In recent months, I've been talking to members of the University family about what it is that makes Guelph unique, and I want to share some of their comments.

When you look at the independent polls reported last fall, U of G was once again named Canada’s top comprehensive university in terms of campus life, research and overall quality of the undergraduate experience. It's obvious that U of G faculty and staff are doing many things right, but our graduates and future graduates say these rankings still don't get to the heart of what makes Guelph special to them.

When I meet our alumni anywhere in the world, the memories they most often want to share with me are of the friendships they made at U of G, the professors and staff who motivated and inspired them, and the skills they learned that have helped them make a living and build a life.

One graduate described the Guelph difference this way: "U of G is the one university that is all about life. We should be the life brand!"

What an astute metaphor for the University of Guelph.

Think of our great teaching and research strengths in the life sciences, our history of support for families and communities, our contributions to Canadian culture and our work to sustain this country’s social fabric.

The stories that are being written and told about the University of Guelph demonstrate our growing leadership in research that integrates food, environment, human health and commerce. From single cells to complete ecosystems and the cultural and political policies that affect them, U of G has the expertise needed to generate solutions for the tough challenges we face in today’s world.

Think, too, about the learning experiences on our campuses. We really are a "community" of scholars and learners where caring and collaboration are deeply rooted in our heritage and university culture. Our students tell us that their U of G experience takes them from the classroom and laboratory out into the community — be it the city of Guelph, a Mississippi town destroyed by a hurricane or an orphanage in Africa — where they learn that helping others can be a life-changing experience.

At the University of Guelph, life matters. Our work is about life: understanding and improving life systems and mobilizing leaders of today and tomorrow to protect and nurture quality-of-life essentials.

Alastair Summerlee
President and Vice-Chancellor
Changing lives...

- When Maclean's magazine surveyed U of G graduates, 82 per cent said their Guelph education was a significant benefit to their life.
- Each year, two Lincoln Alexander Chancellor's Scholarships are awarded to deserving students who are aboriginal, are members of a visible minority or have a disability.
- More than 4,000 U of G graduates are married to each other.
- Guelph’s emphasis on collaboration brings researchers together to exchange ideas and advance their work.
- U of G is the first Canadian university to help employees use their vacation time to volunteer in the developing world.
- The University of Guelph is both alma mater and employer for 2,900 grads.
- 350 Guelph students travel abroad for study each year.
- The University community donated $393,000 to the United Way in 2006.
- Every year, U of G campuses in Guelph and Alfred sponsor refugee students through World University Service of Canada.
- The University of Guelph-Humber enables many Toronto-area students to live at home while earning both a university degree and a college diploma.
- Chenequa Akuto, an assistant coach of the Gryphon women's wrestling program, won a gold medal at the World University Summer Games in Turkey.

We are

dedicated to

protecting and cultivating the essentials

for our quality of life — water, food, environment, health, community, commerce, culture and learning.

...improving life

- A new Guelph Institute for the Environment will link critical research on water, food, health and the environment, and will connect University research with policy-makers.
- U of G receives more research support from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research than any other university without a medical school.
- Food scientist Alejandro Marangoni has developed a heart-healthy substitute for trans fats.
- The driving force behind Guelph’s innovative Learning Commons is chief librarian Michael Ridley, recently named Librarian of the Year by the Ontario College and University Library Association.
- U of G's new Centre for Public Health and Zoonoses will co-ordinate research activities that protect human, animal and environmental health.
- Theatre studies professor Sky Gilbert was named one of Canada’s “Beautiful Minds” for career excellence while nurturing the development of Canadian theatre.
- Animal science professor Julang Li made a surprise discovery that may advance human tissue therapy without using embryonic stem cells.
- A number of Guelph students have spent Reading Week helping to clean up and rebuild after hurricane Katrina.
- U of G microbiologist Janet Wood studies living cell membranes to augment health research and volunteers in her off time as a tutor for adults learning to read.
Learning can change our lives

A gifted student who seemed to lose direction when he was an undergraduate, Matthew Firth dropped down to one course a semester in his third year and went to work in downtown Guelph as a bartender and in a tattoo shop.

"It wasn't exactly the place I expected to end up," he says. "It was fun at the time, but I came to realize it wasn't very stimulating work and I missed science."

It wasn't until he landed a job as a part-time lab assistant in pathobiology that he found his real passion. Firth's U of G journey points out how important it is for universities to find new ways to deliver programs that motivate bright students who may be uninterested in traditional approaches.

Firth finished his B.Sc. in 2004 and a master's degree in 2006, then went on to earn the University's prestigious Brock Doctoral Scholarship. His research contributes to the quest for a bovine gene that Guelph scientists will use in vaccine studies.

The Guelph difference is clear

The University of Guelph claimed the No. 1 spot in the 2006 Maclean's ranking of universities. U of G was named the top comprehensive university in Canada and was ranked first in five of the key areas that determine the placements — quality of students, graduation rates, classes taught by tenured faculty, quality of faculty and student services.

The magazine defines comprehensive universities as those with a significant amount of research activity and a wide range of programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Wowing employers

Paula Gomes of Brampton, Ont., says attending the University of Guelph-Humber "was the best decision I've ever made." She received a Humber diploma and a Guelph degree in business administration in June 2006 as a member of the institution's first graduating class.

"I went for four interviews for four different companies and received a job offer from each of them."
Poetry in motion

ENGLISH PROFESSOR DIONNE BRAND received the Harbourfront Festival Prize in October 2006. The $10,000 award honours individuals who have made a contribution to the world of books and writing. She also received the Toronto Book Award for her novel What We Long For.

Geoffrey Taylor, director of international readings at the Harbourfront Centre, said Brand's importance to Canada's literary community is reflected both in her writing and in her commitment to her students at U of G.

Trinidad-born Brand is the author of eight volumes of poetry, including the acclaimed Land to Light On, which won a Governor General's Literacy Award, and thirsty, which won the Pat Lowther Award for poetry. Her 2006 volume of poetry, Inventory, was nominated for a Governor General's Award.

Always up for a good debate

NOT ONE TO SHY AWAY from a good debate, political science student John Coombs was happy to appear on a local Rogers Cable TV show with Ontario's minister of training, colleges and universities, Chris Bentley, and U of G president Alastair Summerlee.

Coombs, who is external commissioner for the Central Student Association (CSA), was invited after organizing Guelph participation in a nationwide Day of Action to Stop Tuition Fee Hikes in co-operation with the Canadian Federation of Students. He has also held leadership positions in residence, his college association, the University Senate and CSA board committees. He was appointed to Board of Governors in fall 2006.

Excited about learning

THE HON. WILLIAM WINEGARD, former University of Guelph president, has created three lectureships to bring esteemed scholars to Guelph to enhance learning for faculty and students. He supports lectureships in new materials engineering and condensed matter physics, as well as the Winegard Visiting Lectureship in International Development. The lectures are always free and open to the public.

Wineard says he was inspired to establish and endow the lectureships "out of appreciation of my long association with the University."
The undergraduate experience is the lifeblood of our efforts to transmit knowledge and to invite students to join faculty on the important journey of research.

A COMIC STRIP based on unique research by Guelph sociologist Terisa Turner has been included in a collection of the finest comics in North America. The graphic narrative titled "Nakedness and Power" appears in the inaugural edition of Best American Comics 2006, published by Boston-based Houghton Mifflin.

Turner wrote the text for the nine-page comic strip with Guelph graduate Leigh Brownhill, MA '94. It focuses on a 2002 revolt against petroleum pollution led by nearly 600 Nigerian women who staged mass protests against the petroleum industry using the "curse of nakedness" as their weapon.

The curse refers to a cultural belief held by many Africans that purposefully exposing female genitalia to men who have caused anger results in the men's "social death." "No one will cook for them, marry them, enter into any kind of contract with them or buy anything from them," says Turner, who notes that every statement in the comic is 100-per-cent accurate.

"By sharing our research in this way, we are able to explain the struggle of these African women and the issues of survival they're facing in a way that's easy for a wide and diverse audience to understand."

IN SEARCH OF THE ORIGINS OF LIFE

A Newly discovered microbe that may hold clues to the origins of life on a harsh young Earth has been discovered by an international team of scientists that includes U of G microbiologist Terry Beveridge.

The microbe belongs to a group of single-celled bacteria-like organisms called archaea, which often live in extreme environments. It's the first acido-living archaeon found around deep-sea hydrothermal vents. Superheated water (about 400°C) emitted from the vents mixes with ordinary sea water and releases minerals that support organisms able to "breathe" sulphur or metals instead of oxygen. Those conditions are believed to resemble those that nurtured the first life forms on Earth 3.6 billion years ago.

"We've suspected that microbes there resist strong acids and high temperature, but no one has been able to isolate one," says Beveridge, who holds a Canada Research Chair in the Structure, Physical Nature and Geobiology of Prokaryotes.
Robotic submersibles were used to collect samples from ocean vents, and Beveridge used a suite of sophisticated instruments to analyze the microbe's structure. Studying how these organisms thrive may also yield ideas for improvements in high-temperature industrial processes or the development of new materials for harsh environments.

**Six-legged creatures abound**

_Guelph entomologist_ Steve Marshall has published a new insect book that is so extensive, it's being called "an insect collection between covers."

Not only does his 700-page _Insects: Their Natural History and Diversity_ cover just about every family of six-legged creatures in eastern North America, but it also contains never-before-seen photographs, including one of a species of bee fly that lays its eggs in wasp nests.

"The bee fly is one of several species discovered for the first time in Canada in the course of this project," says Marshall, a faculty member in the Department of Environmental Biology.

The book is the first species-level guide to a vast array of insects beyond the standards of butterflies and dragonflies. It deals mostly with insects found east of the Mississippi River and north of Georgia, including the six provinces east of Manitoba. That area is home to an estimated 100,000 insect species.

"Although many new discoveries were made while writing the book, I initiated this project to provide something badly needed by naturalists and students," says Marshall.

**Unleashing future leaders**

_The first student leadership week at the Ontario Veterinary College_ — titled "Unleash the Leader" — included a mix of speakers, workshops, poster sessions and a community-service event with Big Brothers Big Sisters. Keynote speaker was 1976 OVC graduate Carin Wittich, a professor of surgery and physiology at the University of Toronto and the OVC Alumni Association's 2005 Distinguished Alumna.

**DNA technique spreads its wings**

Through DNA barcoding — a technique that identifies living things by genetics rather than appearance — a team of researchers found evidence of 15 overlooked species of North American birds.

DNA barcoding was developed at U of G by Prof. Paul Hebert, Integrative Biology, who is also director of the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario. Barcoding was used in a recent study involving Hebert, Guelph colleagues and scientists from Rockefeller University, the Canadian Wildlife Service, the Smithsonian Institution and the Royal Ontario Museum. They examined 643 species — 93 per cent of the known breeding species in the United States and Canada.

In addition to discovering 15 new species, they found 14 pairs of North American bird species with separate identities that are, in fact, DNA twins. They also found three DNA triplets and eight gull species that are virtually identical.
Learning is a wonderful gift

Marie Thérèse Rush has long considered teaching and learning not just an occupation but a preoccupation as well. That’s even more so since the longtime laboratory instructor and U of G graduate collected a master of education degree to hang alongside her 1980 B.Sc. in zoology.

She had already taken workshops on various aspects of teaching and learning, including courses offered by U of G’s Teaching Support Services, but says: “It made me hungry for more. Learning is a wonderful gift for me.”

Rush says the knowledge she gained has also made her a better teacher. She’s used it to design marking rubrics for her Guelph courses to help students resolve conflicts during group work, and to experiment with multimedia modules that help students learn.

Education pays off for women

It pays to earn a university degree, but it pays more for women to gain the education than it does for men. That’s the finding of research by economics professors Michael Hoy and Louis Christofides and doctoral student Ling Yang. They used Statistics Canada data to figure out that a woman with a university degree in 1977 earned $1.88 for each dollar earned by a woman with a high school diploma; the ratio for men was $1.63 to one dollar. By 2003, the better-educated women earned $2.73 for every dollar earned by female high school graduates; for men, it was $2.13 to one dollar.

Hoy says this higher premium for women helps explain why women outnumber men at university. “If it pays more to go to university, then we’d expect people to be more inclined to go,” he says. “Women are responding to the incentive.”

New protections for athletes in place

Dr. Margo Mountjoy of the University’s Health and Performance Centre is one of the authors of a new “consensus statement” on sexual harassment and abuse recently adopted by the International Olympic Committee. The statement defines the problems, identifies risk factors and provides guidelines for resolution and prevention.
Understanding the universe

What makes up the stuff of the universe? We are one step closer to the answers since the successful startup of a multi-million-dollar instrument considered the “Hubble telescope of nuclear physics.” It was developed by an international group of scientists under the direction of Guelph physics professor Carl Svensson.

The most advanced detector of its kind, the Tigress (Triumf-Isac Gamma Ray Escape Suppressed Spectrometer) instrument is housed at TRIUMF, Canada's national laboratory for nuclear and particle physics research in British Columbia. Svensson says the instrument will help scientists learn how stars form the basic elements that make up all matter in the universe. "All the elements you and I and everything else are made up of at some point were cooked up in the interior of some ancient star," he says.

A healthy alternative to trans fats

Food scientist Alejandro Marangoni heads an international research team that has developed a healthy alternative to artery-clogging trans fats. They found a new way to package oils and change them into a solid fat-like gel. In addition to providing a heart-healthy recipe for processed foods, the new structured oil regulates the release of lipids into the body, which may help fend off obesity and diabetes.

"People talk about controlled release in prescription drugs; we’re talking about controlled release of food components," says Marangoni, who holds a Canada Research Chair in Food and Soft Materials.

Good bacteria tackle the bad

Giving chickens probiotics — dietary supplements that contain live beneficial bacteria — stimulates their immune system and reduces the Salmonella bacteria in their gut by more than 99 per cent, says pathobiology professor Shayan Sharif. His study shows chickens treated with probiotics early in life may be better protected against disease-causing microbes. This is important to consumers because it would reduce the risk of Salmonella in chicken products. "There’s also hope that probiotics could work as a replacement for antibiotics," says Sharif.
Increasingly, Guelph research initiatives cross the boundaries of traditional disciplines. We are bringing together students and professors at the crossroads of discovery.

For the fifth year in a row, the University of Guelph has been recognized as Canada's top comprehensive research institution in a Research Infosource report published in the National Post. The report ranks Canada's "Top 50 Research Universities" based on sponsored research income. U of G was first among universities without a medical school and 13th overall with research income of nearly $126 million.

Engineers target mad cow disease

Profs, Gordon Hayward and Warren Stiver in the School of Engineering are developing a simple, inexpensive sensor for quick detection of brain-wasting infections related to bovine spongiform encephalopathy (mad cow disease) in cattle. The Guelph invention is an acoustic prion sensor whose quartz crystals detect the telltale misfolding of prion proteins from samples of nerve tissues and bodily fluids. Working with scientists at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in Ottawa, Hayward and Stiver have shown that their device can distinguish between normal samples and brain tissue of sheep infected with scrapie and deer with chronic wasting disease.

Ag research has big impact

A study by Science Watch Magazine ranks Guelph seventh among universities worldwide for its impact on agricultural sciences. U of G was the only Canadian university among the top 25 institutions cited for agricultural research from 1966 to 2006.

Analyzing lefties

Contrary to popular scientific belief, left-handedness is not linked to dyslexia, poorer spatial ability, homosexuality, asthma or hyperactivity, says psychology professor Michael Peters.

"We've shown on a number of tasks that there's no difference between right- and left-handedness," says Peters, who surveyed more than a quarter million people with colleagues Stan Reimers of University College London...
and John Manning of the University of Central Lancashire. The survey was hosted on the BBC Science and Nature website and contained more than 150 questions about demographics, personality, sexuality, social attitudes and behaviours, as well as spatial and verbal tasks.

Deadly virus goes under the microscope

Of Professor John Lumsdon, Department of Pathobiology, was the first scientist to find the viral hemorrhagic septicemia virus in Lake Ontario in the spring of 2005. The deadly virus is suspected in the deaths of thousands of fish in the Great Lakes basin. Now he's working with Prof. Rich Moccia, Animal and Poultry Science, and Roz Stevenson, Molecular and Cellular Biology, to develop diagnostic tests and examine the potential impact on fish farming. They also want to know the implications for natural and farmed fish populations if the virus continues to spread.

She's making eggs from scratch

Prof. Julang Li, Animal and Poultry Science, has made egg-like cells from skin stem cells taken from fetal pigs, an achievement that may offer a new route to tissue therapy for treating a variety of diseases. Her lab developed the stem cells in a special growth medium into oocyte-like cells, some of which developed spontaneously into embryo-like structures. This is the first time a researcher working in vitro has been able to turn somatic stem cells into germ cells.

"We are certainly quite excited about it," says Li. The discovery may offer a new way to make eggs and embryos that could avoid ethical concerns about use of embryonic tissue in therapeutic cloning.

Vineland has a fruitful 100 years

The University's Vineland Research Station, which has provided the world with more than 150 new varieties of fruits, vegetables and ornamental plants, celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2006. "If it wasn't for the Vineland Research Station, we wouldn't have a tender fruit industry in Ontario today," says Ray Kaczmaniski, manager of the station.
Stepping up to the plate

Geography Professor Barry Smit is critical of Canada’s efforts to fight climate change, as well as the efforts of almost every other industrialized country in the world. It’s an issue that needs global leadership, and he doesn’t see the world’s chief polluters stepping forward to set an example for developing nations like China, India, and Brazil.

Smit holds a Canada Research Chair in Global Environmental Change, is director of the Canadian Climate Impacts and Adaptation Research Network and is a member of the scientific advisory committee, United Nations Environment Program.

Smit’s recent research has focused on the ability of vulnerable communities — including parts of Africa stressed by water shortages — to adapt to the inevitable impact of global environmental change. He’s also addressed the sustainability of agriculture and agroecosystem health, and the implications of changing conditions for resources and livelihoods.

Classwork turns a profit for charity

Group of Guelph Students in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management completed a class project and gave a big boost to Variety-The Children’s Charity in one fell swoop. Their Student Life 2007 calendar raised more than $5,000 for the charity.

The calendar was the brainchild of 14 students enrolled in the organizational behaviour class taught by Prof. Jamie Gruman. They recruited volunteer models and secured a corporate sponsor to increase profits for the charity.

Writer-in-exile comes to Guelph

Award-winning Bosnian writer Goran Simic was at the University of Guelph for the 2006/2007 academic year as part of the PEN Canada writers-in-exile program. Simic delivered a public lecture, but spent most of his time working with students and local writers.

One of the most prominent writers in the former Yugoslavia, he was trapped in the siege of Sarajevo, which destroyed his home and killed his brother and many friends. In 1996, he and his family were able to settle in Canada thanks to a Freedom to Write Award from PEN. Before the war,
Simic was the editor of several literary magazines in Bosnia and founder of PEN Bosnia-Herzegovina. "PEN has helped a lot of artists establish themselves in Canada in new circumstances," he says.

**Improving lives and livelihoods**

Sometimes the best way to get things rolling is to push the ball yourself. That's why veterinary professor Cate Dewey has made four trips to Africa in the last year, despite taking on new duties as chair of the Department of Population Medicine.

She's continuing a research project launched last year to investigate the links among pigs, the *Taenia solium* tapeworm and epilepsy in the Buisia district of western Kenya. Poor husbandry practices, combined with nearly non-existent sanitation and rudimentary meat inspection, have created a situation where the parasite is being passed from pigs to people, people to pigs, and people to people. It's a vicious cycle that is destroying lives and livelihoods.

While working with rural farmers, Dewey was also moved to "adopt" a local primary school. More than a third of its 700 students have been orphaned by HIV/AIDS, and many more orphans don't go to school because their adoptive families can't afford school uniforms or even basic supplies like pencils. She has raised $20,000 to provide those supplies and start a library at the school.

**Let's get a move on**

Pat Richards, the University's longtime supervisor of fitness and lifestyle programs, is concerned about the disturbing increase in the number of Canadian kids dealing with obesity. The trend prompted her to develop an activity program called "Movin' On," a pilot project that was launched in three Guelph grade schools last fall.

"We know the situation is critical because we're beginning to see Type 2 diabetes in children, which typically is a disease of a 50-year-old," says Richards, who also founded the Gryphon Activity Camp for kids. She raised $26,500 with help from a Communities in Action grant to launch the pilot program and assembled teams of U of G students, graduates and staff to deliver 40 minutes of activity three to four days a week.
We pursue research and teaching with equal vigour because collaboration often underpins innovation.

Underneath the soil

Prof. John Klironomos, Integrative Biology, received a 2006 E.W.R. Steacie Memorial Fellowship from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council to continue his pioneering studies of how plants and microbes interact underneath the soil surface. Future research will look at so-called invasive plants.

Klironomos, who holds a Canada Research Chair in Soil Biology, hopes to learn more about why invasive plants thrive in their new home — often at the expense of native species — even as they remain in relatively low abundance in their native lands.

A critical tool for scientific information

The new Guelph Institute for the Environment, to be headed part time by former federal environment minister David Anderson, will help connect University research with policy-makers at all three levels of government.

Anderson says he views the institute as a critical tool for sharing scientific information. His job, he says, will be not so much to serve as a U of G spokesperson but "to make contact with policy-makers to ensure that the research done here receives appropriate consideration in the policy process."

Through the institute, Guelph faculty will also launch discussions about environmental issues with the city and region, establish ties with non-governmental organizations and spark public discussion of policy issues.

The journey begins with one step

Talya Postan, a 2006 graduate in women's studies and philosophy, was chosen to give the "Last Lecture" to graduating students. Her theme was "The Journey Is the Reward," and she talked about her own experiences journeying through U of G. One of her first steps was to participate in Project Serve, a day of volunteering offered to Guelph students every September to encourage them to continue making a difference in the years to come. Postan continued to volunteer in Guelph and spent Reading Week helping to feed the homeless in Calgary. She also became a senior peer helper on campus.
National network targets obesity

**Guelph researchers** will play a key role in a new national group intended to help fight a growing epidemic in obesity that threatens the health of millions of Canadians. The Canadian Obesity Network will bring together researchers, health professionals, industry and policymakers, including a multidisciplinary team from U of G. Guelph will conduct studies in nutrition, metabolism and obesity interactions, says Prof. Terry Graham, chair of the Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences.

The human-animal connection in disease

**Clinical studies professor** Scott Weese specializes in diseases that pass between animals and humans. Working with Prof. David Walner-Toews and PhD candidate Sandra Lefebvre of the Department of Population Medicine, he found that 80 per cent of therapy dogs visiting patients in hospitals and nursing homes are carrying zoonotic disease pathogens.

Weese cautions that the presence of bacteria doesn't mean people will automatically become infected, but their study has raised a public health concern. He says more research is needed to determine possible infection rates between dogs and humans and vice versa.

This research is typical of the work that will be fostered through a new Centre for Public Health and Zoonoses established at the Ontario Veterinary College. The centre will co-ordinate the activities of researchers from OVC, other U of G departments and government agencies.

Closing the gap

**U of G has a history** of running the largest annual United Way campaign at any Canadian university. In 2006, the three-month campaign raised $393,000 from employees, students and retirees to help United Way Community Services of Guelph and Wellington close the gap between donations and needs in the community.

Profs. David Douglas, Environmental Design and Rural Development, and Tim Mau, Political Science, chair the United Way planning and fund distribution committees. In addition, many members of the U of G family are volunteers for United Way agencies and programs.

Older adults need nutritional help

We need to encourage older adults to use support programs like Meals on Wheels to ensure they maintain health nutrition. That's the advice of Prof. Heather Keller of the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition following a study in which she found that meal assistance programs, family support and formal nutritional programs help prevent the elderly from becoming malnourished. The 18-month study showed that those who try to do all of their own cooking are more at risk because they may not feel like cooking or may choose less nutritious food. The research was published in the *Journal of the American Dietetic Association* and the *Journal of Nutritional Health and Aging*. 
World champion cherishes time at Guelph

Cassie Campbell, BA ’97, is a seven-time world champion and three-time Olympic medallist in women’s hockey, but she still says one of her most memorable hockey moments was winning the 1995 Ontario University Athletics championship as a Guelph Gryphon.

“I was the only Guelph player with national team experience, but we beat the University of Toronto, which had eight national team members on the ice,” she said during an April 2006 press conference hosted by the Department of Athletics.

Campbell said she tried three times to earn a spot on the national team, but didn’t make it until 1993 after working with Gryphon coach Sue Scherer, BA ’83, whom Campbell described as her “most influential coach.” Scherer emphasized fitness and was an appropriate role model, having served as captain of Canada’s first national women’s team in 1990.

Campbell was named Team Canada captain in 2001 and held the position for five years; she is the only captain to lead a hockey team (women or men’s) to consecutive Olympic gold medals (2002 and 2006).

This changes everything

Tim Bray, B.Sc. ’01, is known by most “computer geeks” — he includes himself under the moniker — as co-developer of XML (extensible markup language), the encoding language that permits the exchange of information on the web by standardizing information shared among various computer systems. XML enables the e-mails and web searches we now take for granted.

Based in Vancouver, Bray is director of web technologies at Sun Microsystems Inc. and author of the popular weblog “ongoing.” He visited his alma mater in 2005 to help launch Blogs@Guelph, a pilot project for campus users, and again last year to speak at a computing conference. Blogging is changing the business of communication, he says, because it provides an outlet for the storytelling impulse in each of us.
Synonymous with soybeans

When Peter Hannam was a student at Guelph in the 1960s, one of his professors suggested that soybeans would never be grown in this part of Ontario because the season was too short. Fortunately, Hannam took that as a challenge. In 1982, he established First Line Seeds and grew the company into one of Canada’s largest soybean seed suppliers. He invested in research, developed new varieties and helped soybeans become one of Ontario’s largest field crops.

Hannam has also invested in research talent at the University of Guelph and ideas that could lead to a better match between soybean growers and market opportunities, innovative uses for soy protein in medicine and industry, and better ways to use byproducts of soybean processing.

His commitment to agriculture does not waver, nor does his desire to motivate people to act in the best interest of this cornerstone industry.

Alumni say we’re tops

The annual Maclean’s magazine ranking of Canadian universities includes a graduate survey, in which participants are asked to rate their alma mater. In the 2006 survey, Guelph was No. 1 among comprehensive universities in seven of the eight categories for educational excellence.

The write person for the job

The bestselling author of five internationally acclaimed novels, Jane Urquhart, BA ’71, returned to her alma mater last fall as writer-in-residence. “I always loved this campus, so there’s something exciting about coming back,” she said, adding that working with emerging writers who have a desire to write regardless of what might happen to the material they produce is exciting.

This was Urquhart’s second invitation to Guelph. She received an honorary degree in 1999 and delivered a memorable convocation address in which she encouraged students to pursue both a vocation and an avocation — something you do because you love to do it. She said she feels grateful that she’s been able to combine them. Urquhart has received numerous literary awards and was named to the Order of Canada in 2005.
Knowledge is discovering new truths, organizing what we know and then reimagining ourselves and the world in which we live.

Continuing to provide a quality experience

The University of Guelph was at the top of its class for overall educational quality, reputation and atmosphere in the 2006 University Report Card published by the Globe and Mail.

The fifth annual survey represented the opinions of some 32,700 undergraduate students across Canada. Universities were divided into four divisions based on enrollment, and Guelph was ranked No. 1 in the medium-large category. The University got top marks in several key areas: sense of personal safety and security; library services; overall satisfaction with the university experience; and reputation for undergraduate and graduate studies, professional schools and among employers.

Guelph was also the top-rated school in the country for its food services and received praise for its excellent faculty, athletic programs and use of technology.

Helping students fund a Guelph education

In the last decade, expenditures for financial assistance programs at U of G have increased by 250 per cent; tuition has gone up 62 per cent. In addition, the University has increased undergraduate financial assistance for needs-based awards by 96 per cent and merit-based awards by 104 per cent. And because of the commitment of its graduates, Guelph continues to have one of the lowest student-loan default rates in the province.

U of G Commitment to Accessibility and Excellence

| % change in undergraduate financial assistance expenditures since 1992/2000 |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| needs-based                                    | 104%             |
| merit-based                                    | 96%              |

SOURCE: RESOURCE PLANNING AND ANALYSIS
U of G applauds recent alumni achievements

- A 1976 political science graduate and a member of the University’s Board of Governors, Jeff Lozon, is president and CEO of St. Michael’s Hospital in Toronto. He was recently appointed by the prime minister to head the $260-million Canadian Partnership Against Cancer.
- Mick Bhatia, who earned his PhD in human biology in 1995, has been recruited by McMaster University to head a new stem cell and cancer research institute.
- A medical doctor and dean of medicine at the Fiji School of Medicine, David Brewster, BA ’69, has been named a member of the Order of Australia for his work in developing indigenous child health care and treatment for malnutrition in developing countries.
- Kristin Roe, a 2003 philosophy graduate, became the first Canadian to swim from Robben Island to Cape Town, South Africa, last winter, a feat that raised money for women infected with HIV/AIDS.
- John Steffler, MA ’74 in English, is a former professor at Memorial University in Newfoundland, and Canada's new poet laureate.
- U of G has wooed one of its own veterinary graduates back to head a new Centre for Public Health and Zoonoses. Jan Sargeant, DVM ’86, M.Sc. ’92 and PhD ’96, has had previous faculty appointments at Kansas State University and McMaster University.
- Latvia’s ambassador to the NATO defence alliance is 1968 MA history graduate, Janis Eichmans. He was formerly Latvian ambassador to Greece.
- Agriculture graduates Mohd Basri Wahid, PhD ‘93, and Makhdhir Mardan, PhD ’89, were honoured in Malaysia by receiving the title of Datuk (equivalent to a British knighthood).
- The Right Rev. David Giuliano, BA ’82 and M.Sc. ’94, was elected moderator of the United Church of Canada in 2006.
- International development graduate Jason Dunkerley, BA ’03, won a gold medal at the world track-and-field championships for athletes with a disability held in the Netherlands in September 2006. He took the men’s 1,500 metres for the visually impaired.
- Aakosua Fremu Osei-Opare earned an M.Sc. in consumer studies in 1976. After a long public-service career, she was elected a member of parliament in Ghana and is deputy minister of manpower, youth and employment.
U of G is a family affair for the Derrys

When first experiencing country life in the 1980s, Douglas Derry had no idea this new lifestyle would lead him to the University of Guelph. He's a chartered accountant whose professional life was in downtown Toronto, but the whole family lived for weekends on their farm in Caledon and eventually made it their home.

Derry's wife, Margaret, and children, Alison and David, convinced him that every farm should have a cow or, in this case, four bred heifers that started a herd of purebred Murray Greys. The herd was later replaced by Shorthorns. Alison and David developed a love of the land that led them to U of G, where she studied environmental biology and he earned two degrees in agronomy and land resource science. Alison is now completing a doctorate in aquatic ecology at Queen's University, and David is focused on a career as a writer.

Margaret became an agricultural historian, author and adjunct professor at Guelph. Douglas, too, was drawn into the University family as a member and current chair of the Board of Governors.

Growth in Total Endowed Funds
Up $366M or $129 million since 1992

[Bar chart showing growth in endowed funds from 1991 to 2006]
"I'm relying on you"

There is no one more appropriate than the Hon. Lincoln M. Alexander, U of G's chancellor emeritus, to represent the University of Guelph's desire and ability to improve life in Canada and beyond. His professional success and personal reputation are testament to the value of education and the importance of working for the good of our society.

He has achieved many notable firsts:
- First in his family to attend university
- First black member of Canada's Parliament
- First black chair of the Workers' Compensation Board
- First person of colour to be Ontario's lieutenant-governor
- First person to serve five terms as U of G's chancellor; a record across the university sector in Canada.

Alexander has congratulated more than 20,000 Guelph graduates, sometimes adding this bit of advice and responsibility: "I'm relying on you."

In his autobiography, "Go to School, You're a Little Black Boy," the chancellor says: "When I attend convocation, I feel as though I am sitting there as witness to the future of our country, even our planet." And he is.

In words to our graduates, he adds: "The value of your education can never be calculated. Your degree or diploma will empower you and enrich your country. At the same time, it places on you the obligation to strive for a society free of intolerance and violence, to protect educational opportunities for others and to use your skills for the betterment of society."

We take those words to heart at U of G. They are a charge to us as an institution as well as a family of graduates, and we intend to use the skills we have developed to improve the health and welfare of our global society.

After 15 years as U of G's chancellor, Alexander is stepping into a new ceremonial role as University chancellor emeritus. Canadian journalist and diplomat Pamela Wallin will succeed him as chancellor.

Investing in U of G

The university received almost $17 million in donations from alumni and friends in 2006. Those gifts are growing the University's endowment, building state-of-the-art facilities, and supporting teaching and research.
### First-Year Retention rates

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<th>Guelph</th>
<th>National</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>91.1%</td>
<td>86.7%</td>
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### Students Holding National Scholarly Awards

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<th></th>
<th>Guelph</th>
<th>National</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4.9 per 1,000</td>
<td>4.4 per 1,000</td>
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### Student Services Expenditures

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<th>Guelph</th>
<th>National</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
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### Student Success: Percentage Who Graduate

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<th>Guelph</th>
<th>National</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>89.5%</td>
<td>82.3%</td>
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A complete report of University of Guelph audited financial statements for fiscal 2005/2006 — including total revenue of $510.8 million — is available at www.fin.uoguelph.ca.
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PUBLISHED BY COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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EDITED BY MARY DICKSON
DESIGN BY PETER ENNESON DESIGN INC.
COVER PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARTIN SCHWALBE, ALEX SMITH, DEAN PALMER AND RICHARD BAIN
PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARTIN SCHWALBE, ALEX SMITH, GRANT MARTIN, ROSS DAVIDSON-PILON, RICHARD BAIN, DEAN PALMER, SETH GERRY, MICHAEL MAHOVICH, MATTHIAS BUCK, KYLE RODRIGUEZ AND THE MACDONALD STEWART ART CENTRE
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IMPROVING LIFE BY REDUCING OUR ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT

The 2007 President’s Report is made from 100-per-cent post-consumer recycled fibre in a chlorine-free process that utilizes wind power. By choosing these options, we made these savings:

- 48 trees preserved
- 65.3 kilograms of waterborne waste not created
- 77,720 litres of wastewater flow saved
- 1,030 kilograms of solid waste not generated
- 2,029 kilograms net greenhouse gases prevented
- 34,237,000 BTUs of energy not consumed
- 1,054 kilograms air emissions not generated
- 167 cubic metres of natural gas not used.
No longer bored with the Bard

When English professor Daniel Fischlin started to teach Shakespeare 10 years ago, he found himself trying to figure out how to get hundreds of students interested in reading what many considered to be boring stuff.

Fischlin decided that looking at adaptations of the Bard's work would show how contemporary writers were dealing with Shakespeare and provide a nice platform for transitioning back to the original texts.

When he couldn't find a resource on world adaptations of Shakespeare, Fischlin was left to compile his own database. He discovered lots of Canadian plays, comic books, cartoons, movies, songs and jazz improvisations all dedicated to giving a Canadian perspective on Shakespeare's work. And so the Canadian Adaptations of Shakespeare Project (CASP) was born. It's the largest website in the world dedicated to showing Shakespeare's influence on a nation, and it's still growing.

CASP has attracted the attention of other educators and the Stratford Festival of Canada, which asked to have its vast archival holdings included in a new hybrid website. CASP researchers also compiled teaching guides and instructional aids to help high school teachers use the database, and they've launched a fast-paced online arcade game based on Romeo and Juliet. Aimed at youth aged 10 to 15, "Shakespeare in the World" fuses gaming goals with the curricular goals of literacy promotion. Only by learning about the Shakespearean classic can a player successfully complete the game.

CASP has become an educational tool for audiences from grade school and high school students to post-secondary and lifelong learners to theatre aficionados at an international level. (www.canadianshakespeare.ca)

Treating epilepsy

Prof. Roberto Poma, a veterinary neurologist at the Ontario Veterinary College, and technician Jennifer Collins are studying brain activity in epileptic dogs to gain a better understanding of the condition.

"In a clinical setting, we often jump from clinical symptoms to treatment of epilepsy," he says. "What we're looking at is the information missing in the middle, which will help us characterize epileptic syndromes in dogs and hopefully provide valuable support to investigate human epilepsy."
One of the most important purposes of any university is to promote critical thinking in our classrooms, laboratories and communities.

More students shunning sports for academics

Prof. John Dwyer of the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition says less than half of Ontario's high school students take physical education classes after Grade 9, the only grade where it's required, and only a fraction are involved in school sports and recreation programs. In fact, student participation in PE classes and intramural and inter-school sports has declined steadily over the past six years.

"Students seem to be opting for what they or their parents consider to be more academic courses," says Dwyer, who was chosen by Health Canada to serve on its external Food Guide Advisory Committee, part of the team that revised Canada's Food Guide to Healthy Eating. "But they must start to recognize the importance of physical activity."

Health foods go mainstream

Health food stores, once thought of mostly as "hippie bastions," have gone mainstream, and health and organic food items are now occupying entire aisles in grocery stores. History professor Catherine Carstairs says it's due to society's growing concerns about health, its desire to remain youthful and its distrust of technology and mainstream medicine.

"All of these factors have contributed to the growing health food craze," says Carstairs, who conducted interviews with 30 leaders in the health food industry across Canada to trace the industry's history and trends.

She says the health food industry first took off during the 1960s, and when the federal government created the Natural Health Products Directorate in 1999, it added a lot of legitimacy to the industry because it allowed manufacturers to make health claims for their products.

Animal Health Lab is on the job

Veterinarian Jim Fairles and other staff at U of G's Animal Health Laboratory (AHL) are ever vigilant in their efforts to diagnose and monitor foreign animal diseases and zoonotic diseases in Ontario.

As a partner in the Ontario Animal Health Surveillance Network, the AHL contributes to maintaining healthy animals and safe food by serving as the central source of provincial disease-trend information.
In defence of processed foods

Many Canadian processed foods aim to improve health and should not be considered synonymous with junk food, says food scientist Milena Corredig, a new Canada Research Chair who aims to incorporate more functional, healthier ingredients in food products.

“Omega-3 milk and heat-treated tomato juice are good examples of processed foods that are actually better for you than the non-processed version,” she says. “They’re also well-conserved, so you can have the sense of freshness for a longer time.”

Corredig heads one of the only research groups in the world studying butter’s byproduct, called buttermilk — not fermented buttermilk, but the watery substance that’s separated from the butter during the butter-making process. Once buttermilk is processed, the nutritional properties are diminished, so the team is trying to find a way to process cream and butter that would preserve the quality of the phospholipids in buttermilk.

Shrinking bee population threatens economy

Environmental biologist Peter Kevan says shrinking bee populations in North America pose a serious threat to our plants, food chain and economy. He co-authored a U.S. National Research Council report with 14 other researchers that shows U.S. honeybees have declined some 30 per cent in the past 20 years. Other pollinators, including bats and wild bees, are also in jeopardy.

“This is a huge problem because one in every three bites of human food depends on pollinators and, in nature, 75 per cent of all flowering plants depend on pollinators for fertilization,” says Kevan, who has been studying pollinators for more than 30 years. If the pollinators aren’t there, crop yields suffer and prices for affected commodities go up.

The problem in Canada is not as drastic as in the United States, says Kevan. “The Canadian bee community is very proactive in bee breeding and in controlling parasitic mites, which have caused declines in the States.”

In Canadian forests, restrictions in pesticide use have also improved conditions for pollinators and, in turn, protected the fruit and seeds eaten by wildlife, he says.

Shedding light on math disabilities

New research by psychology professor Marcia Barnes will make it easier to assess and help children who have problems with math.

She has found that, contrary to what was previously believed, visual-spatial skills and math calculation skills are unrelated. She also found that children’s math difficulties stem from only a couple of key problems.

It’s often been thought that math calculation and skills such as putting block puzzles together are somehow related. Barnes and her colleagues tested this theory by looking at children with spina bifida, North America’s most common disabling birth defect. About 40 per cent of children with spina bifida have math disabilities, and a large proportion also have difficulties with visual-spatial skills.

“We found no relation between math calculations and visual-spatial skills,” says Barnes.

They did find that, regardless of a child’s type of disability, the problems with math looked very similar.

“This means the programs that work for kids without brain disorders may be the same programs that will help children with brain injuries improve their math skills.”
A learning expedition

AFTER FLEEING FROM SUDAN as a child, Roe Duku left home three times before finding her way to the University of Guelph: first to live with her older brother in Kenya so she could go to school, then to live in a refugee camp for a year to be eligible to apply for the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) student refugee program, and finally to move to Canada, where she wanted to make her family and the Sudanese people proud of her efforts.

In February, Duku graduated from U of G with a degree in applied human nutrition, and she’s now working in Vancouver — starting a life she only dreamed about five years ago.

The Guelph chapter of WUSC has been sponsoring student refugees for more than 20 years; a similar program at the Alfred campus was started in 2000. In addition, U of G president Alastair Summerlee is currently serving as WUSC chair.

Filling the food bank

GUELPH STUDENTS set new national records by raising more than $84,500 in food and donations last fall for local charities through Meal Exchange, a student-run national organization.

On Halloween night, about 1,200 students collected some 30,000 pounds of food worth more than $60,000 for the Guelph Food Bank.

U of G students also donated $24,500 from their meal plans through “Skip a Meal.” It was the highest amount donated by any Canadian university or college. The students’ “Skip a Meal” donations were used to support 17 organizations throughout the city that help abused women, homeless teens and food banks.

What does civic engagement look like?

IN ADDITION TO her position as executive director of the Canadian Association for Community Service-Learning, Cheryl Rose is completing a master’s degree in capacity development and extension through the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development.

She began her thesis project, titled “Civic Visions,” by asking Guelph...
students to take photographs that illustrate how the University contributes to life beyond campus borders.

"Guelph students said they saw more images representing civic engagement than they expected and chose things they wouldn't normally have thought of as representing that," says Rose. The images included a police officer's shoulder patch, a bicycle, a newspaper box, a student sharing her culture through dance, and a Garbasaurs sculpture made from garbage that students helped clean out of the Speed River.

**Guelph speaks, students listen**

A group of Guelph graduate students in the School of English and Theatre Studies have combed the city in search of stories that affirm Guelph's diversity and uniqueness. Inspired by course readings and classroom discussions, the students launched the project "Guelph Speaks! Re-storying the City" in an effort to create a collection of narratives published as a multimedia community anthology.

**Promoting the environment**

Environmental Biology student Chris Charles spent last summer in Botswana as a volunteer and environmental educator at Mokolodi Nature Reserve. He lived in a small rural village and completed a vegetation assessment to determine the carrying capacity of the nature reserve. Besides learning to cook mopane worms and impala, Charles volunteered at an orphanage for kids with mental and physical handicaps.

He says the summer met all his expectations, giving him the chance to apply academic knowledge and theory to a practical work environment, learn about the developing world and provide help to those less fortunate.

**Lecture showcases contemporary art**

John Kissick, director of the School of Fine Art and Music, says the inaugural Shenkman Lecture in contemporary art was a coup for Canada by hosting British artist Michael Craig-Martin for his first Canadian lecture. The annual lecture series was endowed by Canadian art collector Dasha Shenkman, who has lived in the United Kingdom for 40 years.
Caring and collaboration are deeply rooted in U of G’s heritage, culture and community. Our citizen leaders are improving the lives and livelihoods of others.

The second annual President’s Dialogue will be held this summer. The dialogue is part of a series of ongoing events sponsored by U of G to engage the campus community and the public in stimulating discussions on emerging issues. This year, the discussion will concern Canada’s role as a global citizen.

Hospitality and tourism industry funds scholarship

In a display of caring and recognition for both past and future Guelph graduates, members of the hospitality and tourism industry have established an annual scholarship to honour U of G graduate William Allen, a former deputy minister of tourism and recreation. The gift was matched by the provincial government’s Ontario Trust for Student Support program to create a $60,000 endowment.

Students lounge with aboriginal culture

The university marked Aboriginal Awareness Week in October with a range of educational and cultural events, including the opening of a South Residence lounge newly transformed into a space that celebrates aboriginal culture and features student artists.

In praise of immigrant workers

When Labour Day arrived last fall, geography professor Harald Bauder suggested Canadians should use the day to reflect on the vital role immigrants play in the nation’s labour force. “Immigration is a structural necessity to our economy,” he says. “Immigration regulates Canada’s labour markets from the bottom up because immigrants tend to fill the lower ranks of the labour market and remain there.”

In his 2006 book, Labour Movement: How Migration Regulates Labour Markets, Bauder notes that a mixture of legal, social and cultural mechanisms keep immigrants in their subordinated positions. “The reality is that immigration policy is really labour market policy. Throughout Canada’s history, immigration policy has served economic objectives.”
Water panel taps Guelph expert

PROF. AL LAUZON of Guelph's School of Environmental Design and Rural Development is leading a panel of experts to advise the provincial government on protecting sources of drinking water and meeting needs of rural communities. The appointment complements Ontario's Clean Water Act. The 11-member panel is charged with making recommendations on how to use new provincial funding, worth $7 million in its first year, to help farmers and rural businesses reduce threats to local drinking-water sources.

Employees offer a helping hand abroad

THERE WAS NO SHORTAGE of employees willing to volunteer their services when the University announced it would participate in Leave for Change, an international program where people spend their vacation working in the developing world. Michael Levy of the Office of Research will travel to Shawake, Botswana, to work on a website design assignment. Wayne Johnston of the U of G Library and Sean Yo of Computing and Communications Services are headed for Nepal, where they'll work with the Nepal Fair Trade Group. Frebis Hoffmeyer of the College of Management and Economics will also go to Nepal to help the Federation of Community Forest Users with a database to organize its records.

Guelph is the first university in English-speaking Canada to participate in Leave for Change, an initiative of World University Service of Canada and Centre d'étude et de coopération internationale.

The colours of caring

THE U OF G STUDENT SUPPORT NETWORK held a concert in February to support a city-wide goal of raising $1 million for an AIDS clinic in Lesotho, Africa. In fact, the whole campus is supporting the project, which was initiated by Guelph physician Anne-Marie Zajdlik. Red and white beaded bracelets purchased from a South African women's co-operative are being sold all over campus and beyond, with proceeds going to the Lesotho clinic. So far, the University community has raised $50,000.

Cultivating farmers

PROF. SALLY HUMPHRIES, Sociology and Anthropology, works with Honduran agronomists in a non-governmental organization called Fundación para la Investigación Participativa con Agricultores de Honduras, which is dedicated to supporting participatory agricultural research with Honduran hillside farmers.

With funding from the Canadian International Development Agency, she helped start a youth program in 2001 that involves students in experimental field projects such as growing organic vegetables and fruit trees, testing natural insecticides and composting methods, managing local garbage, and the reforestation of micro-watersheds.

The program in Honduras has trained more than 240 young people aged 12 to 19, preparing budding farmers, researchers and rural extensionists for productive agricultural careers, says Humphries.
Inside these walls

Can a building cure disease and save lives? Of course not. But the discoveries made inside its walls can. When complete, U of G’s $144-million science complex will provide top Canadian scientists like Frances Sharom and Joseph Lam with the facilities and tools they need to improve the health of Canadians. Sharom aims to understand how cancer cells become resistant to drugs and to develop new treatments for improving chemotherapy. She’s a biochemist who holds a Canada Research Chair in Membrane Protein Biology, but she also directs Guelph’s Biophysics Interdepartmental Group graduate program. That mixture of biology and physics speaks to the cross-disciplinary work in her lab and to the design of a building that enables researchers from a variety of departments to collaborate on the study of biological processes.

Lam’s lab provides broad-based training for a new generation of researchers who are studying the underlying mechanisms of Pseudomonas aeruginosa, a bacterium that accounts for the majority of pulmonary infections and deaths in people with cystic fibrosis. He holds a Canada Research Chair in Cystic Fibrosis and Microbial Glycobiology.

Artists exhibit on the world stage

Of fine art professors Kim Kozzi and Dai Skuse (Fastwürms) represented Canada in the 27th São Paulo Art Biennial in Brazil from October to December. Only three Canadian groups were chosen to showcase their work at the 2006 biennial with 118 other international artists.

A new way of doing business

Last year, the University of Guelph launched a new College of Management and Economics to develop programs that expand our understanding of business and its role in society, and to strengthen management and economics research activities. The timing was right. Guelph business programs are already well-established and well-respected. Student interest in management and business-related programs has risen dramatically over the last few years, and many employers seek out Guelph graduates because they possess industry-specific skills and leadership abilities.