years, enrolment in graduate programs has increased significantly, reaching a high of 78 in 2011-2012.

Alumni have continued to play important roles, including Deb Matthews, Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development and Deputy Premier of Ontario, who completed her PhD in Sociology while she was MPP for London North Centre. Others have gone to work with Statistics Canada, the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health and to fill roles in the corporate world.

Through the changes, the Department has been “a very collegial department, very social, more than other departments or universities which is good for faculty morale and for students,” said Balakrishnan. “I always liked working with the students, enjoyed graduate teaching, and always found it interesting to see how they do after. For a professor, the most gratifying thing is to see where your students go.”

The Department still draws on its roots in quantitative studies. The focus for current research is population dynamics and social inequality, with two new hires in this field and two additional hires coming soon.

“I’m happy that the Department has established an area of concentration for Population Dynamics and Social Inequality,” said Beaujot. “The definition of an area of strength includes a larger proportion of the total department, it gives Western a specialization that stands out in relation to other Canadian universities and that is competitive compared to universities in the US and Europe.”

“What’s crucially important is an ability to respect both sides of the discipline, the quantitative and the qualitative,” said Beaujot, “and appreciate that both are making important contributions to the discipline as a whole.”

“Our goal is to produce research to inform people, but that also has policy relevance,” said Adams.

“We are already a national leader with an international profile; we want to enhance this profile in population dynamics, build this reputation and profile,” said Adams. “We strive to maintain a balance between research excellence and developing students, and we want to continue to offer strong undergraduate and graduate offerings.”

As part of the 50th anniversary celebrations, the department will establish a speaker series, supported by a donation from Balakrishnan. “The speaker series will help raise awareness of the Department and build the profile again,” said Balakrishnan. “I feel I contributed over the year to build Sociology and the population studies and I would like to see that flourish.”

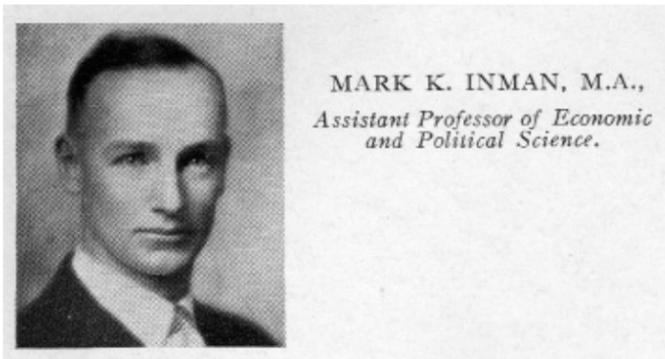




A tradition of excellence, a future of success – Western Economics celebrates its 50th anniversary

The Department of Economics is celebrating its 50th anniversary during the 2016/17 academic year. During those 50 years, the Department has had a strong international reputation of academic excellence, a path it continues on to this day.

Even before the Department was formed, economics had a presence at Western. The first economist at the university, Louis Wood, was hired in 1913. The subject was taught as part of Political Science, and then Political Economy. In the late 1950s, Grant Reuber and Ron Wonnacott were recruited as new faculty members by Mark Inman, Head of Economics and Political Science.



Reuber and Wonnacott were both Western alumni who had gone on to earn their doctorates at Harvard.

When Grant Reuber became the Head of Economics and Sociology in 1963, he began to build up the faculty capacity in sociology and economics. Reuber “set about building a great department through his insight and ability,” said Wonnacott. Areas that were built up rapidly included macroeconomics and international economics.

Wonnacott also played a significant role in the Department’s development, serving as Chair of the Department for three years, and guiding in the recruitment of many faculty members.

Under the next Chair, Clark Leith, significant hiring decisions were made which would help set the stage for future success. Reuber had moved on to the position as Dean of the Faculty of Social Science, but still played a role in helping to identify potential new senior hires.

“Grant was Dean and he was ready to make sure money was well spent,” said Leith.



Along with bringing in faculty members, Reuber worked to bring in distinguished visitors. This helped the Department create international connections and raise the profile of the faculty. The Department also made connections with universities in other countries, helping to recruit international graduate students.

“We had major international connections with leaders of our field,” said Leith.

Those connections, in part, led to the hiring of three economists from England: David Laidler, Michael Parkin, and John Whalley.

David Laidler was teaching at the University of Manchester. He was approached by Reuber and Leith and joined the developing department. “Western offered opportunities to do good work,” said Laidler. “It was a rising Canadian department at the time, full of really good young people. It had resources to support research and was well led.”

“Western was building its economics department. Clark (Leith) and Grant (Reuber) put together an attractive package. It was too good to say no to,” said Parkin. “It was a very strong department. It had room to grow and did indeed grow over the next few years.”

Before coming to Western, Whalley was a faculty member at the London School of Economics (LSE). Whalley had previously been taught by Laidler and Parkin at Essex, and this contact helped bring him to Canada. He came to Western on a two year leave from LSE, and at the end of the two years decided to stay at Western.

“Things were really beginning to move in Western in those days,” said Whalley. “Clark Leith was very concerned with improving the quality of hiring, and that improvement was noticeable within a few years.”

Once at Western, faculty members had to show their value. “There was basically no doubt about it that if you didn’t publish in a major journal during your probationary period, you were destined for elsewhere,” said Leith.

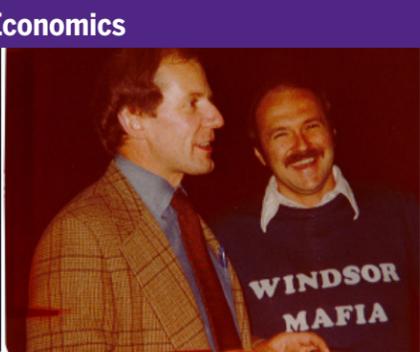
As high-profile faculty members joined the Department, other faculty members and high-quality students were attracted to Western. “It was a young department with lots of energy and was really building,” said Whalley. “The growth that occurred in the 1960s and 70s was quite rapid and remarkable.”

As the next Chair, Jim Melvin “did a superb job hiring young people and creating a strong young faculty with some growth,” said Parkin. “Student numbers were growing, undergraduate numbers were growing and by the mid-80s we had a very strong and quite a large department.”

“Jim was very dedicated to the job and had a very important role in building up the Department,” said Jim Davies, chair of the Department from 1992 to 2001.

Chris Robinson, Ignatius Horstman, Al Slivinski, Glenn MacDonald, Jeremy Greenwood, Peter Howitt, Preston McAfee, John McMillan and Arthur Robson were among the promising young scholars hired in the late 1970s and 1980s who have gone

Grant Reuber (1966-69)	Ron Wonnacott (1969-72)	J. Clark Leith (1972-76)	James Melvin (1976-81)	David Laidler (1981-84)	Michael Parkin (1984-89)	David Burgess (1989-92)	James Davies (1992-2001)	Alan Slivinski (2001-07)	Nathan Sussman (2007-09)	Audra Bowlus (2010 ~)
1966	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015 2016



on to become leading senior members of the discipline.

"I've heard people say that the Department is an incubator. People come because they've heard it's a great place," said Davies. "Many start a career here and move on to good opportunities elsewhere. Others stay, which is great too."

"Economics has always had good hires; some people left, but a few key people stayed and made a career here, giving the foundation to a great department," said Audra Bowlus, current Chair of the Department.

Through the late 1970s to the early 1990s, the research output of the department was at a peak. Wonnacott was involved in the free trade debate. John Whalley, David Burgess (chair after Parkin) and Jim Markusen were also focused on international trade. Leith was focused on development issues. Laidler and Parkin gave the senior lead on inflation and central banking, joined by younger faculty such as Greenwood and Howitt.

Many notable alumni moved through the department, including Munir Sheikh, Bob Hamilton, Paul Boothe and Paul Jenkins who would go on to senior positions in the Canadian public service. Quite a few went on to work in central banks, including at the Bank of Canada Paul Jenkins, Tiff Macklem and Stephen Poloz, now Governor, and Glenn Stevens, former Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia.

By the mid-1980s the Department of Economics was number one in Canada and among the top 20 departments in the world, with strengths in Macroeconomics, Monetary Economics and International Economics.

A group focused on micro-economic theory rose in the 1980s and early 1990s, including Al Slivinski, Arthur Robson, Daniel Vincent, Bart Lipman and Uzi Segal. While most of these members would eventually move on to other schools, the focus has been maintained and the Department still has a strong theory group, although mostly with a younger face.

In the mid-1990s, facing cutbacks due to reduced provincial funding, the Department began to lose faculty members who were receiving very attractive offers from universities in the United States.

"The budget pressures were quite severe. There was a huge exodus of talented people getting offers from American schools, we were unable to hold them," said Parkin. "That was disappointing but inevitable, in the political and economic environment we were in in the 90s."

While provincial funding declined, the University was successful in getting more support from the private sector to support the Department of Economics, including money to establish the Centre for Human Capital and Productivity and the Economics Policy Research Institute. Alumnus Glenn Campbell also provided strong support, funding the Campbell-Inman scholarships and the

Glenn Campbell Faculty Fellowship.

By the late 2000s, the Department had dropped out of the top 5 in Canada due to significant departures.

"The Department had a tough time in the late 90s and 2000s, but it emerged from them, and is on a path to success," said Parkin, "I think the Department is pretty strong today. I don't think it's as uniformly strong as it was at its peak, but there's been a lot of good work done creating an outstanding department."

Parkin credits much of the renewed strength of the Department to the leadership of Audra Bowlus, "Audra is inspirational, I think she is a wonderful chair," he said. "I picked her out to be a wonderful chair the first time I met her."

Bowlus credits much of the current success to renewed investments in the Department by the Senior Administration at Western and a policy that has enabled the Department to hire at the mid-career level. These investments have returned the Department to a spot in the Top 3 in Canada and have supported its goal to be a Top 30 economics department in the world.

"The Department has always held on to its principles of hiring quality faculty and producing talented students. That is what we intend to do for the next 50 years," says Bowlus.

Through the 2016-2017 academic year, Western Economics will recognize its 50th Anniversary. Festivities will kick off on October 28 and 29 with an Anniversary Celebration. This will include a conference on October 28 where nine alumni will present their research and 30 others will participate in a poster session.

In addition, on Friday, October 28, David Laidler and Michael Parkin will receive honorary degrees, as part of Western University's 308th Convocation. The Celebration will continue on Saturday, October 29 with a slate of former faculty returning to speak and a panel of alumni who will discuss "Lessons Learned from the 2008 Financial Crisis."

The Celebration will conclude on the 29th with a Gala Dinner at which Professor Jim MacGee will have an arm chair discussion with Doug Porter, Chief Economist at BMO, and David Andolfatto, Vice-President at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, on the economic impact of global events, such as Brexit and the pending US election.

Finally, the Department will recognize those individuals who were instrumental in building the Department of Economics of today with speeches from founding Chair Grant Reuber, former Chair and Provost Clark Leith, and current Chair Audra Bowlus.



Management and Organizational Studies professors receive international research awards



Mark Cleveland
Associate Professor



Jennifer Robertson
Assistant Professor



Bonnie Simpson
Assistant Professor

Three professors from the Department of Management and Organizational Studies received international awards for their research.

Mark Cleveland, Associate Professor, has received the Hans B. Thorelli Award, considered to be “the most significant academic award in international marketing.” The award, given by the American Marketing Association, recognizes an article that has made the most significant and long-term impact in marketing theory. The paper “Cosmopolitanism, Consumer Ethnocentrism, and Materialism: An Eight-Country Study of Antecedents and Outcomes” was published in *The Journal of International Marketing* in 2009.

Jennifer Robertson and Bonnie Simpson received Emerald Citations of Excellence for 2016,

recognizing the most outstanding articles published by the top 300 management journals in the world. The selection process is based initially on the citations being given to papers published in a previous year, and the content of the papers themselves in terms of novelty, interdisciplinary interest and relevancy in today’s world.

Robertson was recognized for her paper, “Greening Organizations Through Leaders’ Influence on Employees’ Pro-Environmental Behaviors,”

Simpson was recognized for her paper, “When Do (and Don’t) Normative Appeals Influence Sustainable Consumer Behaviors?” - co-authored with Katherine White at University of British Columbia.

Management and Organizational Studies announces new research clusters

The Department of Management and Organizational Studies has organized its faculty into two new research clusters to build on their award winning research and provide guidance for further growth: consumer and organizational behavior, and corporate governance.

The department based the clusters on the existing strengths of researchers. These clusters will also provide guidance for future hiring, and will facilitate more collaboration in the department.

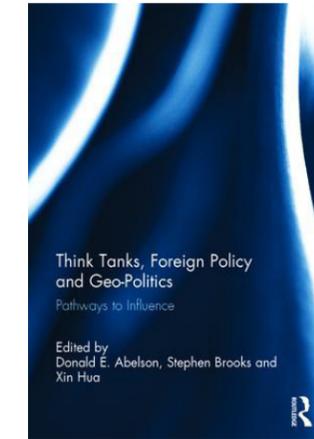
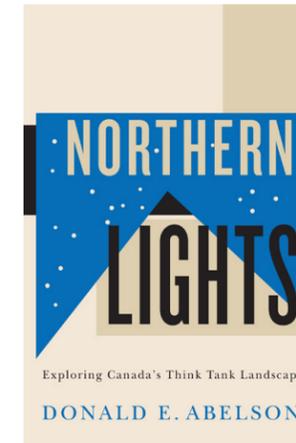
“Developing them provided faculty members the opportunity to talk to each other in ways they hadn’t before,” said Mitch Rothstein, Chair of Management and Organizational Studies. “There was some discovery that will hopefully lead to joint

research and grant proposals.”

Researchers in Consumer and Organizational Behavior focus on the study of human behavior in consumption and organizational contexts, examining globalization, culture, and consumption, social influence, and sustainability.

Researchers in the Corporate Governance cluster study the systems, processes, structures, and frameworks used to control and direct any corporation in the best interests of all stakeholders, examining internal and external mechanisms of corporate governance, corporate social responsibility, citizenship in the workplace, and leadership.

Abelson shines a light on Canadian Think Tanks



Why do ideas developed by think tanks gain more traction than those that come from universities?

That is one of the questions that Don Abelson, Professor in the Department of Political Science, considers in his new book, *Northern Lights: Exploring Canada’s Think Tank Landscape*.

Abelson’s research has always focused on think tanks, but as with most of the literature on the subject, he focused on think tanks in the context of the United States. He was interested in looking into what is happening in Canada. *Northern Lights* is the first book that systematically answers fundamental questions about Canadian think tanks, including how they are funded and how much influence they have.

While think tanks have been active in Canada since the turn of the 20th century, Abelson said that they are beginning to occupy a more visible part of the landscape. This is partly due to the focus some think tanks are placing on marketing their ideas, which he says coincides with a move away from developing ideas.

As non-profit tax-exempt organizations, think tanks are limited in terms of the amount of their budget they can spend on partisan activities. In recent years, there has been more scrutiny on how think tanks spend their money.

Abelson focused on measuring the visibility and influence of the think tanks, and considered the best way influence can be achieved.

In *Northern Lights*, he shows that while some groups, such as the Fraser Institute, the Conference

Board of Canada and the C.D. Howe Institute receive a great amount of media attention, they do not necessarily have the largest impact on policy development. Lesser known think tanks, such as the Caledon Institute, may have a fair amount of access and greater policy impact.

“If they want to be advocacy groups, great; if they want to be research institutions, that’s great too, but don’t do one and pretend to be the other” said Abelson.

The focus on advocacy has contributed to the marginalization of Social Science research coming from universities, as the incentive structure is different for universities and think tanks, Abelson said.

Abelson intended the book to be a primer, and accessible for the public. “Ideas have consequences,” said Abelson. “It’s important for the public to understand the kind of organizations developing ideas that government sometimes enact.”

“We often think about interest groups but how often do we think about think tanks,” he said.

Abelson also co-edited a book focused on an international comparison of think tanks. *Think Tanks, Foreign Policy and Geo-politics* is an edited collection bringing together the best think tank focused researchers from around the world to write about the think tank experience in their own country. The collections include research about think tanks in Canada, China, the European Union, Spain, Germany and the United States.

Study uses GPS to determine how exposure to junk food outlets influences youth



Jason Gilliland, professor in the Department of Geography and Director of the Human Environments Analysis Laboratory (HEAL) researches the connection between children's nutrition and their local neighbourhoods.

In one study, Gilliland and his team used GPS technology to determine when children passed near a junk food outlet, and whether they purchased junk food, or had food purchased for them.

Among the findings, the study showed that trips made by car were much more likely to result in a junk food purchased than those made by an active mode of travel.

From the London Free Press: "Of all trips where a child was exposed to a junk food outlet, one in 20 made a purchase. The length of time that a child was exposed also increased their chances of making a purchase, from 1.7% at less than one minute of exposure to 16% at 16 to 17 minutes of exposure. The study also found that trips made by females were more likely to result in a junk food purchase at all levels of exposure than those made by males. Females were 2.5 times more likely than males to make a junk food purchase after five minutes of exposure and three times more likely after 15 minutes."

"These results show that trips by car, under adult supervision, are more likely to result in a junk food purchase," said Gilliland. "This suggests the powerful influence that parents can have on their children's eating habits and the need to be mindful of this. It also suggests that an active mode of travel may be healthier, not only for physical activity, but also for nutrition."

Asteroid named after Western's first Geography professor, Edward Pleva

He founded the Department of Geography and has a teaching award named in his honour. Now Edward Pleva lives on in the heavens, in the form of an asteroid at least.

The International Astronomical Union accepted a submission by Robert and Peter Jedicke to rename asteroid number 21367 Edwardpleva, in honour of the long-serving Western University professor.

Pleva was Western's first geography teacher, in 1938. He was head of the Department of Geography from the time it was established in 1948 until 1968.

Pleva was well regarded for his teaching ability, receiving numerous teaching awards. He is particularly remembered for his contribution to the development of modern geographical education in Canada, including as editor of *The Canadian Oxford School Atlas*. In 1987, the University Awards for Excellence in Teaching were renamed in the Edward G. Pleva Award for Excellence in Teaching in his

honour. Edward Pleva passed away in 2008. "I'm a Western grad from the 1970s, and I knew Pleva's reputation as an outstanding teacher and geographer," said Peter Jedicke. "For me, an asteroid name has a double appeal, because it promotes the person who is honoured by the name but it also promotes astronomy in general."

Asteroid 21367 Edwardpleva was discovered on June 2, 1997, and it one of the many asteroids in the belt located between Mars and Jupiter, with an orbit around the sun of just more than five years.

Asteroids are assigned names by a committee of the International Astronomical Union, based on the suggestions of the original discoverers. Once accepted, the name is published in the Minor Planet Circulars.

The Jedicke brothers have also had asteroids named after well-known Western University academics and sites.

Pier 21 partnership puts Public History program on the national stage

Through the 2015-2016 academic year, students from the MA in Public History program worked with the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 to tell the stories of US immigration to Canada. Their work is now on display on the museum website and one of the students, Alexandra Weller, completed an internship at the museum. The program has taken on community projects for 30 years, but the connection with Pier 21 is the first partnership with a national museum.



Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21

Working in the over-arching theme of American Immigration to Canada, students researched the New England Planters, the Underground Railroad and the Gold Rush. The students prepared larger collaborative research papers of a more academic nature. The students then distilled their work into 5-page papers designed to be more accessible to the public. These papers are available on the Museum's website.

In January, the students worked on oral history projects highlighting two later groups of US-immigrants: people who left the US to avoid fighting in the Vietnam War; and members from LGBTQ community who moved to Canada in the 2000s. The students recorded interviews, and produced videos of these interviews. A major focus of the museum is oral history, and the videos will help make the history of these migrations accessible to the public.

To support the work, Pier 21 sent an oral historian and a collections manager for a one-day workshop, and later a videographer to help produce the videos interviews. The students took on full responsibility for these projects, including planning, securing permissions for visual materials, and video editing. This allowed the students to develop a fuller of understanding of what is involved in public history.

Michael Dove, professor in the Department of History, and Internship Coordinator for the Public History program said that being able to work in different mediums and making history accessible to the public makes students more marketable when they leave the program. While they need to be able to research and prepare academic papers, they are also trained to meet hard business deadlines and structures requiring high-quality work and requiring them to select the most important or interesting aspects.

"It can be difficult to speak to a general audience and make them care about the topic," said Dove. "Take Canadian history; the overwhelming idea is reluctance, but teachers haven't done enough to connect students to Canadian history."

Public history can also mean delving into controversial topics, and may result in more public reaction if members of the public disagree with how the history is presented. When the students were looking for participants for the second part of the project, they received some complaints about associated media coverage. "It's a good lesson for students; if you are active in the public and media there is more potential for resistance or negative feedback," said Dove.

The Public History program, and public history in general, is important because it helps make history accessible to the public in a real and tangible way, said Dove. Professional historians have "moved away from telling stories want to hear," and left it up to others to tell the stories, often in a non-academic and perhaps non-rigorous way. Public history is "putting history to work in the world."

While the focus of the partnership was to create public displays, the research papers and raw footage from the interviews will be available at the Museum for future by researchers, and may be used to build future displays.

For the 2016-2017 academic year, students in the program will be working with the Royal Canadian Regiment Museum located in London, researching and writing the content for a Virtual Museum of Canada exhibit based on Royal Canadian Regiment during the First World War.

Field school explores the “archaeology of archaeology”

You could call it a non-field school. Students in Anthropology 3396A - Site Management and Service took a different approach to standard archaeology, learning how not to dig up a site. The course focused on non-invasive techniques, and how to restore a site explored by many previous archaeologists and anthropology students.

The Lawson site, located at the Museum of Ontario Archaeology, is a Late Woodland Site and was inhabited around 1500 AD by ancestors of Iroquoian speaking peoples. Up to 1,000 people may have lived in the village at a time and there were upwards of 30 long-house structures in the village.

Neal Ferris taught the course. He explained that while the site has not been developed or plowed for cultivation, it has been used for field schools and archaeology for more than a century, so students are also able to see approaches previous researchers have used, making it a course on the “archaeology of archaeology.”

There is a “sea-change in terms of sensibilities archaeologists have and how they have worked for over a century in Ontario.”

- Professor Neal Ferris

Most archaeology is conducted by digging, as most sites are in new developments. The practice is evolving, and with more input and collaboration with First Nations communities, there is a “sea-change in terms of sensibilities archaeologists have and how they have worked for over a century in Ontario,” said Ferris.

Students in the course are involved in rehabilitating a site, including cleaning up old areas that have been excavated and making them pristine again. Students are also learning techniques using advanced technology, such as geophysical profiling, to investigate sites without needing to dig.

“This will be a skill-set these students will increasingly need in the future,” said Ferris.



“I think it’s really interesting from an Indigenous perspective,” said Shauna Kehego-Nichols, a fourth-year Anthropology student, who is also a member of the Chippewa of the Thames First Nation.

Kehego-Nichols said she wanted to get an education that would benefit her community. “Not many First Nations people are involved in Archaeology or Anthropology,” she said. “I enjoy the fact I have a role in restoring a site. Historically, bones and artifacts of my people have been dug up without consultation. I appreciate that the Museum and the institution work hand-in-hand with communities.”

Nadine Finlay is a fourth-year Anthropology/English student. She enjoyed the hands-on learning aspect, but also liked “how we are doing something for the community. Instead of just repeating learning, I like how we are working to restore a cultural-heritage site.”

Along with new techniques, the course is also focused on changing the way students think about or talk about archaeology and anthropology, seeing it more as a service, rather than research, said Ferris.

“Archaeology is of value to other groups, or they are required to deal with. It’s important to think about archaeology not just as a play thing of archaeologists, but also as part of a heritage that other groups deal with.”

Students work to revitalize an endangered language

Oneida language materials, works with government groups to translate documents into Oneida, and worked with the students in the course to help translate materials.

When Elm began working as a consultant, there were 263 fluent Oneida speakers in the community; now 28 years later there are 60. “I realized that as a fluent speaker, if I didn’t do anything to help, we would lose it.”

“The range of world languages helps us understand what the human brain is capable of in terms of language,” said Grandaillo. “Languages carry cultural and environmental knowledge.”

The languages are also important to the people that speak them. There is a correlation between knowledge of your indigenous language and health and well-being in the community. Knowing your language “provides a sense of identity and community grounding in culture,” said Grandaillo. “It helps you function better in society.”

For the students in the course, working with the Oneida speakers has helped provide a personal link to a global phenomenon.

Ashna Ali is in her final year of the Anthropology program. Through her course, she worked to digitize eight Oneida-language children’s books originally written in the 1970s. She recorded Elders reading the books, and is converting the books to an e-book format with interactive elements.

Ali felt the course was an “eye-opening experience” and helped her develop a better understanding of Indigenous communities. It also gave her a better appreciation for applying what she learned in class.

“For service work, we often take on what we think is best; now we are able to work directly with the community and deliver what they want,” she said.

Building on the partnership with the Oneida Nation, Grandaillo and the students are preparing how-to manuals for anyone who would like to undertake similar tasks for other language resources. Grandaillo hopes to continue the work and offer the course again in summer of 2018.



“Every languages is unique, and losing a language is like losing a part of humanity’s heritage,” said Tania Granadillo, an Anthropology professor with Western University.

Around the world, languages are endangered, and “we will lose half of the 6,000 to 7,000 languages in the world by the end of the 21st century if nothing is done.”

This summer, Granadillo and students in the summer Anthropology course Language Revitalization in Practice partnered with the Oneida Language and Cultural Centre to support the Centre’s work in encouraging use of the Oneida language.

While the situation is different for each endangered language, many languages become threatened due to the establishment of a dominant language used by institutions like government and education.

Olive Elm is an Oneida language consultant, and an Elder of the Oneida nation. She learned Oneida as her first language and did not even hear English spoken until she first went to school at age seven. While at school she was punished for speaking Oneida. This changed her views of her language.

“I felt that if I’m having this much trouble speaking, I won’t teach my children – when I have them – how to speak,” said Elm. “I didn’t think it was that important until I heard we were losing it.”

Elm now works as a consultant to help develop

MFE students win prestigious national scholarships



Two students in the Master of Financial Economics (MFE) program have received prestigious national scholarships.

Sandra Kagango was recently selected for the National Bank Women in Financial Markets Scholarship.

The National Bank scholarship is awarded to three recipients each year and is intended to support and increase the number of women working in financial markets. It provides a \$10,000 monetary award, a mentorship with a Senior Mentor from National Bank, and an internship with the bank which involves a rotation through different departments and aspects of the business. Kagango said this rotation will give her a clearer idea of where she may want to focus her career, and help her create links to start a career with the bank or in the industry.

Craig Logan received The Montreal Exchange Canadian Derivatives Exchange Scholarship.

The scholarship is a \$10,000 research grant for a master's student pursuing research on derivatives. In the summer of 2016, Logan completed an internship with the Bank of Canada, where he was part of a team researching the effect of market maker inventories on options markets. A market maker is a trading firm that assumes the risk of holding a certain number of securities in order to facilitate trading. While research has found that the affect is strong in equity markets, it is not as prominent in options markets. Logan said that more research needs to be done in this area, with more complex data to better understand the effect on different dimensions of the options market. It is

this research that he will be pursuing as part of the scholarship.

Kagango is coming to Western from Trent University, where she graduated with an Honours Degree in Math and a minor in Economics. She specialized in Mathematical Finance.

For Kagango, the MFE program was a perfect fit as it combined her three areas of previous study.

"It is a fairly new program, which I found interesting. I want to be part of something I believe will be a trend setter in the field of financial economics," said Kagango. "Western is one of the top universities in the country, so it was an easy choice to accept the offer of admission."

Logan completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Victoria. With an interest in finance, he felt he needed to be closer to Toronto to advance his career. He was also looking for a program that was quantitative and had an economics background, but was focused on finance.

"The MFE program was perfect for that," he said. "I didn't really know what to expect; it's not like a traditional MA program in economics, because it's more applied and specialized in finance, which is a big deal."

Kagango is thankful to the staff from the MFE program who brought the scholarship to her attention. "They deserve a lot of credit in bringing opportunities to students," said Kagango. "When you apply to a program, that's what you hope will happen."

Understanding the toll of war on children



Mazen El-Baba is bringing together his passion for social justice, and his study of neuroscience, to better both and better his community.

The Western University student is in the 2nd year of a Master's program in Neuroscience. In September 2015, he started a non-profit organization, H.appi, which works to de-stigmatize addiction and mental health issues in the Middle East and Africa.

"I do come from a country that experienced war and I was there once."
- Mazen El-Baba

Born in Lebanon, El-Baba witnessed how mental health issues are often addressed in the Middle East and North Africa; "Society focuses more on the reputation of the family rather than the individual," he said and often someone dealing with addiction or mental health issues cannot receive support.

H.appi is working to support research in the Middle East and North Africa, providing grants to researchers in the area, and to support resources such as a mental health hotline.

"Right now, there is almost no research going on, so small grants will go a long way," said El-Baba.

Through H.appi, El-Baba was in contact with many families of Syrian refugees as they came to Canada, and noticed behavioral problems in some of the children. He felt some form of intervention was needed, and this summer, he organized a summer camp for some of these children, designed to provide opportunities to learn English, connect

with local groups and have a summer camp experience.

But El-Baba saw another unique opportunity. Working with Bruce Morton and Daniel Ansari, professors in the Department of Psychology, El-Baba collected baseline data about intellectual, behavioral and cognitive data from children in the camp.

Morton and El-Baba hope the data acquisition can be part of an ongoing relationship creating a longitudinal study to help identify how trauma and adversity may affect how children learn, and develop cognitive reasoning.

"This data can be used by multiple stakeholders in the future," said Morton, "Schools, the healthcare system; they can all use this data."

The information can also be used to see what traits or characteristics may help identify factors that make children resilient and may lead to future success. This, in turn, can be used to help better prepare for refugee resettlement, Morton explained.

"I like to join causes I feel I can make a difference in, usually a cause where there's marginalized people and someone who needs an advocate. I want to give people a voice because they can contribute to the community immensely," said El-Baba. "I do come from a country that experienced war and I was there once."

"I believe community service has to be part of anyone's work," said El-Baba. "To feel I'm able to give back to the community is in investment in myself and the community at large."

\$66 Million Federal Grant for Brain Research



Western University's BrainsCAN initiative received a substantial \$66 million investment from the Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF) – the largest research grant in the university's history – providing a significant boost to ongoing research in cognitive neuroscience and imaging at Western.

BrainsCAN's goal is to reduce the burden of brain disorders, which affect nearly 3.6 million Canadians, diminishing quality of life and creating an enormous burden on society and on our health-care system. Neurological and psychiatric disorders together account for \$22.7 billion per year in health-care

costs in Canada. Many of the Principal Investigators on BrainsCAN are also part of the Department of Psychology, including Daniel Ansari, Jody Culham, Mel Goodale, Ingrid Johnsrude and Adrian Owen.

"Understanding higher brain functions is central to the diagnosis and treatment of psychiatric and neurological disease, for improving childhood learning and communication, for optimizing neurosurgical interventions and for the development of intelligent devices," said Adrian Owen, Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) in Cognitive Neuroscience and Imaging and Scientific Director, BrainsCAN. "To do this, we must aggressively pursue new technological innovations – a key strength at Western."

Brain impairments create deficits in memory, attention, knowledge, problem solving, and communication, affecting how those affected interact with everything and everyone around them.

Department of Psychology strengthens Social Psychology focus

The Department of Psychology at Western University is bringing together professors to strengthen the areas of psychology focused on human social behaviour.

The new Social, Social Development and Personality Psychology cluster merges existing research strengths.

Bringing together smaller groups will allow researchers to work closely and build on what others in the group are doing.

The Department is also increasing the number of faculty working in the area. The Social Psychology group was a large research cluster with seven active researchers, but this decreased due to retirements and staff changes.

A new faculty member, Rachel Calogero, will be joining the Department soon. Calogero is coming from the University of Kent. Her research focuses on system justification and social change, and gender, class and inequality. She is interested in why people accept and support social systems that may not be optimal for them.

The Department has also posted for two additional faculty members in Social Psychology, and one position to bridge between this area and the Industrial/Organizational area.

"Western is known for research in Social Psychology," said Esses, "The low numbers of faculty we have experienced lately impact the area's ability to mentor students and to support a vibrant research area. Bringing young active people in will help revitalize our national and international reputation."



"This new cluster makes sense as we all look at how people are influencing each other and how they interact in society," said Victoria Esses, Chair of Social Psychology. "We also look at individual differences and how they moderate the effects of social situations."

At the forefront of Central Banking Teaching & Research

\$2-million donation establishes Stephen A Jarislowsky Chair in Central Banking at Western



The Faculty of Social Science has received a \$2-million donation to establish the Stephen A. Jarislowsky Chair in Central Banking in the Department of Economics.

The donation, from The Jarislowsky Foundation, will be matched by Western University and will encourage excellence in teaching, mentorship and research in areas essential to central bank policy and decision-making.

"Drawing on the strengths of our past, this generous gift provides the foundation for an exciting future."
- Dean Robert Andersen

The creation of the Stephen A. Jarislowsky Chair in Central Banking will ensure Western is at the forefront of central bank policy and decision making, both in Canada and across the world.

Building on the research excellence in the faculty, the Chair will conduct top research and provide an opportunity to bring an internationally known expert to the Western community. The Chair will be involved in an original and innovative research program that will help shape central bank decision-making.

"Drawing on the strengths of our past, this generous gift provides the foundation for an exciting future," said Bob Andersen, Dean of the Faculty of Social Science.

Since the late 1970s, the Department of Economics at Western has been internationally recognized for its strength in monetary economics. Led by the work of David Laidler, Michael Parkin, and others, Western has been the destination for training in central banking.

Graduates from the Economics department have gone on to hold key appointments in Central Banks around the world. Carolyn Wilkins, Timothy Lane, and Tiff Macklem, are all current or former deputy governors of the Bank of Canada. Stephen Poloz is the current Governor of the Bank of Canada, and Glenn Stevens is the former Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia.

"Stephen Jarislowsky is interested in one thing - excellence - and helping things that are already excellent and moving them on to the world stage," said Frederick Lowy, Director at the Jarislowsky Foundation. "To think that a chair will allow this distinguished department and this distinguished institution to go further is great."

The Jarislowsky Chair will focus on researching issues related to central banking within macroeconomics, monetary economics, international finance, financial markets and institutions or a less traditional field such as labour economics, international economics, development economics, public economics or applied microeconomics



Economics Professor Emeritus receives Order of Canada for contribution to free trade debate

Eloise Wonnacott, Ron Wonnacott and Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell.

- Photo by Rachel Lincoln Photography

On Monday, October 3, Ron Wonnacott, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Economics at Western University was invested as an Officer of the Order of Canada by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell.

Wonnacott's academic career started at Western, where he was president of the University Student Council. He completed his undergraduate degree in 1955, and then earned his PhD at Harvard. In 1958, he returned to Western as a professor, beginning his teaching career when the Department of Economics was in its infancy.

In 1965 his brother Paul joined him in his research into what would happen to the Canadian economy if there were no tariffs or other trade restrictions between Canada and the US: in other words, free trade.

The Wonnacotts concluded that, while Canada had done reasonably well economically since Confederation, it could have done better and could continue to do better in the future if it adopted free trade. Their joint research was published by Harvard University Press in 1967. Their conclusions were later supported by research by Rick Harris and other distinguished economists. However these views challenged the 100 years of John A. MacDonald's National Policy of protection, and were in stark contrast to the prevailing opinions of Canadian business and public at the time.

But they started a debate. During the next 20 years, Wonnacott was invited to explain his work to business groups and economists, and the tide began to turn. In 1989, facing growing protectionism in the US, Canada and the US signed the Free Trade

Agreement. While not acting in an official advisory role in the negotiations, Wonnacott provided information and advice to officials working on the agreement.

"The Free Trade Agreement was not only a success," said Wonnacott, "but it was critical to Canada because it opened Canada to the world, which is increasingly one of trade agreements and the expansion of trade. MacDonald's policy of protectionism would have left Canada much more isolated."

Soon after the agreement was signed, Canada, Mexico and the United States began to negotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

Why the opposition now to trade agreements from some US politicians?

Wonnacott's reply: "Trade is like technological change. Both provide benefits by increasing efficiency and lowering prices. While both eventually offer greater opportunity, and eventually new jobs, both in the short run displace some workers. This provides a platform for populist politicians. They blame trade agreements that are made by governments. On the other hand, technological change is a business decision, and it's hard to object to that."

To the question: do you think your work has helped to encourage a more positive attitude to trade in Canada?

His reply: "I hope so, at least in small part. But that is for others to judge."

Faculty of Social Science thanks friend and supporter Cecilia Yau



Dan Shrubsole, Chair of the Department of Geography, Cecilia Yau and Robert Andersen, Dean of the Faculty of Social Science at the Chancellor's Reception in Hong Kong, May 28, 2016.

Cecilia Yau has been an ongoing supporter of the Faculty, and in particular, the Department of Geography.

In the past, Yau endowed funds for the Professor Elaine Bjorklund Scholarship.

Thanks to support from Yau, Western Geography is one of three universities that will be participating in a 10 to 12-day Field course in the Pearl River Delta of China in May-June 2017. A significant amount of the cost will be covered by donations from Cecilia Yau. Five students from Western will participate, along with students from the Chinese University of Hong Kong and Sun Yat-Sen University. The overarching theme of the Field Course is proposed to be: Change, growth and sustainable development.

Photos from "Meet the Dean at the Ceeps" - September 30, 2016



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