

LIONS, TIGERS AND GOLF
Mike Duggan visited South Africa as an assistant coach for Team Canada at the 2008 World University Golf Championship.

A TRIBUTE TO NUMBER 15
"For Bonnie basketball always came first..."

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



As the end of the academic year approaches, so too does my first year as president of Durham College. This past year has truly been an exceptional experience for me, and as I take a moment to reflect, one of the things that impresses me the most is the incredible sense of community that is found on our vibrant campuses. It is this sentiment and our ongoing commitment to ensuring that our students have access to the best possible education – so they can obtain great careers and make a difference in the world – that continue to bring our alumni back to us as community partners, donors, board members and even students. We take great pride in encouraging them to visit their thriving alma mater and have excitedly welcomed back many as faculty

and staff. Barry Read, a professor with the School of Business, IT & Management, is just one example of an alumnus, who after graduating from the Sports Management program in 1977, returned to Durham College as a faculty member in 1986 – offering our students a real-world perspective of what today's employers are looking for. He has been a welcome addition to the Durham College family ever since.

At Durham College the student experience comes first and we strive to ensure that our students enjoy great experiences during their time with us, experiences that become key contributors to their continued success in their chosen careers. The following pages will introduce you to just a few of the outstanding accomplishments that our students, alumni and faculty have achieved this year. For example, former general machinist student Mike Van Leeuwen proved once again that Durham College students are the best when measured against their peers, when

he won a gold medal at the National Skills Competition; Laurie Lafrance, a professor with the School of Media, Art & Design, was chosen to illustrate a Games of the XXIX Olympiad postage stamp for Canada Post; and Kristi Honey, a 2008 Alumna of Distinction Award recipient, continued to make her financial mark, establishing two multimillion-dollar companies right here in Durham Region.

As you read this issue of Reflections, I hope you enjoy it as much as I have. One thing is for sure – it's abundantly clear that our graduates are flourishing in their fields and we couldn't be prouder.

Don Lovisa
President, Durham College

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



As president of the Durham College Alumni Association I am extremely proud of our more than 45,000 members. Each of these remarkable individuals has secured their place in society, ready to make a difference in their communities, the province and the world at large. I am continuously amazed at the outstanding achievements that these men and women have attained.

This has been a momentous year for the Alumni Association. As our membership grew, so did the incredible recognition that our alumni received across the country.

As you read through the following pages, you will learn how special they truly are. One example is alumna Patricia O'Connor who was named to the Order of Canada in 2007 and announced as a recipient of a 2008 Ontario Premier's Award for her significant contributions to paramedic care in Canada's northern territories. O'Connor is the second Durham College alumni to receive a Premier's Award in the last two years and only the fourth ever. This is a fantastic accomplishment and clear indicator of the talent and success of our graduates.

Durham College has many exceptional alumni and each year six are honoured with Alumnus of Distinction Awards in recognition of his or her professional success and contribution to the college

and the community. We are currently accepting nominations for this year's recipients, who will be honoured at spring convocation in June. I invite you to nominate a former classmate, colleague or perhaps a business associate who attended Durham College and is now making a difference in the world.

Nominations can be submitted until Friday, April 17 at www.durhamcollege.ca/alumni.

Cheers,

Lillian Jacoby
President,
Durham College Alumni Association

WINTER 2009 CONTENTS



Laurie Lafrance's stamp, titled *Games of the XXIX Olympiad*, symbolizes Canadian participation in the world-class event.

- 4 His voice will be forever missed
- 5 Laid-off workers crack open the books
- 6 Putting her stamp on Olympic history
- 7 Lining up for success
- 8 Hockey for Heart scores provincewide
- 10 Animating their way to gold
- 11 Success is as sweet as honey
- 12 From classroom to classroom: why a surprising number of Durham College professors are alumni
- 13 Technology inspires
- 15 A tribute to Number 15
- 16 Lions, tigers and golf
- 17 The power of PR
- 18 Pumping gold
- 19 Lord of the court leaves his crown behind
- 20 Diving into the job
- 21 Cunningham rewires teaching
- 22 Alumni updates

PUBLISHED BY THE DURHAM COLLEGE
ALUMNI OFFICE
2000 SIMCOE STREET NORTH
OSHAWA, ONTARIO L1H 7K4
T: 905.721.3035
F: 905.721.3134
E: ALUMNI@DURHAMCOLLEGE.CA
CIRCULATION: 26,500

ABOUT THIS ISSUE

PUBLISHER: DONNA MCFARLANE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: GINNY COLLING
COPY EDITORS: AMANDA BICKLE, JAKE BROWN,
MACKINLEY COCKBURN, LEAH GABRIEL,
NICOLE GIBSON, JANEL HAIGHT, JENNIFER
KERSTENS, CHLOE MCPHERSON, ASHLEY RUTH,
IMAN SAAD, MEIGHEN THOMPSON, SARAH THOW,
LEANN TURNER, COURTNEY WATTIE AND SARAH
WIGHT
COVER PHOTO: COURTESY OF MIKE DUGGAN

REFLECTIONS IS WRITTEN AND EDITED BY
DURHAM COLLEGE PUBLIC RELATIONS STUDENTS
PUBLICATION AGREEMENT NO. 40064655

RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSEES TO:
DURHAM COLLEGE
2000 SIMCOE STREET NORTH
OSHAWA, ONTARIO L1H 7K4
E: ALUMNI@DURHAMCOLLEGE.CA

WWW.DURHAMCOLLEGE.CA/ALUMNI

HIS VOICE WILL BE FOREVER MISSED

by Chloe McPherson

ONCE DESCRIBED AS A ROASTED marsh-mallow, crusty on the outside and soft on the inside, John Bisset was nothing short of a memorable presence in the halls of Durham College. Born in Scotland in 1952, he passed away in September 2008 at the age of 56 after battling cancer.

Bisset, a professor at Durham College for 26 years, taught in the School of Applied Sciences, Apprenticeship, Skilled Trades & Technology. However, the college will perhaps remember him best for his contribution to the machine lab, which was often referred to as John's lab.

Students, faculty, administration, family and friends agree that Bisset was a passionate man. To the good fortune of his students, he shared his enthusiasm for mechanics through his fervent teachings.

"He was a real professional, a strong leader who was not afraid to put up a fight," said Ryan Liebrechts, one of his former students. "Through his strict, no nonsense teaching methods, students respected John and his knowledge of the trade, and more importantly, students felt respected by him."

Durham College was not only lucky to have Bisset as part of its faculty; it had the pleasure of working alongside him as a union leader. Known as a true unionist, he was vice-president of Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) Local

354; a grievance counsellor; and a member of the local's workload monitoring group, health and safety committee and several provincial OPSEU committees. He also worked closely with management to establish a relationship of respect.

"We were all (union) brothers and sisters to John in the truest sense," said Debbie Rautins, local union president, a dear friend and a fellow co-worker for the past 17 years. "I would pick up the phone and say can you do this for me and he would respond that it's already done!"

At his memorial, a number of staff and students shared humorous stories and memories. One person recalled his four passions – his family, the machine lab, Scotch and the television show *How It's Made*. Bisset was a dedicated family man and very proud of his Scottish roots. He enjoyed sports, his favourite football team was the Rangers and he was also an avid Toronto Maple Leafs fan.

Bisset also loved a glass of good Scotch and liked nothing better than to see other people sampling his favourite drink. He organized Scotch tasting events called Whiskey Nights for friends, family and co-workers. According to Rautins, new people were always welcome and he made everyone feel as though they were an honoured guest.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING DEPARTMENT

John Bisset was a professor at Durham College and longtime OPSEU Local 354 union member

Another one of his hobbies was collecting and working on model trains, which were sometimes on display in the machine lab.

Bisset was known as the type of person who put his energy toward other people, whether it was his work in the classroom at the college or with the union. Those closest to him say that Bisset would never have expected the impact he left on the world.

"John would not have expected all of this. Ann just keeps getting cards and she is flooded," said Rautins. "The funeral and chapel were completely packed. I don't think anyone realized his impact. He's up there just shaking his head."

Bisset is survived by his wife Ann, his son Allan and his daughter Joanne.

In his memory, Durham College created The John Bisset Memorial Award, to be awarded to a student in a mechanical program, who is in need of financial assistance. The award was created through donations, and contributions are still being accepted. For more information, please contact Kara Woods at 905.721.2000 ext. 3648 or visit www.giving.durhamcollege.ca.

LAID-OFF WORKERS CRACK OPEN THE BOOKS

by Courtney Wattie



PHOTO BY COURTNEY WATTIE

Sue Hawkins, Durham College's Second Career program advisor, helps laid-off workers reach their new career goals.

THEY SIT AT THE DINNER TABLE AND stare into the faces of their family. The fact that they are not alone in their plight provides little comfort. They have no job and they are frustrated, stressed and angry. Laid-off workers in Ontario want answers and they need help.

Fortunately, such help has arrived with the provincial government's newly created Second Career, a program that gives laid-off workers the opportunity to retrain and ease their transition into a whole new career.

"There's been a real downturn in different sectors and as a result there is a need for individuals to retrain in other areas," said Sue Hawkins, Durham College's Second Career advisor. Second Career is important as it enables unemployed, laid-off workers to take advantage of training to build new skills for the jobs of the future."

Workers who are interested in participating in the Second Career program should first contact their local Service Canada Centre which can be located via www.servicecanada.gc.ca to determine their eligibility. If eligible, they will be referred to another agency in their area to work with an employment counsellor to prepare an application. It is also recommended that individuals compare the various training institutions that offer the program they are interested in applying to. Those interested in applying to Durham College's Second Career program should contact Hawkins at 905.721.3219 or sue.hawkins@durhamcollege.ca to schedule an appointment.

Workers can choose a program that ranges from six months to two years and the government will fund them up to a maximum

of \$28,000 for costs such as transportation, tuition, books and other training-related costs. Additional funds may be available for people with disabilities and for people who need help paying for academic upgrading, the cost of living away from home or child care.

The provincial government has committed to a minimum of three years to pilot the program.

"Students who have gone through the pilot program are very happy with the results so far at Durham," said Hawkins. "The response provincially was lower than expected. As a result, the Second Career program has been enhanced to enable more Ontarians to take advantage of it."

To learn more, please visit: www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/tcu/secondcareer/index.html.

CANADA 52

PHOTO PROVIDED BY CANADA POST

Laurie Lafrance's stamp, titled Games of the XXIX Olympiad, symbolizes Canadian participation in the world-class event.

PUTTING HER STAMP ON OLYMPIC HISTORY

by Jennifer Kerstens

IT IS ONE THING TO FOLLOW THE Olympics at home, courtesy of your television or radio; it is another to witness them first-hand. Durham College professor Laurie Lafrance made her stamp on Olympic history in a different way. She was selected not for her athletic ability, but for her creativity, to design the 2008 Beijing Olympic stamp for Canada Post, which will be forever etched in Canadian and Olympic history.

The idea for the stamp, Games of the XXIX Olympiad, stemmed from a photograph taken by designer Karen Henricks of q30 Design Incorporated, a design consultancy firm based in Toronto, Ontario. The photograph depicts a female athlete carrying a flag in her arms, celebrating victory. After being in the running against many other design firms, Canada Post chose Henricks' photograph to be the inspiration for the stamp. Henricks, along with Peter Scott, creative director of q30 Design Incorporated, recommended that Lafrance put the illustration on paper.

"I was completely thrilled," recalls Lafrance. "Getting a stamp is always a great job to get. It's just so little and it's so precious.

That's what I just love about it. I guess because it's a little piece of Canadian history."

Work on the stamp began in November 2007, with Lafrance brainstorming and trying numerous methods of artistry to capture the vision of the photo. Using chalk, brush strokes and her creativity, Lafrance started to transfer her ideas into sketches.

"I just let my mind wander," said Lafrance. "I didn't edit myself and I just thought about anything that had to do with the Olympics, athletics or victory. I tried every different idea I could possibly think of and from there I sent them what I thought I would be pleased to have."

Lafrance, Henricks and Scott worked collaboratively back and forth through dozens of e-mails, putting the image and type together until the final design was chosen. After months of work, there was still a large wait time for the image to be reviewed and approved before the stamp was put into circulation on July 18, 2008. Lafrance's illustrations were also used for the stamp booklet cover and the Official First Day Cover, which is a collector's item.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LAURIE LAFRANCE

Professor Laurie Lafrance demonstrated her artistic talent when she created the 2008 Beijing Olympic stamp for Canada Post.

"The stamp symbolizes Canada's participation in a world-class event," said Lafrance. "The power and all the hard work that goes into one event, the exhilaration of victory and the exhilaration of participating in something."

Lafrance received her diploma in Visual Communications from Medicine Hat College in 1980. Deciding to further her education, she moved to Ontario and enrolled at the Ontario College of Art and Design in Toronto, where she obtained a diploma in Communications and Design with a specialization in Illustration in 1984.

Today, Lafrance is a professor at Durham College and teaches drawing courses in the Multimedia Design and Foundations in Art and Design programs. She continues to freelance illustrate and, in addition to Canada Post, has completed work for organizations such as the Royal Conservatory of Music, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and the Royal Ontario Museum.

LINING UP FOR SUCCESS

by Janel Haight

WILL MITCHELL AND TYLER MARTIN both know how to line up a ball. The former students in the Professional Golf Management program are also lining themselves up for success on the pro golf circuit.

From April to September 2008, both participated in the Canadian Pro Golf Tour. During that time they spent two months in California, one month in Mexico and the remainder of the time in various provinces throughout Canada.

The tour was a great experience for Martin and Mitchell because they competed with some of the top golfers in the world. Mitchell is happy with the way he played and although he didn't keep his cards, meaning he must try out for the tour next season, he played well in a number of tournaments. In the first event, he placed 19 out of 165, but feels he did not have the consistency he needed throughout the season.

Both golfers are determined to practise and continue improving their game.

"Growing up, I improved a little bit each year," said Martin "If I can keep doing that, then my ultimate goal is the PGA tour."

It all began when Mitchell and Martin decided to attend the Canadian Pro Golf Qualifying School (Q-School) in Brooklin, Ontario. While attending Durham College, they agreed that attending Q-School was the realistic next step. During that time they tried out and qualified for the Canadian Pro Golf Tour. It was a combination of the Professional Golf Management program and Q-School that prepared them for the tour.

"It prepared me differently than I thought it would," said Mitchell. "When you turn professional and play professionally, you have to set yourself up as a business; you



PHOTO COURTESY OF DARRYL HAND



PHOTO COURTESY OF DARRYL HAND

From left: Will Mitchell and Tyler Martin, graduates of Durham College's Professional Golf Management program, played on the Canadian Pro Golf Tour from April to September 2008.

have to find investors and sponsors. So, it was the business side of the program that prepared me for my future."

Martin started golfing when he was about 12 or 13 years old and combined his love for golf and an interest in business by taking the Professional Golf Management program at Durham College. While attending college, he won a total of 11 national and provincial medals and participated in the Ping Junior Tour. He was also the captain of the Durham Lord's golf team for three seasons.

Mitchell also turned to golf at the age of 13 after becoming bored with baseball. Throughout college, he played for the Durham Lord's varsity golf team and in two seasons, he won a total of six national and provincial medals, including winning first place at both the Ontario College and Canadian College championships and eighth place at the World University Games. As well, Mitchell participated in many tours, such as the Great Lakes Tour and the National Golf Association's Hooters Tour, both held in 2007.

"In the future, I want to make golf a way of life for me, whether that's playing golf professionally, running a golf course or a golf program at a school," said Mitchell.

"I want to make golf my life and I want to find a way to do it comfortably. If I'm good enough, I want to play on the PGA tour for many years to come. But if not, I want to teach golf and be involved in golf in some way."

In 1986, the Tournament Players Association was founded as a non-profit organization committed to the Canadian Pro Golf Tour. It originally took place in Canada but now operates throughout Mexico and the United States and includes the best golfers from 25 different countries.

HOCKEY FOR HEART SCORES PROVINCEWIDE

by Amanda Bickle



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROGER HALLETT

Rob Weir, the creator and organizer of Hockey for Heart, awaits his turn on the ice with fellow player and former Toronto Maple Leafs hockey player Daryl Sittler, who has donated his time to the tournament for three years in a row.

GREAT THINGS CAN HAPPEN WHEN you set a goal and put your heart into it, just ask Rob Weir, a Durham College Advertising program graduate. The 36-year-old Oshawa native is the creator and organizer of Hockey for Heart, a unique fundraising campaign that has generated increased support since it began as an event at a local arena 14 years ago.

Beginning February 2009, 10 Hockey for Heart tournaments are scheduled to take place throughout Ontario, running across the province from London to Ottawa. Building on the initial tournament's success, Weir began working full time last year to co-ordinate 10 more. All of the proceeds of the Hockey for Heart campaign go directly to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

The impetus for Hockey for Heart sprang from Weir's personal experience. During a shinny hockey game in 1993, Weir rushed to his father Roger Weir's side when he collapsed on the ice. He passed away moments later after suffering a massive heart attack.

While struggling to deal with the loss of his dad, Weir decided to organize a hockey tournament to honour his memory. It was a small tournament that took place at the Blackstock Arena in Blackstock, Ontario, the very arena where his father died. The tournament was a fun day of pledges and hockey, with each team being evaluated and awarded points based on winning games, playing fair and fundraising. Generating a small, yet significant contribution of \$1,200 was an encouraging push to make it an annual event.

"It was a way for me to make something positive come out of a really traumatic event," said Weir.

Immediately he began to anticipate the next tournament and set his sights on recruiting more teams. With the help of famous hockey players such as Peter Conacher, Brian MacFarlane and Rob Pearson, who donated their time to play hockey against the top fundraisers, the tournament began to really take off. More people became involved, including his mother Louise Weir, who from the start organized a silent auction and autograph-signing in conjunction with the games. Eventually the tournament was moved to the Iroquois Park Sports Centre in Whitby, Ontario to accommodate more teams.

During the 13 years the tournament has taken place in Whitby, it has raised over \$437,000 for heart and stroke research. In addition to this, the original roster of four teams has since expanded to 33.

The tournament has grown bigger and better and in recent years attracted such names as Darryl Sittler, Johnny Bower and Wendel Clark. Together with the help of hockey players, fundrais-



Former Toronto Maple Leafs player, Wendel Clark, prepares to shoot on Ian Ticknor, the goaltender for the top fundraising team for 2007-2008. Clark is the newest addition to the Pro Stars team, volunteering at the tournament for the first time last year.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ROGER HALLETT

ers and volunteers, Hockey for Heart is becoming a well-known event and touching many lives along the way.

"It has just been an amazing journey," said Louise Weir. "It's really exciting and it's basically going to take right off. There's just no doubt about it. Everybody loves hockey."

Each tournament has given Weir the chance to meet people who have gone through similar circumstances. Listening to their stories and being able to relate drives his inspiration and the donations he has helped raise have contributed to heart and stroke research, health promotion and recovery treatments.

In Winter 2007, Weir approached the Heart and Stroke Foundation with a proposal to increase the contributions saying "Look, I think this could work in other locations". The foundation agreed, so they hired him on as a consultant to run three more tournaments in Hamilton, Barrie and Toronto."

"Rob's passion is the driving source of his success, not only as a tribute to his father, but also as a dedication toward the cause," said Jennifer Stone, the area co-ordinator for the Whitby Heart and Stroke Foundation. "His hard work and drive to succeed is going to make his vision become a reality."

Each tournament has either met or exceeded its target goal. In turn, an additional \$85,000 has been raised, bringing the total to \$522,000 since 1995.

"From the 10 tournaments, we're aiming to raise over \$340,000. That's my target on paper, but I'm hopeful we will get to the \$1-million mark. To be able to say that Hockey for Heart has raised \$1 million would be my ultimate dream."

With the way things are going, he may be able to say that very soon. After all, for Weir helping others isn't just a hobby, it's his job.

For more information visit www.hockeyforheart.com.

ANIMATING THEIR WAY TO GOLD

by Iman Saad

WE'RE TOLD DON'T PUT ALL YOUR eggs in one basket, but Durham College Animation students Robert Strickland and Nick Cirinna managed to do just that and come away with a gold medal from the Skills Canada Animation Contest last spring.

Five teams of students arrived at the national competition, held at the University of Waterloo, and were challenged to create a 60-second animation based on the phrase don't put all of your eggs in one basket. Staff from Keyframe Animation Studios judged the results.

The Durham College duo illustrated the phrase by animating a character walking up to a pile of boxes marked fragile. The character looks up and down at the boxes and bends down to pick them all up at once. He stands up, wobbling, then falls to the ground, dropping all of the boxes. Gold medalist Cirinna came up with the idea for the animation, while Strickland, who has always had a personal passion for animation and drawing cartoons, contributed to its creative aspect.

"A win at a national skills competition

looks good on a resumé," said Strickland. "The hands-on aspect of the competition is a chance for students to show off their talent and ability to work as a team. It gives you a feel for what working under pressure for a company would be like," he said.

Strickland has been cartooning since he was a child. "Ever since I was a little boy I have loved every aspect of animation and cartoon design," he said. "I used to sit in math class and sketch cartoon characters. It has always been a passion of mine."

One day Strickland hopes to be hired by a leading company such as DreamWorks Animation SKG, Pixar Animation Studios or Vancouver-based Rainmaker Entertainment.

The two students attribute their win to program co-ordinator Christopher Gould and other Durham College faculty.

"Overall, it was a great experience," said Strickland. "All of the teachers were a tremendous help." The advice he found most useful was keep it short and simple.

Gould, who is not only a mentor but also a director, producer and editor of film,

animation and a television series, worked with other Animation professors to prepare two teams for the competition. Faculty stayed after classes and worked on weekends to do mock competitions with the teams. They came up with practice phrases and set strict timelines so students could rehearse what they would have to do in the competition.

Gould calls the competition a thinking game.

"The biggest obstacle was coming up with an idea on the spot and making it work," said Gould. He went on to say that winning gives the gold medalists bragging rights.

"This is a great competition for students to partake in and shine at what they love to do," he said. "After all, they can say they are the best in Ontario."



Robert Strickland and Nick Cirinna, Animation students and recent gold medal winners, play with eggs in reference to the phrase, don't put all of your eggs in one basket. The phrase led to their success at the Skills Canada Animation Contest.

PHOTO BY IMAN SAAD



Durham College graduate Kristi Honey received an Alumnus of Distinction Award – Business for her career achievements.

SUCCESS IS SWEET AS HONEY

by Nicole Gibson

IN 2004, KRISTI HONEY GRADUATED from the two-year Business program at Durham College on the Dean's List and President's Honour Roll. As a student, Honey worked full time at a Markham-based consulting firm while finishing her studies part time. Now her hard work has paid off.

"Attending Durham College was a wonderful opportunity to gain hands-on experience and deal with real-world scenarios," said Honey, who is now president of Summit Group Software and Dynamic Trainers Incorporated. "It was also a good chance to build lasting relationships with fellow students who have become dear friends."

Following her graduation from Durham College, Honey studied online at Athabasca University where she completed her Bachelor of Management degree in 2005. She also attained her Master of Business Administration degree from the University Canada West in 2007.

"I gained skills that I use daily," said

Honey. "In particular, I developed a foundation of skills in a variety of business areas such as marketing, human resources, operations and business communications, as well as taxation and accounting."

After the birth of her daughter, Honey created Lakeridge Consulting Services, presently named Summit Group Software. Today, she is also president of Dynamic Trainers Incorporated, another company that she established. Both companies supply businesses with learning opportunities and solid enterprise-level experience in software implementation and customization, project planning and management, upgrades, analysis consulting, post-implementation support and training.

In 2008, Honey received the Alumnus of Distinction Award – Business from Durham College for her business accomplishments.

Despite being president of two multimillion-dollar companies and the only person worldwide to be certified by Microsoft Corporation to deliver Microsoft Dynamic

Training Skills classes, Honey always manages to find time for herself and her family, the importance of which she has learned from her own mother and father, whom she admires fondly.

"They are two ambitious and driven people," she said. "They care about their family and inspire us to learn and challenge ourselves to do our best in all that we do."

When she is not at work or on the road, Honey also finds time for travelling, kickboxing and gardening, no doubt while contemplating which seeds of success to sow next.



PHOTO BY SARAH THOW

Barry Read graduated from the Sport Management program in 1977 and has been teaching at the college since 1986.



PHOTO BY SARAH THOW

Full-time Graphic Design Professor Pamela Colmer began working at the college as a technical support worker.

FROM CLASSROOM TO CLASSROOM

WHY A SURPRISING NUMBER OF DURHAM COLLEGE PROFESSORS ARE ALUMNI

by Sarah Thow

WHEN KEVAN DRINKWALTER GRADUATED FROM THE Advertising program at Durham College in 1987 he never expected to return and despite encouragement to consider a career as a professor, he swore he would never teach. Drinkwalter has had to eat his words, having been at the front of a classroom for the last 14 years, and he wouldn't have it any other way.

"Durham College graduates seem to do well in the hiring process because they know the organizational environment, the value system and key people," said Ken Robb, vice-president of Human Resources at Durham College. "They also come with valuable skills that the college respects, so it makes sense to hire them back wherever possible."

According to Lori Connor, the college's alumni officer, approximately 30 professors at the college are also Durham College graduates. Four such alumni-turned-professors share why they find working at the college a rewarding experience.

Kevan Drinkwalter, a Pickering native, began his professional career in the advertising industry with Maclean Hunter Publishing (now known as Rogers Media) in the heart of Toronto, Ontario. After working for several years in graphic printing and advertising promotions, he realized that to advance in the industry he needed to return to school.

For him, Durham College was the obvious choice because the reputation of the Advertising program and its location.

He excelled in the program. After graduating in 1987, he kept in

close touch with program co-ordinator Bill Merriott, who invited him speak to first-year students about his professional success each year. When the department became short-staffed, Drinkwalter agreed to help out on a part-time basis as a personal favour to Merriott.

"I never wanted to teach," said Drinkwalter. "It didn't interest me at all but after the second class, I was hooked. I needed more, I wanted to do more and I couldn't understand why I wasn't doing this so much earlier. Since then, I have never looked back."

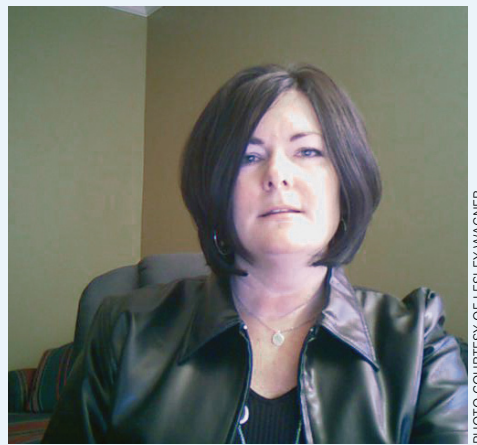
Similarly, Pam Colmer, a Graphic Design professor with the School of Media, Art & Design, chose Durham College for her post-secondary studies based on the program and the location. In 1988, a young and ambitious graduate, she returned to the school to run the Macintosh computer technical support office and become a part-time instructor by 1990. After more than a decade, Colmer continues to teach, now as a full-time professor.

Like Drinkwalter, Colmer also made strong personal connections with her professors while studying at Durham College. She remembers a certain instructor who made learning enjoyable and who had a big impact on her as a student.

"Brian Mudd was very charismatic, a bit of a character and almost like a father figure," said Colmer. "I actually had the chance to teach alongside him as he only retired about nine years ago. He made learning fun, which was such a dramatic change from high school. Really, when I was a student here, all of my teachers were great."



Kevan Drinkwalter poses in front of Bill Magazine, the publication he founded after his once professor and now colleague Bill Merriott.



Lesley Wagner from the School of Justice & Emergency Services has been a full-time professor with the college since 2002.

Sport Management professor Barry Read also found himself returning to the college to teach in the program he graduated from in 1977. Read began his post-secondary education in Ottawa, Ontario at Algonquin College, where he enrolled in the three-year Recreation Facilities Management program. Looking to further his studies after graduation he came across the Sports Administration program at Durham College which, at the time, was the only one in the country offered at the college-level.

After graduating, he landed a job with the Toronto Argonauts Football Club and from there made a cross-country career move to work in the Athletic department at the University of Victoria. He kept in close touch with his mentors from Durham College and jumped at the chance to teach in the Sports Administration program in 1986.

Read is quick to remember three professors who taught valuable lessons about the industry while motivating students to actually want to come to class and participate in the dynamic learning process. Don Fraser was responsible for encouraging Read to apply for the teaching position back in the summer of 1986 and Dave Skinner made a significant impression on him in terms of motivating students to successfully carve out a career in the industry. Read also speaks of Professor Bill Derby as a wealth of information who imparted valuable knowledge to his students in every class. Today, Read's tips for success reflect those of his predecessors.

"I strongly suggest to students that in an academic environment we are sometimes preoccupied with grades, which does not necessarily apply to the industry," said Read. "A strong work ethic, being a good citizen, being ethical and having a genuine passion for what you're doing, in addition to the knowledge and expertise that you gain through your experiences along the way. These are all

factors that can really propel you to do great things in the workforce."

Lesley Wagner, who graduated from the Legal Administration/Law Clerk program in 1985, couldn't agree more. Her advice to students is, "It's the soft skills and your enthusiasm to start your career that will really assist you in getting the job that you want."

Wagner's story is much the same as Drinkwalter's. After living the big-city lifestyle in downtown Toronto she moved back to Durham Region to spend time with her family. Wagner first returned to the college as a guest lecturer for the Career Fair and then for the Legal Administration/Law Clerk program. Before long she was offered a part-time teaching contract. Today, after teaching full time since 2002, she wouldn't choose to work anywhere else.

In addition, Wagner notes that the legal studies section of the School of Justice & Emergency Services maintains a special status compared to other colleges within the province. For example, Durham College is currently the only college in the province to offer the brand new Court Support Services program and the three-year Law Clerk program.

Something that all four of these graduates agree is their hope for Durham College's future.

"My hope is that Durham will continue to grow and keep up with the high-reputation that it has maintained," said Wagner. "I would like to see the college maintain the integrity of its programs and ensure that the student experience is rewarding, not only from an academic standpoint."

Drinkwalter added, "I hope for continued success. We are a well-established institution today within the community and the industries. Most important is to remember and honour the great people that got us where we are today."



Gary Heagle, recipient of the 2008 Alumnus of Distinction Award – Technology

AS MOUNTAIN BIKES WHIP AROUND corners through the Ganaraska Forest and squirrels dash for cover, a call booms through the trees, "All riders have passed the checkpoint!" The voice over the loud-speaker belongs to Gary Heagle, the 2008 Durham College Alumnus of Distinction – Technology Award recipient.

When not hanging out in the woods, Heagle has enjoyed quite a successful and interesting career. Like his father, he gained employment with Bell Canada after graduating from Durham College. Not only did he graduate from the Electronic Techniques program in 1978, but also the Electronic Technology program in 1980. With his electrical skills, Heagle has

TECHNOLOGY INSPIRES

by Jake Brown

worked hard on the design of both global and domestic networks throughout the years – very hard.

"He's such a hard worker," said his wife, Gisella Heagle. "He's a great father, he's dedicated and basically a very well-rounded person."

While employed with Bell Canada, Heagle worked on a project that involved the Eden Musicfest rock concert held in July 1996. During the three-day event, he was in charge of the design and maintenance of the live feed for the concert. He didn't only use his skills in electronics for video use; he was also very experienced in audio.

That, combined with his love of technology, led him to another passion – radio. A licensed amateur radio operator since 1975, Heagle uses his skills to assist with charities such as CIBC's Run for the Cure and the Annual Enduro Mountain Bike Race which raises money for the Canadian Mental Health Association.

To this day, Heagle is involved with Durham College as its liaison for the

Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists (OACETT) and is an active program advisory committee member for the engineering programs. For his extraordinary contributions to the community and the college, Heagle was presented with the Alumnus of Distinction Award – Technology.

"I was very excited when I heard that I had won the award, it is quite an honour," he said. "I enjoy helping out with charity events. It gives you a chance to work with a hobby you love, while providing a service to the community."

No longer employed with Bell Canada, Heagle has aspirations to someday teach in an Electronics Technology program as he did at Durham College before moving forward with Bell Canada in 1983. Mostly, he hopes to inspire students with the lessons he has learned since the college launched his career. His message to them is simple.

"The sky's the limit," Heagle said. "It's an old expression but it's still true."



Discover → Learn → Succeed

Thinking about taking your career or education to the next level? At Durham College we offer a variety of graduate certificates that provide you with the opportunity to further your knowledge and credentials in a specialized field.

- Addictions and Mental Health;
- Advanced Law Enforcement and Investigations;
- Court and Tribunal Agent (Paralegal);
- Critical Care Nursing (E-learning);
- Emergency Management;
- Human Resources;
- Paramedic – Advanced Care (distance delivery);
- Paramedic – Advanced Care;
- Sport Business Management; and
- Youth Corrections and Interventions.

For information call 905.721.3000 or visit www.durhamcollege.ca.

A TRIBUTE TO NUMBER 15

by Mackinley Cockburn



The late Durham College basketball star Bonnie Slaughter was a formidable scoring champion when she was on the court.

WHEN BONNIE SLAUGHTER, A FORMER Durham Lords basketball player and Durham College alumna, was on the court she was a formidable scoring champion. Last spring she passed away suddenly and to honour her memory, the college has retired her Number 15 jersey and painted it on a gymnasium wall.

Recognized for her various sports achievements, Slaughter was named a Canadian Colleges Athletic Association (CCAA) All-Canadian and still sits at third place as the all-time Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) highest scorer. During her career as a varsity basketball player Slaughter was titled the East Region scoring champion for the 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 seasons. She also holds the record for the most three-pointers in one season, with a total of 43 and the most free throws in a season, with a total of 96.

"For Bonnie basketball always came first," said Craig Andrews, a professor at Durham College and Slaughter's friend and former coach. "She lived and breathed the game and put in more hours and more time than any other player. She dedicated everything to the game and it showed through her exceptional skill and recognition."

Slaughter was a key member of the women's team and often led the ladies through hard times with her strong personality and charisma. Her love for the game did not stop after her career at Durham College ended. Slaughter became a coach with the women's basketball program at Sir Sandford Fleming College in Peterborough, Ontario from 2005 to 2007. She went on to assist with coaching the men's program at Fleming with her fiancé Bill Crowdis. She was always passionate about the game of basketball and displayed that passion in all areas of her life, from

"For Bonnie basketball always came first," said Andrews. "She lived and breathed the game. She put in more hours and more time than any other player."

athletics to her family.

"Bonnie was a talented, great leader who lived life on the edge as a non-conformist," said Andrews. "If I was to compare her to a familiar face in athletics it would definitely be Allen Iverson of the Detroit Pistons."

Slaughter's passing has impacted everyone who knew her. The college dedicated the 2008-2009 basketball season to her memory and the current women's basketball team is wearing commemorative patches displaying her Number 15 on their jerseys this season in her honour.

Her passion is what truly separated her from the crowd and allowed her to create an exceptional varsity basketball career for herself. In addition to Crowdis, Slaughter is survived by their two-year-old son.

"I would love to see him pursue life with passion just like his mother," said Andrews.



Mike Duggan took a lion safari while in Sun City, South Africa. Duggan was in South Africa as an assistant coach for Team Canada at the 2008 World University Golf Championship.

LIONS, TIGERS AND GOLF

NOTHING COULD
BE BETTER FOR
MIKE DUGGAN

by Leah Gabriel

IT'S GETTING HARD TO KEEP SCORE OF all of Mike Duggan's accomplishments over the last 19 years at Durham College, but after most recently being selected as the assistant coach of Team Canada at the 2008 World University Golf Championship in Sun City, South Africa, it is clear that Duggan knows first-hand the meaning of pride.

Not only did he get to coach his signature sport on the Dark Continent, he had the opportunity to do some serious sightseeing. He experienced what most people never will in their lifetime including going on a safari and visiting a lion sanctuary where he had the chance to hold a four-month-old lion cub and drive in an open-aired jeep beside a white rhinoceros.

"South Africa really makes you realize how much we live in a bubble," Duggan said about his experience at last September's championship. "It was out of this world, the trip of a lifetime."

Duggan also has the job of a lifetime, having coached the Durham Lords varsity golf team for 11 years. In addition, he is Durham College's athletic co-ordinator and in 1999 brought the golf program back to the college. At one point, Duggan was coaching the Durham Lords' women's basketball team but golf and basketball ended up being too much for him at once. He quit coaching basketball and decided to stick with coaching golf, his true passion.

Aside from coaching in the sport, Duggan helped start the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association (CCAA) and the National Colleges Championship for golf, which have been running strong for the past eight years. After teeing off in Vancouver, British Columbia, the CCAA grew enough to have Ping Canada as its title sponsor. This is the first year it will be going to Prince Edward Island for the finals.

"If I leave the school today, that will be part of my legacy," said Duggan.



Human Resources graduate Vanessa Hughes climbed the corporate ladder at Ontario Power Generation and is currently a manager in the Public Relations department for its nuclear division.

THE POWER OF PR

by Ashley Ruth

“I guess the one thing that was so great about the HR course at Durham was that, not only did it get you ready for a career in HR, it also provided great foundation skills that were transferable to any career.”

VANESSA HUGHES GIVES A WHOLE NEW MEANING TO THE word power when it comes to her career. The 1990 Human Resources (HR) graduate is an 18-year veteran of Ontario Power Generation (OPG).

For the last five years she has worked as a Public Relations (PR) manager for the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station dealing with all areas of PR, from strategic planning to representing OPG at community events. She’s been involved with the Terry Fox Run, Clarington Winter WonderLearn, the Courtice Kids of Steel Triathlon, Clarington’s Earth Day Clean-up and tree planting with the Scouts in Durham Region. Hughes is also a devoted director on the Clarington Board of Trade and a member of the Clarington Living Green Committee.

For the past year she has specialized in PR management for nuclear development at OPG, where its nuclear generator is responsible for meeting more than half of Ontario’s electricity needs. Her job involves being part of a team that manages all nuclear communications, both internally and externally for the company. She is excited that OPG is currently undergoing an environmental assessment to build a new nuclear plant.

“There are some very positive signs that we are moving towards doing that, and if that is the case, that is going to be a tremendously exciting project for the whole region,” she said.

Last year the Darlington station won one of the top nuclear industry awards from around the world for its outstanding safety and performance. The senior vice-president felt a strong communications and community relations program contributed to winning, so he invited Hughes to accompany him to Atlanta, Georgia to receive the award. He chose her as one of the representatives to attend the awards ceremony based on her dedication to OPG and her close involvement with the community. Hughes was honoured to travel alongside her boss as only a few employees were chosen to attend.

Hughes enjoys working in the same community where she currently resides. It has opened many doors to networking possibilities for her on committees and at events that she regularly attends.

“I’ve been able to still work in Durham Region, where I live, and I have met so many people in the community. It is really rewarding,” said the Whitby, Ontario resident.

Hughes started working for OPG almost two decades ago in the HR department, focusing on labour relations, staffing and benefit counselling. Her interest in communications resulted in her switching to PR.

Currently studying to obtain her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology degree through night courses and online, she said her future goal is to one day be accredited by the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC). Hughes believes having an educational background in HR has opened many doors for her.

“I guess the one thing that was so great about the HR course at Durham was that, not only did it get you ready for a career in HR, it also provided great foundation skills that are transferable to any career,” said Hughes.

PUMPING GOLD

by Leann Turner



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE VAN LEEUWEN

Machinist student Mike Van Leeuwen works hard at building the balloon pump that helped him win gold at the National Skills Competition last year.

AS THE SUN RISES IN NEWMARKET, Ontario, another busy day begins for Mike Van Leeuwen. With a coffee in hand and a smile on his face, he dashes to his new, yellow Pontiac, eager to get to work. With a gold medal win under his belt and the happiness of knowing that he is employed at a job he enjoys, the former Durham College Machinist student can't help but smile.

As a licensed machinist, Van Leeuwen has climbed many steps to get where he is today. In June 2008, he won both the provincial and national skills competitions, hosted by Skills Canada, a non-profit organization that works to promote

skilled trades and technology among young Canadians. Van Leeuwen's success meant he was able to bring home Durham College's first-ever gold medal from the competition.

"We had to build a balloon pump and we had 12 hours to make it," said Van Leeuwen. "I only had a couple minutes left at the end. It was between seven of us and I figured I came dead last. They called a name and it wasn't me, then another that wasn't me either and then for the gold – Mike Van Leeuwen. I did not expect to win at all. I was very surprised."

After graduating from the Durham College Machinist Apprenticeship program,

Van Leeuwen began working for a bottle labelling company called SPS/Phin Labellers. He is doing what he loves and hoping for an even brighter future.

"In 10 years I hope that I will be teaching," he said. "I want to teach high school shop in manufacturing technology. Of course that's providing I get into a teachers college. If not, I will still continue to work as a machinist."

Van Leeuwen has many goals and looks forward to a successful future. Given his recent gold-medal showings, that certainly seems likely.



TURN YOUR COLLEGE DIPLOMA INTO A DEGREE AT UOIT

Did you know that you can turn your college diploma into a degree in as little as two years at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT)?

Diploma to degree programs are available in Business, Criminology and Justice, Allied Health Sciences and Nursing, expanding your career opportunities upon graduation.

To learn more about UOIT's unique diploma to degree programs visit www.uoit.ca/pathways or e-mail admissions@uoit.ca.

To apply, visit the Ontario Universities' Application Centre at www.ouac.on.ca. Application deadline: May 1, 2009.

UNIVERSITY OF ONTARIO INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
2000 Simcoe Street North, Oshawa, ON L1H 7K4 www.uoit.ca



LORD OF THE COURT HANGS UP HIS CROWN

by Meighen Thompson

THE WORD LEGEND IS ONLY FITTING for an elite few – those who are passionate, committed and truly driven are worthy of the label – and Stan Marchut, Durham College's first and only women's volleyball coach, is such a man.

But after 24 years on the bench, this volleyball prodigy has decided to hang up his gym bag and leave his coaching career behind him.

After joining the school's roster in 1984, Marchut wasted little time making his mark as a truly indispensable asset to the Athletics department at Durham College. Let's just say Marchut knows his way around the court. With an impressive 357 wins under his belt, he rightfully possesses the title of dean of women's volleyball for the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA).

Inducted into Durham College's Hall of Fame in 2001, Marchut has an impressive track record. He has been named Coach of the Year seven times by the OCAA. In his 24 years at the college, his team has never missed the playoffs and only failed to qualify for the OCAA championships once. He led his teams to four provincial championship titles and 10 provincial medals. He is undoubtedly the most successful coach in OCAA women's volleyball history.

Over the years, Marchut has made a lasting impression on a vast number of people. One of them, former volleyball player Raya Matthie, knows she will carry the lessons she learned from Marchut with her for years to come.

"Stan improved me as much as a person as he did a player," said Matthie. "He was as much a mental coach as he was a physical coach. He absolutely loved



Stan Marchut, a Durham College legend who coached the Durham Lords women's volleyball team for 24 years, retired in 2008 with 357 wins under his belt.

coaching and helping people improve their skills. He always wanted to make everyone's college experience a good one and he was willing to do anything in his power to make that happen."

Shane Christopher, Marchut's successor, knows that he has big shoes to fill. With the skills he has attained from working with Marchut as an assistant coach, he is sure that he can lead the team to similar success.

"Stan taught me that sometimes you have to be patient and be able to relax and let the athletes grow and mature," said Christopher. "Not all players are the same and if you put them in the right situations, you can help them to be successful. Patience and respect are the keys to success. Stan built and made Durham

volleyball what it is. I thank him for letting me work with him and learn from him for the past four years. It's been an honour."

As for the teacher himself, after 24 years as lord of the court, Marchut looks forward to his retirement.

"It was hard for me to retire because volleyball was such a big part of my life for such a long time, but it was my time," he said. "I have two kids going to the University of Ontario Institute of Technology at the moment and it will be nice to spend some time with them." In the future, Marchut said he plans on perfecting his golf game and catching the odd women's volleyball game, of course.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE DURHAM COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING DEPARTMENT

DIVING INTO THE JOB

by Jake Brown

WHEN STEPHEN REYNOLDS WAS A young boy it was impossible to keep him away from the pool. Not much has changed since then.

An avid sports enthusiast and the recipient of the 2008 Durham College Alumnus of Distinction Award – Community Services, Reynolds had a deep passion for sports. Every part-time job he had in his youth related to swimming, whether it was as a lifeguard, a swim instructor or a pool supervisor.

It was no surprise that when Durham College started its Sports and Entertainment Administration program in 1972, Reynolds signed up and was part of the first graduating class in 1974.

"I had quite the recreational background. I was always active in sports like soccer, football, basketball, hockey and swimming," said Reynolds "The program was perfect for me. It helped me so much and I gained quite a bit of knowledge in the sports and

entertainment field."

Thirty-four years ago, right after Reynolds finished his final exam, he rushed directly over to the City of Pickering to apply for a full-time job. He was hired right away and was responsible for the management of the pool and the aquatic programs.

Over the years, Reynolds has been fortunate enough to be able to continue doing what he loves and works in all aspects of the city's facility and recreation programs. Currently, he is the division head of the Culture and Recreation department, where he is responsible for cultural and recreational development opportunities for the community, maintenance of facilities and the day-to-day leadership and administration of the department.

Meanwhile, he remains an active community member, involved with the Kiwanis Club of Whitby, St. Marks United



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEPHEN REYNOLDS

Stephen Reynolds, recipient of the 2008 Alumnus of Distinction Award – Community Services

Church, Big Brothers of Oshawa/Whitby and numerous other committees.

His biggest accomplishment to date is the Pickering Recreation Complex, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

Even with his busy schedule, Reynolds still has time to give back to the college that got him started. When the School of Business, IT & Management reviewed its Sports Administration program, Reynolds was invited to work with program co-ordinators on the advisory committee.

His plans for the future are to continue developing and improving projects and programs with the needs of the community in mind and making the facilities the best they can be.



sustain → renew → energize

Be part of the changing world of energy utilization and energy management.

ENERGY AUDIT TECHNIQUES

One-year Certificate

Energy auditors assess the performance and effectiveness related to energy use in residential, small commercial and industrial buildings, recommending ways to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of systems related to energy use.

RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNICIAN

Two-year Diploma

Graduates are skilled professionals in this growing field of renewable, sustainable, and alternative energy solutions and are qualified to install, repair and maintain renewable energy systems, such as solar power, wind power and ground source heat pumps.

For more information on these programs call 905.721.3000 or visit www.durhamcollege.ca.

CUNNINGHAM REWIRES TEACHING

by Sarah Wight

TOM CUNNINGHAM PUTS ELECTRICITY back into the classroom. He is not only an innovator in teaching but an avid fighter for student's rights and interactive learning.

Cunningham has been an Electrical professor with Durham College's School of Applied Sciences, Apprenticeship, Skilled Trades & Technology for 25 years, but that's not how his teaching career began. Prior to accepting a position at the college, he was a journeyman who became involved with the Joint Apprenticeship Council, where he taught failing apprentices to grasp more difficult concepts.

Cunningham takes a unique approach to teaching. He strongly believes that you learn from people all around you and that you can do so in the classroom as well. He encourages interactive learning and hands-on concepts. In addition, he demonstrates to his students the importance of earning rights in society. Cunningham has an exceptional understanding of his students and builds close relationships with them.

"I'm passionate about the students," said Cunningham. "I'm passionate about how they learn and about how they react within the community."

He also recognizes that students have different needs and uses communication to meet these needs. Cunningham's students all have his home number and can call him anytime. One of his most memorable moments includes talking to a student in police custody for intoxication at 2 a.m. The student was more concerned about missing Cunningham's test than he was about being at the police station.

On September 5, he was presented with the provincial Leadership in Faculty Teaching (LIFT) Award by Northumberland-Quinte West MPP Lou Rinaldi, in Warkworth, Ontario. The award recognizes and encourages teaching excellence at Ontario's colleges and universities. Friend and Durham College colleague Rodney Deline nominated him for the award.

"I'm humbled," Cunningham said of the award. "I think that it means I'm doing something right with my class. My students are learning and have respect for me."

Over 400 people were nominated for the provincial award. Cunningham was one of 100 winners and is also the first teacher at Durham College to win the award. It includes a plaque, a pin and \$20,000 to be used over a two-year period to encourage continued excellence in the classroom setting.

For Cunningham, the LIFT Award only reinforces that he is on the right track in the classroom. It has inspired him to try even more group work and active learning. The award stands as one of his most memorable moments in his teaching career, next to the successes of his students. To Cunningham, student success is very memorable and extremely rewarding.

Cunningham continues to teach at Durham College while working toward his Master of Arts in Education degree through Central Michigan University.

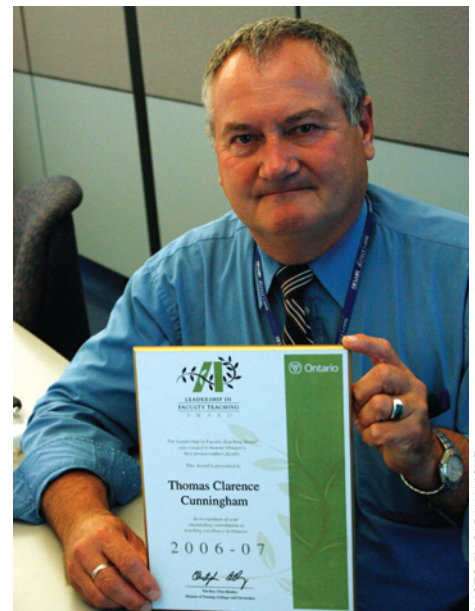


PHOTO BY SARAH WIGHT

Tom Cunningham is the recipient of the 2007 Leadership in Faculty Teaching Award for his innovative teaching methods. The award includes \$20,000 to be used over a two-year period to encourage continued excellence in the classroom setting.



PHOTO BY SARAH WIGHT

ALUMNI UPDATE

1980

KIMBERLEY ALLEN-MCGILL (Public Relations) resides in Ottawa, Ontario with her husband Bob and her two children, 15-year-old Reaghan and 13-year-old Murray. Allen-McGill is presently working as a director of Publishing for the Bank of Canada.

1983

GORETE BIRD (nee Mata) (Nursing) resides in Oshawa, Ontario with her husband Tim and 16-year-old daughter Sara Marie. Bird is a registered mental health nurse at Lakeridge Health Oshawa.

1985

ANDREW CIESLIK (Civil Techniques) resides in Courtice, Ontario. He is presently employed by The Miller Group as a supervisor.

CHRISTINE REID (nee Gallas) (Dental Hygiene) resides in Oshawa, Ontario with her husband David and three children, 20-year-old Tracy, 19-year-old Terry and 16-year-old Robert. Reid works as a dental hygienist for Dr. G. Wilson and her daughter is currently attending Durham College.

1987

SUSAN GIBBS (nee Hood) (Business – Marketing) resides in Whitby, Ontario with her husband Todd and eight-year-old daughter Grace.

SHERRY CURRIE (nee Reece) (Journalism) resides in Pickering, Ontario with her husband Don and two children, 12-year-old Rhys and eight-year-old Sherry. Currie works for Brady Canada as a quotations supervisor.

1991

MICHAEL CHURCHILL (Sports Administration) resides in New Baltimore, Michigan with his wife Amy and two children, nine-year-old Caitlyn and four-month-old Ethan. Churchill is presently working as the director of Park Operations for the Detroit Tigers.

1994

GREGORY RENNIE (Law and Security) resides in Oshawa, Ontario. Rennie works as a surveillance supervisor for the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation.

GARY GATTIE (Civil Engineering Technology) resides in Oshawa, Ontario with his wife Tamara and two children, 12-year-old Robert and seven-year-old Jordyn.

1995

DAN BLAKE (Advertising) resides in Oshawa, Ontario with his wife Catherine and six-year-old daughter Kayla. Blake currently works as a material handler for Siemens Canada.

1996

ALEXIS STARLING (nee Gale) (Business Administration – Accounting) resides in Brooklin, Ontario with her husband Grant and two children, 16-year-old Blake and 18-year-old Lucas. Starling and her husband own G Star Pools Ltd. in Brooklin, Ontario. Both of her sons plan to attend Durham College in the near future.

1997

ROBERT ELLIOTT (Building Maintenance) resides in Bancroft, Ontario with his wife Jocelyn. Elliot has two children, 28-year-old Jessie and 37-year-old Danny. He recently retired from the Durham District School Board and is furthering his education at Loyalist College in Belleville, Ontario.

1998

TODD GIBBS (Business Administration – Operations Management) resides in Whitby, Ontario with his wife Susan and eight-year-old daughter Grace. Gibbs is employed by Celestica as an inventory analyst.

SCOTT BERNIER (Business Administration – Operations Management) resides in Courtice, Ontario with his wife Sandy Bernier (Business Administration – Human Resources) and two children, three-year-old daughter Alexis and six-month-old daughter Sydney. He is employed by the Toronto Hydro Corporation as a supervisor and just started his own chocolate business.

2002

JEFF BECK (Sports Administration) resides in Oshawa, Ontario with his wife Lisa, (nee Robichaud) who graduated from the Human Services Counsellor program in 2002 and two children, four-year-old Kaity and one-year-old Noah. Beck works as a customer delivery specialist for Telus.

KEVIN LINDSAY (Mould Maker Apprenticeship) resides in Caledonia, Ontario with his wife Shannon. He is presently employed by Amhil Enterprises as a lead hand.

SARA SHORT (nee Gordon) (Early Childhood Education) resides in Oshawa, Ontario with her husband Ken and 19-month-old daughter Abagayle. Short works for the Durham District School Board as an educational assistant.

2004

JUSTIN CHRISTIE (Multimedia Design) resides in Oshawa, Ontario with his wife Joeline. He is employed as a multimedia specialist with Durham College and the University of Ontario Institute of Technology.

LINDSAY CARTER (Public Relations) resides in Toronto, Ontario. Carter works as the co-ordinator of Marketing Services for Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment.

2005

CAMERON ACKERBLADE (Business – Accounting) resides in Oshawa, Ontario with his wife Elizabeth and 20-month-old son Eric. Ackerblade works as a financial services manager with the Bank of Montreal.

MICHAEL KANYO (Multimedia Design) resides in Bradford, Ontario. He is an interactive designer with Torstar Digital.

2006

SHERYL MCCOY (Office Administration – Executive) resides in Oshawa, Ontario with her 14-year-old daughter Kayla. McCoy works as an administrative assistant for Bellwood Health Services.

2007

LISA POWER (Journalism – Print and Broadcast) resides in Toronto, Ontario. Power works for rock-it promotions as a publicist.

2008

Mike Nichols (Electronics Engineering Technology) resides in Barrie, Ontario. Nichols works as a display support technician for Hydro One.



ALUMNI HEALTH & DENTAL INSURANCE

**With guaranteed acceptance plans,
you have one less worry on your mind.**

In these times of economic slowdown, you could get fast approval for medical bills not covered by your provincial health plan. With no medical exams required and for only dollars a day, the Alumni Health & Dental Insurance not only helps you beat rising health care costs, your premiums may also be tax deductible if you're self-employed or a small business owner!

Speak to a licensed agent at **1-866-842-5757**.



alumni association

**What will life
teach you?**

manulife.com/durham/health

Underwritten by:

 **Manulife Financial**

The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company

HOME and AUTO INSURANCE

for alumni, faculty and staff of Durham College

Insurance program in partnership with:



alumni association

Say
Goodbye
to your
Deductible



"This is my SOLUTION."

As a partner of **Durham College**, TD Insurance Meloche Monnex offers you **high-quality home and auto insurance products, preferred group rates and exceptional service.**



Being involved in an accident or falling victim to theft can be very stressful. Get added peace of mind by adding our NEW **Goodbye Deductible™** protection to your automobile policy. That way, you'll have ZERO deductible to pay in the event of an eligible claim. We will handle all covered expenses from start to finish. Contact us to add this feature to your policy today!

Enjoy savings through
PREFERRED GROUP RATES:



Insurance

Meloche Monnex

MelocheMonnex.com/durhamcollege

1 866 352 6187

The TD Insurance Meloche Monnex home and auto insurance program is underwritten by SECURITY NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY and distributed by Meloche Monnex Insurance Financial Services Inc. in Québec and by Meloche Monnex Financial Services Inc. in the rest of Canada.

Due to provincial legislation, our auto insurance program is not offered in British Columbia, Manitoba or Saskatchewan. TD Insurance is a trademark of The Toronto-Dominion Bank used under license. Meloche Monnex®, and Goodbye Deductible™ are trademarks of Meloche Monnex Inc.