Blues defeat Waterloo on gridiron

BY MARY BETH CHALLONER

The U of T Varsity Blues football team ended their 49-game losing streak as they defeated the Waterloo Warriors 18-17 on Labour Day at Varsity Centre. The Warriors were up 9-1 in the third quarter when Scarborough, Ont., native Matthew Morris returned a kick off for 92 yards. Two plays later, a Mark Stinson touchdown pulled the Blues within one.

Waterloo responded minutes later when Evan Martin connected on a beautiful 19-yard pass to Joshua Svec for his second touchdown of the game, putting Waterloo up 17-8.

The Blues did not give up and with 2:39 remaining in the fourth quarter, Toronto receiver Drew Meerveld caught a touchdown pass through traffic from quarterback David Hamilton to narrow the gap to 17-15.

Hamilton kept the fire going as he found Michael Prempich for a big 35-yard gain, his longest toss of the night, to put the Blues in field goal range. First-year kicker Andrew Lomasney stepped up under pressure and knocked in a 32-yard field goal with 26.2 seconds remaining in the game to put the Varsity Blues up by one.

The final seconds of the game were • • •

Pilot program enables Seneca students to transfer to U of T

BY KIM LUKE

An innovative new agreement between the Faculty of Arts and Science at the University of Toronto and Seneca College will enable students who begin their studies at Seneca to transfer after their diploma to complete a university degree at U of T. The initiative reflects U of T’s commitment to improving flexibility and mobility for students in Ontario’s post-secondary system through a transparent, seamless transfer arrangement.

“Community colleges and universities have co-existed with very separate mandates and it has been difficult for students to move from one to the other,” said Glenn Loney, assistant dean and registrar for the Faculty of Arts and Science at U of T. “We have done a careful assessment and believe that Seneca students who have completed a diploma in liberal arts have already done university-level work and should be given credit for it. This program will allow them to transfer into some of U of T’s related humanities and social science programs and get credit for their college work.”

Under the terms of the agreement, specific transfer credits will be granted based on curricular similarity between U of T courses and those in Seneca’s liberal arts diploma program. Students will also get credit for more general skills and knowledge acquired in the course of their diplomas. Seneca students will be able to get up to six transfer credits for their college work when they transfer to U of T after obtaining their two-year liberal arts diploma.

Students in the program will be affiliated with Woodsworth College, which has excellent advising and academic support in place and is well known for its interest in and expertise with non-traditional students. “As students make this transition to university, U of T’s focus will be to ensure the students’ success,” said Cheryl Shook, registrar of Woodsworth College.

The project will provide advising and orientation to U of T’s academic expectations for those students who show interest in attending U of T early in the Seneca program. Students showing academic promise will also have the opportunity to enrol as non-degree visiting students and take one or two courses in the Faculty of Arts and Science while they are still doing their Seneca program, giving them a

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The top and sidebar art on the front page are composed of images taken on the St. George campus during Frosh 2008.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Another academic year ...

is upon us, and we hope the Bulletin will be your companion throughout the coming months. Just as faculty members are constantly updating their course materials and finding new ways to engage students, the Bulletin team is always looking for ways to make our publication more interesting and relevant to members of the university community. On page 5 you’ll find a feature we hope you’ll enjoy. Professor Cheryl Misak, our interim vice-president and provost, is the focus of the first installment of our 10 Questions With series, an opportunity to get a sense of the people who inhabit the senior administration. We plan to introduce you to each of them in the coming months.

During the year, we’ll be bringing you a variety of feature packages on topics that will relate to your area of study, such as globalization, blogging and food. Our current issue features back-to-school stories (pages 6-7), with pieces about new programs and new faculty. Our next edition will highlight aspects of mental health research and programming. At such a large university, it’s impossible to showcase every program or professor, but we hope to provide you with a feeling for the breadth and variety of the work that takes place at U of T.

Our writers have also chosen topics reflecting their own interests and they’ll be exploring each of them for four months at a time, culminating in a feature package at the end of each quarter. If you have suggestions for stories about student recruitment and outreach, the arts, public health, the environment, faculty-staff engagement, or cities, don’t hesitate to offer suggestions. Both Anjam Nayar and Tammy Thorne are keen to get more involved with these subjects.

In addition, you can look forward to some of our standards, such as the Forum, Events, the humorous He Said, She Said column and reviews of local restaurants. We strive to give you a good read while engaging you more deeply in your U of T community.

As always, feedback is welcome. I look forward to hearing from you.

Cheers,

Elaine

Elaine Smith
Editor
elaine.smith@utoronto.ca

AWARDS & HONOURS

FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

Professor Susan McCahan of mechanical and industrial engineering is the recipient of the American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE) Outstanding Campus Rep Award for Zone I in recognition of her dedicated support in student recruitment and membership activities. McCahan received the award June 25 at the society’s awards banquet during the annual conference in Pittsburgh. Pa. Founded in 1893, ASEE is a non-profit organization committed to furthering education in engineering and engineering technology.

INSTITUTE OF BIOMATERIALS & BIOENGINEERING

Professor Julie Audet has been selected to receive a 2008 National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression Young Investigator Award. NARSAD, the world’s leading charity dedicated to mental health research, created the award to help the most promising scientists who are now entering research to generate pilot data necessary for larger grants. Announced Aug. 5, the award amounts to $60,000 over the next two years.

ROTMAN SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

Keith Ambachtsheer, director of the Rotman International Centre for Pension Management, is the recipient of the James R. Vertin Award, given by the CFA (chartered financial analyst) Institute to recognize individuals who have produced a body of research notable for its relevance and enduring value to investment professionals. Ambachtsheer received the award July 22 at the 50th Financial Analysts Seminar, a CFA Institute conference hosted by the CFA Society of Chicago.

Professor John Hull, Maple Financial Group Professor of Derivatives and Risk Management, is the inaugural honouree of the Professional Risk Managers International Association’s Risk Managers of the Year Award. Hull was recognized for his contributions to the risk profession during a special reception June 21, hosted by the association’s New York chapter, during the even-

ing Hull explained his approach to research, reviewed how models are used by derivatives dealers and presented new ongoing research.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Professor Paul Caulford of family and community medicine is the recipient of a 2008 Newcomer Champion Award of the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration for his work in immigrant and refugee care. The Newcomer Champion Awards program is a newly created program designed to recognize Ontarians who have facilitated cultural understanding and diversity or helped newcomers successfully settle and integrate. Caulford received the prize June 27 at the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration award ceremony in Toronto.

U OF T SCARBOROUGH

Francesca Andrade of financial services is this year’s winner of UTSC’s Patrick Phillips Staff Award for outstanding service and commitment by a campus staff member, while Svetlana Mikhailchenko of physical and environmental sciences is the recipient of the D.R. Campbell Merit Award for enhancing the quality of life on campus. Professor Janet Potter of physical and environmental sciences is the winner of the Faculty Teaching Award. The Principal’s Awards were presented in June at an event hosted by Principal Peter Atkinson.

Professors Elizabeth Harney of humanities and Rene Harrison of biological sciences are the winners of the Principal’s Research Awards, recognizing and encouraging excellence in research activity and achievements at U of T Scarborough. Harney is renowned for her work on the history and theory of contemporary art in the African diaspora. Harrison is a cell biologist who was honoured for her expertise in pathogenesis and bone formation.

Professor Balint Virag of mathematics has been selected to receive the Fields Medal, an international award presented by the University of Cambridge to a young and promising researcher in the field of probability theory. The Rollo Davidson Trust was founded in 1975 in memory of Davidson, an accomplished mathematician of remarkable potential and an adventurer who died in a mountaineering accident on the Piz Bernina range in the Swiss Alps in 1970.

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Radisic named top innovator

BY CATHERINE NGAI

Professor Milica Radisic of chemical engineering and applied chemistry and the Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering is a winner of the Technology Review’s TR100 award. Innovators Under 35 award, announced Aug. 19. Radisic is being honoured for her work in regenerative medicine.

“I was very excited and honoured to be recognized as one of the top innovators under 35. It is also important to emphasize that this creative work is enabled by the outstanding students and post-docs in my laboratory, specifically Janna Dengler, Hannah Song and Heidi Au.”

Radisic’s research focus is cardiac tissue engineering and biomaterials. She studies how molecular mechanisms that govern cardiac tissues can lead to heart attacks and heart failure. Her research tackles an important problem of heart disease by developing tools that will ultimately lead to new therapies. Through studying cell culture and developing new biomaterials, Radisic hopes to contribute to a cure for heart disease, which plagues 900,000 North Americans annually.

“This is a testament to the innovative achievements of one of our exceptional engineering professors at such an early stage in her career,” said Cristina Aman, dean of the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering.

Radisic will be profiled in the September-October 2008 edition of the Technology Review and will attend the Envision引擎<con> of physical and engineering technology.

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CORRECTION

In the June 24 issue of the Bulletin, the list of retirees incorrectly included Professor Jutta Treviranus of the Faculty of Information. Treviranus has not retired and is the founder and lead investigator of the University of Toronto’s Adaptive Technology Resource Centre. The Bulletin apologizes for the error and any confusion it may have caused.
Food safety on campus ensured

BY ANJUM NATYAR

The university took quick measures to ensure food on all three campuses was and continues to be safe after a nationwide recall of meat products by Maple Leaf Foods recently. Towards the end of last month Maple Leaf Consumer Foods expanded its recall to 23 ready-to-eat packaged meats after pulling two products — Sure Slice ham roast beef and corned beef — off the shelves because of concerns the products might be tainted with Listeria monocytogenes.

This bacteria can cause a food-borne illness called listeriosis. The bacteria are found commonly in the environment but have been known to contaminate soft cheeses, raw meat, unpeeled vegetables and deli meats.

Anne Macdonald, director of ancillary services, said only a few vendors on the campuses carried relevant products and they were pulled quickly off the shelves because of news of food-borne illness. The full list of recalled products can be found at www.inspection.gc.ca or by calling 1-800-568-5801. The Toronto Public Health fact sheet on listeriosis is available at www.toronto.ca/health/cdc/factsheets/pdf/fs_listeriosis.pdf.

A car turned into gallery space is only a small part of Vehicle, an outdoor installation to be displayed at University College during Nuit Blanche, Oct. 4 to 5.

BY TAMMY THORNE

U of T will plug into Scotiabank Nuit Blanche — the city’s “all night contemporary art thing” — once again this year with six art installations. The all-night party begins at sunset Oct. 4 and ends at sunset Oct. 5.

One of two outdoor projects, Vehicle will light up the University College quad with Subaru cars parked nose-to-nose in a spiral formation, swirling from inside the enclosure to the perimeter of the 155-year-old college. This is just one part of the complex collaborative installation that focuses on the car. Gallery goers will also discover trampline-activated Second Life racing, cars transformed into mobile galleries and a custom-built Xbox game.

The project is a vehicle to create new relationships between artworks and communities. “It is important to trust our collaborators to respond intelligently and creatively. And, it is important to make art with non-artists.”

BY STEVE ENGELS

Enter Steve Engels, a senior lecturer in computer science who specializes in designing video games. Engels and three of his former students are building the custom Xbox game for the Vehicle exhibition.

There is a certain coolness factor to this. We are techie people. We don’t often work with art. This is a chance for us to use our techie skills to create art,” Engels said.

“IT IS A CHANCE FOR US TO USE OUR TECHEL SKILLS TO CREATE ART.”

Steve Engels

Blood Remembering: Psychoanalysis and Poetry

4th Annual Day in Applied Psychoanalysis

Robert Fidler

US Post Lorain

Salmun Ahidar, Psychoanalyst, Post, Jefferson Medical College Philadelphia

Reg. Thursday, September 27, 2008

9:00 to 3:30, lunch provided

George Ignatieff Theatre, 15 Davenport Place, Toronto

Registration: $150 ($180 after September 10)Full-time students $50

To register, call Liz Kongiampas, Mount Sinai Hospital 416 586 4800 ext 8436

The project is being administered through U of T’s master of visual studies students position their work as a restful place to get away from the spectacle of the show. Inside, participants will be invited to balance on mini-trampolines (with Wii remotes sewn underneath) to play a specially built racing game in the Second Life virtual space. Kerr said this project is a testing ground for future art and architecture projects at U of T in the Second Life metaverse.

“The great possibility is to have art where we usually don’t and connect with people where we usually don’t,” said Kerr, who does not own a car.

The project is being administered through U of T’s new arts hub, ArtZone, a service organization that supports the university’s arts community.
Blues defeat Waterloo on gridiron

CARIAZo rushed for 76 yards. Meerveld posted three receptions for 67 yards for the Blues.

Waterloo running back Marvin McCoody rushed 13 times for 64 yards, while Martin completed 21 passes for 375 yards and two touchdowns for the Warriors. Svec notched two touchdowns in his eight receptions for 375 yards against the Blues.

On Sept. 7, the Blues fell 38-14 to the Windsor Lancers. The team returns home Saturday, Sept. 13 to face the York Lions at 1 p.m.

Seneca students to transfer

continued from page 1

not without excitement but the Blues held on for their first win in six seasons. The Blues’ last victory came on Oct. 13, 2001 when they defeated the Windsor Lancers 13-11.

Hamilton completed 13 pass- es for 189 yards and Walter Meerveld posted three receptions for 67 yards for the Blues.

Waterloo running back Marvin McCoody rushed 13 times for 64 yards, while Martin completed 21 passes for 375 yards and two touchdowns for the Warriors. Svec notched two touchdowns in his eight receptions for 375 yards against the Blues.

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Seneca-arts and science agreement is a first for U of T’s downtown campus.

Such seamless transfers require resources for intensive orientation and academic support, Loney said, and the university is looking to the province to help with this before it can expand to other GTA partners, but students are the ones who will benefit from an opportunity for seamless transfer from college to university studies.

University, USW reach tentative agreement

The University of Toronto and USW Local 1998 reached a tentative contract agreement Sept. 7. Information sessions for members on all three campuses will take place this week, with a ratification vote scheduled for Sept. 12. Check upcoming editions of the eBulletin (www.news.utoronto.ca/ebull/ebulletin-archives.html) for additional information.

WE VALUE YOUR OPINION

that’s why the back page of The Bulletin is devoted to Forum, a place where thoughts, concerns and opinions of interest to colleagues across the university find expression. Original essays by members of the community are both welcomed and encouraged. Faculty, staff and students are invited to submit or discuss ideas with:

ELAINE SMITH, EDITOR
The Bulletin
416-978-7016 elaine.smith@utoronto.ca

Look forward to hearing from you!

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U of T partner in new supercomputer

BY KIM LUKE

The University of Toronto’s SciNet Consortium and IBM recently announced an agreement to build Canada’s most powerful and energy-efficient supercomputer.

The consortium, which includes the University of Toronto and associated research hospitals, will enhance SciNet’s competitive position in globally important research projects. These include ground-breaking research in aerospace, astrophysics, bioinformatics, chemical physics, climate change prediction and medical imaging.

Capable of performing 360 trillion calculations per second, the supercomputer will pioneer an innovative hybrid design containing two systems that can work together or independently, connected to a massive five petabyte storage complex. Because it is a hybrid using IBM’s highly efficient iDataScale system, as well as IBM’s advanced POWER6 architecture, the machine is extremely flexible, capable of running a wide range of software at a high level of performance.

The machine is expected to be among the top 20 fastest supercomputers in the world, 30 times faster than the peak performance of Canada’s current largest research system. It will be the largest supercomputer outside the United States.

“SciNet will be the largest supercomputer in the world,” said University Professor Richard Peltier, scientific director of SciNet and director of the Centre for Global Change Science.

As a physicist whose interests are focused on planetary physics and climate change prediction, Peltier’s work includes research on the impacts of greenhouse gas-induced global warming, which will be greatly enhanced by this system.

The SciNet facility will be one of the world’s most advanced supercomputers for analysing high-resolution global models to predict future risks, such as the accelerating decrease in Arctic sea ice. An immediate project will be the construction of regional climate change predictions for the Province of Ontario and Great Lakes watershed regions.

Cheryl Misak, interim vice-president and provost

Philosophy professor and tennis aficionado Cheryl Misak assumed the duties of interim vice-president and provost in July.

1. What is pragmatism and why did you choose it as your specialty?

“Pragmatism” in philosophy is only distantly related to the common use of the word. It’s the view put forward by the most important, but least understood, philosopher and logician America has ever produced — Charles Sanders Peirce, who wrote in the late 1800s. In a nutshell, pragmatism is the position that we have to look to the upshots of our concepts in order to rightly understand them.

The view most associated with pragmatism is its inquiry-centered, anti-foundationalist account of truth, on which truth is not a relationship between our beliefs and the beliefs of independent world, but rather is the best we human inquirers could do. Peirce’s friend William James popularized this view, throwing it into disrepute for 100 years. I chose pragmatism and its account of truth as my specialty because the position seemed right and I wanted to rehabilitate it.

Peirce was a genius but he was also very difficult. He was drummed out of his job at Johns Hopkins and blocked from Harvard by its then-president. So he wrote many thousands of pages in his cold attic late at night, the bulk of which are still to be published. It was a real thrill, as a graduate student, to read all of that in the manuscripts room of the stunningly beautiful Duke Humphries Library in Oxford and try to make sense of it.

2. How will it have an influence on your work in running the university?

Some people tell me that it was no accident that I became so interested in pragmatism, which insists that human inquirers could do. Some people tell me that it was no accident that I became so interested in pragmatism, which insists that some inquirers could do. Peirce’s friend William James popularized this view, throwing it into disrepute for 100 years. I chose pragmatism and its account of truth as my specialty because the position seemed right and I wanted to rehabilitate it.

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3. What is your favourite sport to play?

And to watch? Your favourite athlete in that sport?

I play tennis six or seven times a week and so of course I love to watch it when I have the chance. Roger Federer has the all-round beautiful game, so if I were forced to name a favourite, it would be him.

4. If you could go back and take any undergraduate course at U of T right now, what would it be?

Theoretical physics, if I had the requisite ability.

5. If you could be anywhere in the world right now, where would it be?

At the villa we just left overlooking Todi in Umbria (Italy).

6. What kind of music do you listen to when you want to unwind?

An eclectic mix — the likes of Warren Zevon, Townes Van Zandt, The Be Good Tanyas, Leonard Cohen, Brian Ferry, Steve Earle and Van Morrison. Perhaps most of that list dates me but my children, who are 14 and 17, listen to the same stuff. They swear that there is little good music being made these days.

7. What book is on your bedside table right now?

Patrick Gale’s Notes from an Exhibition. I just finished Alexandra Fuller’s The Legend of Colton Bryant, which was brilliant.

8. Where did you grow up?

Lethbridge, Alberta.

9. Any siblings? Where are you in the hierarchy?

I’ve got two younger brothers — one a school teacher in Toronto, one a probation officer in Lethbridge, Alberta.

10. Wine or beer?

Both, although more wine than beer, as evidenced by the hundreds of bottles of wine laid down in my cellar.

Top 5 Hart House offerings

1. The Hart House Theatre is an on-campus production house showcasing a season of outstanding plays. www.harthousetheatre.ca

2. The Justina M. Barnicke Gallery allows visitors to indulge their imaginations as they pass through an array of contemporary exhibitions. www.jmbgallery.ca

3. Get fit at the Hart House athletic facility with a gym, weight room, classes and more. harthouse.utoronto.ca/hh/page.php?id=FOD01

4. Those craving a bite to eat on campus can find tempting options at the Hart House restaurants. www.harthouse.ca/WOH

5. If you love the jazz scene, drop by the Arbour Room every Friday night for a guaranteed night of free entertainment and music. www.harthousemusic.com/viewseries.php?JAZ

These are our favourites. Discover your own during the Sept. 10 Wide Open House.

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COMPILED BY CATHERINE NGAI
Arts and science program focuses on building writing skills

BY MICHELLE SARCACCHINO

Written assignments will now be a little less daunting this year — for both students who do them and TAs who grade them — thanks to a new initiative in the Faculty of Arts and Science.

Supported by the curriculum innovation initiative fund, the new Writing Instruction for TAs (WIT) program aims to develop undergraduate students’ writing skills by training TAs, who are often the most frequent point of contact for students in larger first- and second-year courses.

Margaret Proctor, co-ordinator of writing support, has been involved in the program’s development from the beginning. She believes writing instruction is crucial to deepening critical thinking and communication elements in the curriculum.

“The basic idea is pretty simple: faculty can’t teach their students unless they can count on students being able to process ideas through reading, discussion and writing and being able to generalise,” she said.

The program’s approach to skills development emphasizes the work that happens before grading even takes place, said Megan Burnett, assistant director of the TA training program, a partner in the WIT program.

“Of our best-designed assignments from the beginning and it is important to set regulars from a course regularly from the beginning, the students have more opportunities to practice. The TAs can see how writing with the students develops over time within a course so they will understand how to change assignments to incorporate writing in the assignment and to make them more responsive to students. This gives students better opportunities to practice their writing,” Burnett said.

Throughout the year, the lead writing teaching assistant (LWTA) for each of the six participating departments will meet with course instructors to discuss assignment design and student progress with TAs to provide training and support.

For Jennifer Burbank, LWTA for computer science and a third-year PhD student, part of the challenge is making students understand the importance of good communication skills.

“Students in computer science have a tendency to think of the discipline as all about the technical aspects. They don’t say ‘proficient technical writing’ as part of the discipline or at what level writing skills should be taught,” she said.

The key is to incorporate writing into course work in such a way that it is clear to students why the writing is useful and mimics to some degree the tasks they would have to perform in industry.

Horkoff and her fellow LWTAs are also taking advantage of the opportunity to improve their own skills through the program.

“Personally, one of the main benefits is to up my own writing skills and who can say that they want to learn to incorporate writing with their work,” she said.

There are certainly some academic issues that we don’t always share the same ideas about,” said Chen. “We try to use the fact that we are both in academic and professional life to promote us without competition with each other. We try to help each other to make some of the career challenges.”

“Some of the benefits are that you collect. I really love having conversations with Li about different lines of inquiry in our respective fields. I see such exchanges as highly beneficial to each of our projects in teaching and research.”

These projects include new course offerings. Modern Chinese History, Law and Society in Chinese History and China and the World for Chen, Media and Popular Culture in East Asia and Media and Globalization for Bai. These courses are part of UTSC’s response to the growing demand for offerings in Asian studies.

Professor William Bowen, chair of humanities at UTSC, said Bai and Chen is a significant step in consolidating current interests and building the faculty compliment to support a planned 2009 program in global Asia studies.

“By merging the disciplines, we have an interdisciplinary undergraduate program committed to cutting-edge humanities scholarship that places Asia within a global context. In order to meet the rising demand for knowledge about Asian societies, cultures and contemporary politics, this program will work closely with a wide range of disciplines and faculty to meet the distinct needs and experiences of UTSC students. Global Asia studies is a program that speaks to the uniqueness of UTSC as a campus and Scarborough as a community. It aims to offer a coherent and contemporary curriculum that provides open and accessible interpretation of Asia in the world. Bowen said. Bai and Chen are thrilled to be part of UTSC’s mission to expand offerings in Asian studies.

What does it mean to say that visual and media culture are haunted? What are the ghosts hiding? These are just a few of the questions Professor Linda Kaplan explores in a new advanced project course entitled Spectres of Visual and Media Culture, offered at the University of Toronto Mississauga’s Centre for Visual and Media Culture.

Kaplan said the new advanced-project course involves the spectres that inhabit and haunt visual and media culture including the invention of phantasmes, spectres and the newest media. This exploration serves as a way to retrace analytical skills, critical thinking and creative powers of imagination. One of the topics students will be studying is hauntology.

“Hauntology is a pain on ontology, the philosophical topic of being,” Kaplan said. “It is the study of being haunted.” Kaplan said. “The question then becomes are you are haunted. In one sense, he/she haunted by the cultural memories that have been generated by media technologies that have the power to reproduce and reanimate us.”

Kaplan, director of the Institute of Communication and Culture at UTSC and associate professor in the history and theory of photography and new media in the Graduate Department of Art, said students will look at concepts and metaphors drawn from psychoanalysis and deconstruction, including hauntology and spirituality, and that bearing upon a variety of visual and media cultural productions, using examples from photography, radio, film, video and cyberspace.

Each student will work on a project that will illustrate the spectral capacities of visual and media culture, with both written and media components to their work. Students will also be exposed to the work of spiritual photography, a movement that claimed it could produce photographs of the dead back in the 1800s. In addition, they’ll discuss readings by contemporary cultural historians and theorists including Jeffrey Weeks (Haunted Hetero: Electronic Presence (First Edition) in Television), Kaplan himself (The Strange Case of William Mander, spring photographer) and Tom Gunning (Indexer co.).

What will you mean for students who have been haunted by the cultural memories that have been generated by media technologies that have the power to reproduce and reanimate us, Kaplan noted. “If you were a skeptic you would say these images were a hoax and that he was just using double exposure.” However, there were a lot of people who bought these pictures and many were leading citizens of the day who believed they were images of spirits of their loved ones.”

Kaplan said the course is designed as a capstone course for visual culture and communication specialists. The specialist program aims to address the changing demands of today’s workforce by enabling students to acquire the advantages of studying at both a research university and a polytechnic institute.

U of T Scarborough professors Bussyen Bai (left) and Li Chen are sharing a workplace for the first time.
Chemical Engineering & Applied Chemistry presents Lectures at the Leading Edge 2008-2009

September 17

Professor Robert Pelton, McMaster University, Centre for Pulp and Paper Research

Thermosensitive Microgels – The long road from discovery to application in bioactive paper

September 24

Professor Barbara J. Garrison, Penn State University, Department of Chemistry

C60 Bombardment of Solids: Atomic, Mesoscale, and Analytic Views

October 8

Professor Ernest Blatchley, Purdue University, School of Civil Engineering and Division of Environmental & Ecological Engineering

Lagrangian Actinometry: Dyed Microspheres for Measurement of Dose Distributions Delivered by UV Photoreactors

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Miscellany

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All friends and users of CoNets are cordially invited to a wine and cheese party. The party will take place in the Darwin Room of Hart House on Thursday, Sept. 18 from 2 to 4 p.m.

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**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO BULLETIN • TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2008 • EVENTS • 11**
Copyright has always been about the balance of private rights and the public good. In Canada, copyright law was originally based on the principle of the encouragement of learning and thus the purpose of the law was to place limits on monopoly and to provide access to knowledge. Today, the balance inherent in the copyright environment in Canada is under considerable threat from a number of fronts.

Digitization, with its concomitant ease of copying and distribution, spurred a fierce lobby from the content industry (which can be broadly defined to include publishers’ associations, reprographic rights organizations [RROs], scientific, technical and medical [STM] publishers and large companies such as Disney and Sony). In addition, Canada’s legislative agenda is being influenced by international pressures from the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) and by our copyright maximalist neighbours to the south. The United States and WIPO, publishers’ associations and RROs promote the full utilization of all control mechanisms for the regulation of intellectual property (IP). Examples include the criminalization of encryption research (a branch of mathematics) and the requirement of jail terms or punitive damages for copyright infringement. It seems that intellectual property, as championed by the powerful and affluent content industry, has become a matter of trade and is to be controlled by technology.

On the other hand, intellectual property is not yet seen by our elected officials as a compelling matter of information policy through which to express and protect the public benefits that foster learning and culture. Without political engagement, Canadian public policy will remain undefined, unarticulated and undefended.

The interplay between private rights and the public good has informed Canada’s information policy in the past and continues to frame the struggle for balance. Our national discussion should be about what can and cannot be done legally with a copyrighted work in order to protect the creator and at the same time to provide users of copyrighted material with access to knowledge.

Instead, a matter of significant public policy being driven by a reflexive response to the private interests of the content lobby rather than reflective, considered legislation that upholds the values and protects the culture of Canadian society. Is Canadian cultural sensibility not sufficiently evolved to know that tailoring its legislative agenda to the concerns of one particular industry is a disservice to all its citizens? Canada’s cultural and information policy is at risk of being handed over to the WTO and WIPO and other influential entities, which would result in a loss of control over our culture and our access to knowledge, as well as control over the manner in which we interpret, communicate and distribute them.

The threat is embodied in Canada’s new legislation, Bill C-61, and although the bill may be destined to die on the order paper when an election is called, it will inevitably re-emerge in the near future with similar provisions unless there is a change in focus of the legislative agenda. We are all users of copyrighted works, many of us are creators and all of us are concerned with access to knowledge. We create and use information in our daily lives, in classes, lectures, reading assignments and research papers. In materials we produce for publication we often assign our copyright to the publisher and relinquish our rights in perpetuity. We sometimes contribute to the commons, from which everyone may benefit, and we make use of and embellish the riches of the public domain. As we juggle our various roles in the complex arena of rights we realize that the management of IP rights requires a nuanced approach so that its intricacy is captured to serve our needs. While it is essential to protect the rights of creators, it is necessary to reasonably limit that protection so that we may continue to enjoy our rights of access to knowledge and especially the provisions of fair dealing for the purposes of research and private study.

Bill C-61 would destroy the balance between creators and users. It is replete with heavy-handed provisions to protect the content industry at the expense of users by invalidating statutory rights of access and use. Bill C-61 abrogates the hard-won rights of users that Canadians have benefitted from for many years, upending long-established practice.

For example, if a content owner places digital technical protection measures (TPMs) or digital lock on material, a user cannot disable or break the lock for non-infringing purposes, such as copying a copy of a legitimate fair dealing for research or private study. Control has shifted from a matter of policy-based legal principles, with all its nuances and complexities, to technology. TPMS are either on or off. With Bill C-61 our rights are on a toggle switch, reducing Canadian information policy to zeroes and ones. TPMS also threaten the robustness of the public domain. Use of material in the public domain that is inadvertent- ly included with protected works and new works falling into the public domain will be constrained by our inability to remove the digital locks.

On the other hand, individual Canadians believe that we have some control over the material that we access every day, material that we purchase, read, listen to and watch. We don’t believe that as we continue to use information in the same way we always have, we suddenly become pirates and thieves. With this new legislation, civil remedies for copyright infringement would be transformed into criminal law, shifting the responsibility and burden to the Crown, enabling criminal prosecution of individuals for interfering with digital locks for non-infringing purposes.

Under current legislation Canadians are protected from standard form contracts, such as click-through licenses, if they cancel out our statutory rights. (Click-through licenses pop up on websites and in the installation process for new software. Unless the user clicks on “I agree” to all the terms and conditions, the installation will not proceed.) Bill C-61 endorses the primacy of Canadian statutory rights and allows contracts to override the Copyright Act. Contracts created in other jurisdictions have the potential to import much stricter terms of use that can be applied to materials purchased and used in Canada. The sovereignty of our intellectual property agenda

Educators must add to the debate

BY VICTORIA OWEN

Copyright and as a member of its executive board.

With encouragement, Parliament can choose to implement minimal provisions that reflect Canadian policy and past practices and yet adhere to our international responsibilities and obligations. Without a public policy foundation our future is being determined by the most powerful and best-funded influencers.

Academics, librarians, creators and users have a responsibility to contribute to such an important public policy debate. Our MPs may be particularly attentive in the upcoming weeks and our professional associations (Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, Canadian Association of University Teachers, Canadian Library Association, Canadian Association of Research Libraries, etc.) are eager to hear from their constituents on this matter. Tell MPs about your position on access to knowledge and its impact on scholarship, on democracy and on the flow of information. Canada’s public policy needs to be fair to its citizenry and driven by its values and not by a single industry and its use of digital locks.

Victoria Owen is head librarian at U of T Scarborough. In May 2008 she convened a plenary session on Why Copyright? for all library staff from the three local universities, Toronto Reference Library and York. She is active in the copyright field and serves as a member of the Canadian Library Association’s copyright working group, the Canadian Association of Research Libraries’ copyright committee and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions’ copyright and legal matters committee.

Setting the intellectual property agenda

Further, Bill C-61 would enable subsequent changes to the Copyright Act to be made by regulation rather than through legislation with full parliamentary debate. I submit that Canadian public policy should be set by elected officials and Canada’s principles, not determined by administrators and bureaucrats.

We need policy-based legislation grounded in Canadian culture and values. With encouragement, Parliament can choose to implement minimal provisions that reflect Canadian policy and past practices and yet adhere to our international responsibilities and obligations. Without a public policy foundation our future is being determined by the most powerful and best-funded influencers. Academics, librarians, creators and users have a responsibility to contribute to such an important public policy debate. Our MPs may be particularly attentive in the upcoming weeks and our professional associations (Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, Canadian Association of University Teachers, Canadian Library Association, Canadian Association of Research Libraries, etc.) are eager to hear from their constituents on this matter. Tell MPs about your position on access to knowledge and its impact on scholarship, on democracy and on the flow of information. Canada’s public policy needs to be fair to its citizenry and driven by its values and not by a single industry and its use of digital locks.

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