

FALL/WINTER '08

BRESCIA
UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE
ALUMNAE
BULLETIN

bulletin



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DR. BERYL IVEY

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BURSARIES
WITH GUEST SPEAKER
WENDY MESLEY



“Women around the globe are stepping forward into leadership roles at a crucial moment in history...By developing their leadership potential, they are bettering the lives of those around them and changing the world.”

Carmelle Murphy Award of Distinction and the Young Alumnae Award of Merit respectively. Award of Distinction recipient Dr. Beryl Ivey '47 needs no introduction here; her leadership was legendary at Brescia and beyond. And, hearing about Tahirih Naylor-Thimm's '00 incredible contributions at the United Nations at such a young age was positively affirming! I had the pleasure of teaching Tahirih at Osgoode, so seeing her recognized this way was personally rewarding.

My time at Brescia has convinced me that I am a part of something significant. When the media began to focus on the spiraling economic downturn, I received calls from several Brescia alumnae stressing the importance of ensuring that a Brescia education remains accessible during this challenging time. Members of my leadership team repeated the same message. A group of first-year students contacted me, wondering what they could do to ensure that their colleagues would be able to continue to study at Brescia, whatever impediments this economy might create. With the support of alumnae and committed faculty, staff and students, addressing student needs will remain a top priority during my tenure as Principal. I have witnessed leadership on so many levels here on the Brescia hill and feel truly privileged to be able to continue the wonderful work of the many women who have gone before me.



Alumnae Council President's Message

Melanie Caldwell-Clark '00

This is my first message to you as President of the Alumnae Council. I am honoured to take on this leadership role and look forward to working with the dynamic group of women who are the Alumnae Association.

This fall at Brescia University College we welcomed our 89th cohort of future alumnae. Many of these young women are living away from home for the first time and experiencing the independence and self-determination that comes with it. Fall also means the celebration of Homecoming at Brescia, where alumnae return to their alma mater to reunite with old friends and share stories about where their lives have taken them since graduating from Brescia. You will see the word and photo story on pages 6 and 7.

A central theme that seems to resonate with alumnae is how their time at Brescia helped to prepare them for a leadership role later in life, both in their career and in their community. Brescia is an institution that encourages young women to take the helm and guide their peers, a unique opportunity within an academic environment.

My own personal definition of leadership has been impacted by my new role as Alumnae Council President. Leadership is about creating an environment where goals can be accomplished, and invoking a group towards achieving those goals. Nowhere is this more evident than at Brescia, where women take the lead every day.

In the coming months I hope to see more of our alumnae step forward to share with us their talents and insights through involvement on the Council. Young alumnae are the cornerstone of our outreach efforts and crucial in connecting with our future leaders.



Principal's Message

Dr. Colleen Hanycz

90 Years of Forming Leaders: Women who Change the World.

What did Kofi Annan, the former Secretary-General of the United Nations, mean when he said “the future of the world depends on women”? Women around the globe are stepping forward into leadership roles at a crucial moment in history, shaping and improving their communities, from the grass roots up, for themselves, their children and their unborn grandchildren. By developing their leadership potential, they are bettering the lives of those around them and *changing the world*.

Brescia embraces Annan's observation in our mission to educate women. For almost 90 years, the Ursuline Sisters have been forming leaders at Brescia—by providing access to education, opportunities to serve the College and the community and by challenging our notions around what leadership means and how it can impact the community in a positive way.

In my first five months at Brescia, I have observed that Brescia women do change the world. Some of those changes are local, quiet and incremental and others are wide-reaching, public and global. The leadership that achieves those changes can happen around the world, or around the kitchen table.

I have now been involved in many gatherings—large and small—of Brescia women and see that they embrace leadership in all of its varied forms. It was my pleasure to participate in Homecoming 2008, and to learn more about two alumnae whose values-based leadership earned them this year's





INSTALLATION

Rita Gardiner

It was a bright sunny afternoon as members of the Brescia community processed into the St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica to take part in the installation ceremony for our new Principal, Dr. Colleen Hanycz.

Saturday, November 1st marked the culmination of six months' hard work by the organizing committee comprised of Brescia administrators and faculty. The Committee's work was complemented by the assistance of Father Michael Bechard, the Master of Ceremonies for diocesan events involving the Bishop of London.

The Most Reverend Ronald Fabbro, Bishop of London, gave an inspirational homily and reminded those gathered of the legacy of St. Angela Merici, the founder of the Ursuline Order. We then moved seamlessly into the installation, the academic component of the event.

Dr. Lorna Bowman, Brescia's Academic Dean, spoke of the historical significance of installations at universities across the world. Sara Steers, Coordinator of the Council of Trustees, formally installed the

Principal. Brescia students robed the Principal with the new Brescia gown, and Sister Eleanor Gleeson, General Superior of the Ursuline Sisters, presented Dr. Hanycz with the Principal's medallion.

Representatives from universities across Canada presented Brescia's new Principal with institutional greetings. Finally, Dr. Hanycz gave her installation address where she spoke about the importance of Brescia's heritage, mission and our desire to foster leadership for the common good.

Close to 300 guests took part in the celebration first at the Basilica and later at the reception in the Mother St. James auditorium. The youngest guest was nine weeks' old!

PAGE 4 FROM LEFT TO RIGHT : Alumnae Council President Melanie Caldwell-Clark and Foundation Board Chair Joan Francolini, Council of Trustees Coordinator Sara Steers, Dr. Colleen Hanycz are pictured outside St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica. ABOVE: Professor Monika Lee gives the first reading. | Sister Margaret Keller, Brescia's Chaplain, leads the academic procession into St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica. | Dr. Hanycz receives an embrace from Sister Eleanor Gleeson, General Superior, Ursuline Sisters after being draped in the Brescia robe by students: Taslim Alani, Tori Coates, Jessica Henriques, Kate Bryant and Council of Trustees Coordinator Sara Steers. | BACK ROW: Dr. Lorna Bowman (academic Dean) Mary McGrath, Dr. Colleen Hanycz, Patricia (Woodcock) Pettigrew, Adrienne (Birrell) Pollak FRONT ROW: Patricia (Lavoie) Stobbs, Sr. Mary-Lou McKenzie, Nora (Hanley) Newton, Margaret (Murray) Nicholson | Young guests at play with Brescia student Melanie Howard.



HOMECOMING 2008

GOES GREEN WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF THE 100-MILE LUNCH

Cathy Davidson '76, Homecoming Chair

The tables were set, the glasses glistened in the warm sunshine streaming through the windows, colourful gourds of all shapes and sizes decked the tables, and yellow and blue napkins were reminiscent of our Bacculaureate. This luncheon was going to be different.

As Homecoming 2008 approached, your Alumnae Council decided that it was time to be innovative and move to embrace Brescia's goals of environmental and social responsibility. We felt that the Homecoming luncheon was an ideal occasion to introduce these initiatives.

We wanted to actively reduce our carbon footprint by hosting a lunch with most items served having been grown and produced within 100 miles of Brescia. With the enthusiastic assistance of Brad Hirtzel, manager of Lewisfoods, we served a wonderful lunch of roasted pork loin with an apple and pear glaze, roasted root vegetables and mashed red

potatoes, a choice of salads, a tortellini dish for vegetarian guests, tasty sweets and fruit. Of course coffee and tea were not available from within our prescribed parameters, so we opted for Fair Trade products. The wine selections this year were from Ontario's Niagara region.

Saturday's Wine and Cheese event was also planned with an eye for items served to be from within the 100-mile boundary. Items served at the Anniversary Tea were made in Brescia's Food and Nutritional Sciences kitchens with the dedicated assistance of Lab Instructor Lucy Mahood and her mother-in-law, June. The weekend

also included the traditional Women's Panel, Mass, tours, lots of reconnecting and a new Young Alumnae event.

Not to be forgotten was a nostalgic journey through many years at Brescia via a PowerPoint presentation complete with heartfelt music, which inspired lots of "aaahs" and laughter from the attendees.

We plan to make this just the first of many such Homecoming celebrations. Next year's weekend will take place on October 3 and 4. I look forward to seeing you there.



1948



1953



1983



1968



1973



1978



2003



1958

CLASS PHOTOS



PAGE 7 FROM LEFT TO RIGHT | 1948: Mary McInnis, Patricia O'Dwyer, Geraldine (Zink) Payne | **1953:** Georgette (Demaitre) Bridle, Ileana (Suarez) Berthoty, Adrienne Pollak | **1983:** (Left to right) Susan (Greif) Lutz and Cassie (Martin) Kastelic | **1968:** FRONT ROW: Ruth (Fong) Tung, Carol Strickland, Patricia (Hodgkins) Reid, Cathy (Cornelius) Oldewening
BACK ROW: Margaret (Steen) Connolly, Faye (Cassidy) Smith, Marilyn (Jackson) Campbell, Catharine (Hall) Smith, Jody (Knight) Larsen, Sandra Desson, Mary Ann (Crok) Morin | **1973:** FRONT ROW: Maria (Polkiewicz) Medley, Ingrid Coppens, Sylvia Ranson, Jane (Kealy) Antal, Jan (Cruickshank) Sward, Margaret (Gaspirc) Rush, Mary (McFadzean) Fox
BACK ROW: Norma (Bell) Marcotte, Joanne (McTeague) Taylor, Sandra (Bell) Doyle, Diane Amos, Helen Bugno, Faye (Benton) Botham, Joyce (Pyka) Albinson, Gail (Stentaford) Sweezie, Valerie (Lewis) Reynolds | **1978:** Mary (Toman) Downs, Donna Hanrigh, Eileen (Copland) Stanbury, Nicole (Demeyere) Kenline | **2003:** Kristal Hartwell, Jennifer (Kindrat) Purdy, Katie George, Beckie Laskey, Kelly Almeida | **1958:** FRONT ROW: Sandra (Agro) Giammichele, Jeanette McGrath, Sr. Mary Louise McKenzie, Diane (Cronin) Warden, Patricia (Knowlton) Day Morris, Laura Cooper
BACK ROW: Eileen (Oleskevich) Lyle, Anita (De Carli) Baker, Patricia (Lavoie) Stobbs, Frances (Gray) Warden, Lorna (Popham)Bray, Sheila (Swalwell) Day, Mary (Walczak) Atkinson |

Photographer: Jason Selinger

Alumna Profile Shannon Bryant '90



Julie Maltby

Shannon Bryant took a leap of faith when she left her family and hometown of London to pursue a singing career in California and it was a risk that she has never regretted. When she returned home for a performance at the Aeolian Performing Arts Centre on October 3, she made time for an interview for the *Bulletin*.

Bryant's love of music began as a child and she tapped into her singing talent in her 20s. Her family was a source of inspiration. Her grandmother's first cousin, Francis Henry, was one of the original members of the "Guy Lombardo and his Royal Canadians" band and her grandmother encouraged Bryant to hear her own musical voice. "My grandmother inspired me simply because she was so encouraging as I took risks and leaps. She encouraged me to try and to listen to my intuition."

After deciding to attend Brescia, Bryant learned that her grandmother, Kathleen Mennel, also attended the College for one year. Bryant says, "I grew up Catholic and I liked that there was an all women's campus which felt unique,

comfortable and special to me. There is a strength here. Brescia was a great place to develop leadership, by reinforcing strength and leadership in women." Upon completion of her degree in philosophy, Bryant traveled to Dublin, Ireland. She cashed in her return ticket to Canada and started working and singing in a restaurant-piano bar there. "Singing in the piano bar in Dublin gave me the courage to try to become a singer when I returned to Canada."

After achieving some success in Canada, which included performing in several local festivals and with the London Symphony Orchestra in the popular "Jeans and Classics" show, Bryant decided that her best opportunities for a career lay south of the border. "When I packed up and left for San Francisco, I had no leads. It took me awhile to figure things out, like how I was going to make a living," Bryant says.

She began networking. "I wanted to explore the music world. I lived near San Francisco State University so I went to the music building, put up flyers to get singing students and build my business.

I went to different music clubs, answered ads for singers in the newspaper and really connected with people in the music world."

When asked what advice she would give to other budding artists, Bryant says, "Feel the fear and do it anyway. Commit time to putting yourself in a new situation where you feel uncomfortable, then reward yourself for it."

Bryant's risks have yielded many rewards. She enjoys performing, recording and she continues to teach singing. Her recent work is her self-produced original CD, *Oceano*, which blends Brazilian, Eastern, pop and jazz rhythms with Bryant's vocals. When she's not working, Bryant studies dance, walks by the ocean and enjoys quiet time for meditation and relaxation. She shares her life with her husband, Fernando and two and a half year old son, Francis.

To learn more about Bryant and her music, visit her website at www.shannonbryant.com



ALUMNA AWARD OF DISTINCTION



AWARDED POSTHUMOUSLY TO DR. BERYL (NURSE) IVEY '47

It is with a sense of pride and sadness that this year's Carmelle Murphy Alumnae Award of Distinction was awarded posthumously to Dr. Beryl Ivey, one of Canada's foremost philanthropists, who passed away on Christmas Day, 2007.

Together with her husband, Richard, she donated more than \$100 million to charities across Canada, including her alma mater. In May, 2005, she made a donation of \$750,000 to Brescia, and the library was named for her. At the announcement of her gift, she said, "I am delighted that the library will be an attractive environment where students will learn, interact and ultimately, shape their own futures." Her gift was later increased to \$1 million. Brescia's Beryl Ivey Library is a daily reminder of her generosity and kindness.

Beryl (Nurse) Ivey was born in 1924 in Chatham, Ontario. In 1943, she was awarded a full scholarship to pursue her university education at Brescia College. She frequently mentioned her gratitude to Mother St. James who had ensured that Dr. Ivey would be able to continue her studies. In 2007, Dr. Ivey was awarded the Order of Canada for her volunteer and philanthropic activities.

"She was a truly remarkable woman," notes Dr. Theresa Topic, past Principal of Brescia University College. "Her interests were so broad, and she was determined to help in meaningful and effective ways. She spoke once of the financial difficulties she had faced as a student at Brescia, and it was clear that her philanthropy was based on a very real understanding of need. She inspired all who knew her."



AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS 2008

MOTHER ST. JAMES CONTINUING SCHOLARSHIP
SARAH HELMOND, JULIE DAWN GAMMON

OLIVE HIGGINS CONTINUING SCHOLARSHIP
MARY BAYNTON, SARA WORTH

LAURA GRAY AWARD
KATE BRYANT, STACEY HALL

ROBERT C. EDMONDS MEMORIAL AWARD
ELISHAMA SHAW

MOTHER ST. JAMES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
TASHA RUGLESS

SISTER ST. MICHAEL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
STEFANIE BULTJE

SISTER ARLENE WALKER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
STEPHANIE GOUDREULT

SISTER MARIE ROSIER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
ROSEMARY KIMANI

SISTER MARGARET HANLEY SCHOLARSHIP
JOANNA WEINFELD

ALUMNAE SCHOLARSHIPS

LESLEY MCCALLUM
MARIA CAROLINA RAMIREZ
CONSTANCE SIBANDA

MOTHER (GRANDMOTHER)/ DAUGHTER AWARDS

BARBARA (SMITH) LEGGE '78/ CAROLYN LEGGE

BRENDA (NAISMITH) RUPAR '73/
CAROLYN RUPAR

MARTHA (COLE) STOCKERMANS '90/
ADHELE STOCKERMANS

RUTH (RYAN) WESTELAKEN '86/
ROSHA WESTELAKEN

RECOGNIZE OUTSTANDING ALUMNAE YOU KNOW FOR THE CARMELLE MURPHY ALUMNAE AWARD OF DISTINCTION AND THE YOUNG ALUMNAE AWARD OF MERIT.

For more details, please visit www.brescia.uwo.ca/alumnae/awards or contact Rita Gardiner at 519.432.8353, Ext. 28293.



Brescia Honours

Outstanding Young Alumna with Newly Created Award

Brescia recognized Tahirih Naylor-Thimm as the first recipient of the Young Alumnae Award of Merit.



Since delivering the valedictory address at Baccalaureate in 2000, Naylor-Thimm has obtained a law degree from Osgoode Hall Law School at York University. She has put her legal training to work for the Baha'i community. In July 2006 she accepted a role at the United Nations in New York. She leads the strategic planning and implementation of the Baha'i International Community's involvement in work on the issues of human rights, social development and sustainability.

The delegation she represents is grounded in the Baha'i faith which promotes equality, the oneness of the human race and calls for the abolition of extremes of wealth and poverty. Naylor-Thimm's vision and values inspired Professor June Matthews to nominate her for the Award. Matthews described Naylor-Thimm as an outstanding role model for young women because of her focus and her determination. "Her involvement with human rights, climate change, sustainable development, and poverty eradication demonstrate true leadership."

In her acceptance speech at the Homecoming luncheon, Naylor-Thimm said, "We know what it looks like to interact with someone who is concerned with his own good. And, we know what happens when communities and nations are only interested in their own selfish interests. The question then is how we create environments for young people to develop the capacity to become a well-wisher of all mankind. To see his or her purpose as greater than developing simply one's self or one's family."

"The unique thing about my experience at Brescia was that this capability was developed. We were encouraged to be of service, to offer our skills and capabilities to the world."



BREAKFAST FOR BURSARIES

Wendy Mesley
GUEST SPEAKER

Sara Marano

Guests wake up to the truth according to Wendy Mesley at the seventh Annual Breakfast for Bursaries.

On October 23, 2008, the seventh annual Breakfast for Bursaries event was held at the London Convention Centre. Since its creation in 2002, more than 2,000 guests have attended and more than \$200,000 has been directed to the Eleanore Donnelly Bursary Award. A substantial portion of these funds are raised through the matching opportunity of the Ontario Trust for Student Support (OTSS) program.

This year's speaker was Wendy Mesley, an award-winning journalist and co-host of CBC News: Marketplace. Mesley is noted for her energy, tenacity and wit. She is regarded as one of the best interviewers in television.

Five hundred guests gathered to hear her speak on the topic, "The truth is out there. Or is it?" Mesley captured the audience through her candid approach on the world of journalism, touching upon how she entered into the competitive field and sharing personal stories about her encounters within the Canadian political scene.

Congratulations to the committee of volunteers, chaired by Brescia alumna Mitra Khademi '95, who worked intently on planning and ensuring another successful event.

The 2008 Eleanore Donnelly Bursary Award winner is Adrienne Kester, a very dedicated and active woman. After years of working in food service, Adrienne has decided to pursue a degree in the Foods and Nutrition program at Brescia. She hopes to become a registered dietitian, and believes that a healthy lifestyle through food and fitness will make a positive contribution to our society.

"With the help of the Eleanore Donnelly Bursary Award I am able to put a greater focus on my studies because I don't have to worry about my financial situation as much, enabling me to be the best student I can be," Kester says.

SINCE ITS CREATION IN 2002, MORE THAN 2,000 GUESTS HAVE ATTENDED AND \$200,000+ HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO THE ELEANORE DONNELLY BURSARY AWARD.

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PAGE 11 TOP FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Brescia Foundation Executive Director Suzanne McDonald Aziz, speaker Wendy Mesley, Eleanore Donnelly Bursary Award recipient Adrienne Kester and Dr. Colleen Hanycz. **BELOW:** Speaker Wendy Mesley's witty and relaxed delivery informed and entertained the 500 guests who came out to Breakfast for Bursaries.

Get to Know Sister Margaret Kellar

BRESCIA CHAPLAIN



“Seeing someone come to a place of freedom to make a life giving choice is exhilarating.”

Did you graduate from Brescia?

No. However I did take a course here in 1979 with Dr. Peter Chimbos as I worked on my BScN. The content of the course served me well in my 25-year career as chaplain in the Ontario Correctional System. I found myself back at Brescia in the late 80s studying “The Role of Women in the Catholic Church” under Professor Joan Lenardon. I now enjoy the support of both Joan and Peter as my colleagues.

What was the last book you read?

Actually it was a re-read of the work entitled, “The Divine Milieu”, by Teilhard de Chardin. He was a man before his time whose creative insightful theological perspectives are absolutely soul energizing.

Which would you miss more—your T.V. or car stereo?

Thankfully I now live just a few minutes from Brescia so I could forgo my car stereo more easily than the T.V. I admit to being companioned by the T.V. for supper. (I live alone.)

What talent do you wish you had?

I would love to have piano fingers and be able to play it.

Where do you go to think?

I don't have a specific place. My mind is always interacting with itself and yes, I do talk to myself too!

What do you enjoy most about your work at Brescia?

My position as chaplain allows me to interact with staff, faculty, students, alumnae and family members. At heart I am a people person. I consider being a pastoral presence to others as a very sacred position which both energizes and challenges me. Seeing someone come to a place of freedom to make a life giving choice is exhilarating. Welcoming, interacting, singing, laughing and sharing faith with others especially those who attend our Sunday liturgy keep the fires burning. Remaining open to the needs of others brings with each day something unexpected and often challenging, as well as moments of delight, compassion, surprise, pain, disappointment and struggle. Keeping the plan fluid is critical to hear and respond to students' real needs. Finding little ways to build community keeps the creative juices flowing.

What is the biggest challenge as chaplain?

As a chaplain you always walk the fine line. As a confidante you share with those in pain and cannot do their work for them but must patiently support them to move forward and believe in themselves and their potential. Remaining deeply rooted in a contemplative stance demands discipline, freedom and courage. It is a daily challenge.

What is your biggest indulgence?

Having free time to enjoy the natural wonders of the world fuels my spirit and energizes my body.

What is your greatest accomplishment?

Being the first female full-time chaplain at Elgin Middlesex Detention Centre and successfully maintaining my role amidst great challenges in a very demanding environment. I completed a life sentence! Without parole!

What do you use more often, the telephone or email?

I could be considered a dinosaur as I still prefer to use the phone as often as possible.

What motivated your decision to become Brescia's Chaplain?

As I left 'corrections' the position at Brescia became available. I applied believing it could enrich my life and would provide a venue to broaden my experience and express concretely the mission and the vision of my membership in the Sisters of St. Joseph. Fortunately for me I was successful.

What is one of the most memorable moments in your career?

There have been many. Climbing Mt. Sinai during the night and arriving at the top at sunrise. There I placed a picture of my community under a rock. It was a highlight of my studies in the Middle East.

What is something about you that our readers may be surprised to hear?

I am a good cook and love to entertain.

DEAR BRESCIA GRADUATES OF 1980 – 1984!

SOME OF US ARE PLANNING A GIRLS' GET-TOGETHER IN SPRING OF 2009 FOR AN EVENING OF REMINISCING AT A LOCAL TORONTO RESTAURANT. IF YOU GRADUATED IN THE EARLY 1980s AND ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING US, PLEASE E-MAIL ME AT WWW.CASSIEMARTIN1@HOTMAIL.COM. DEPENDING ON THE LEVEL OF INTEREST, WE WILL STRUCTURE SOMETHING APPROPRIATE AND GET BACK TO YOU.

“CHEERS”
FROM CASSIE MARTIN-KASTELIC



NEW IWIL EVENT WILL BRING THE PODIUM TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Jill Payne

The Institute for Women in Leadership continues to grow as its first year comes to a close. IWIL promotes women's leadership through a wide range of activities, events and initiatives that encourage individual women to change the world. On October 15, 2008, the IWIL Sophia Series hosted a "kitchen-table" conversation about the characteristics of a leader with Christina Baldwin and Ann Linnea. An overview of the lecture can be read on our newly updated website at www.iwil.ca. Another way to learn about events at Brescia University College is to read the IWIL e-newsletter, a new communication that promotes upcoming events and interesting resources as well as interviews with women in leadership roles. If you would like to be added to our e-newsletter distribution list, please send your request to iwil@uwo.ca.

Encouraging women to discover and develop their leadership capacity is a college-wide priority. Through Brescia Student Services, students have the option to study leadership. Brescia students can take courses in leadership to obtain a Certificate in Leadership. Scholar's Elective students at Brescia have opportunities to dialogue on diverse topics relating to women in leadership to enhance their academic studies. There are academic plans for a women and leadership module at Brescia.

IWIL is reaching out to a variety of women through recurring events and new initiatives. Last year's Women Making Change conference provided undergraduate and graduate women students with a venue to deliver academic papers that explored the many ways women take the lead for change locally, nationally and internationally. The second conference will take place on Friday, March 6, 2009.

Following the success of last June's Leadership Conference, this event will return in the Summer of 2009. Last year, this conference explored leadership in two different streams to appeal to women at various stages of their careers.

A new initiative for IWIL is the high school public speaking contest that will take place on Saturday, April 4, 2009. This contest will be open to female students in grades 11 and 12. The theme will focus on women and leadership.

IWIL uses various methods to reach out to women in different stages of their careers in the surrounding community and beyond so they have the opportunity to find confidence in their unique abilities, and to equip them with the skills to provide leadership at all levels of society. For details about IWIL events and other initiatives, please visit the website regularly to learn more as new information becomes available.

ALUMNAE IN BUSINESS

IF YOU CURRENTLY OWN YOUR OWN BUSINESS AND ARE LOOKING FOR WAYS TO REACH BRESCIA ALUMNAE, CONTACT THE ALUMNAE RELATIONS OFFICE AT BRESCIA.ALUMNAE@UWO.CA ABOUT PROMOTING YOUR COMPANY ON BRESCIA'S WEBSITE UNDER THE "ALUMNAE IN BUSINESS" SECTION.



Join Heather Reier '96, owner of Cake Beauty, and others in bringing your business to Brescia alumnae.



Brescia Celebrates the 10th Anniversary of CultureWorks

Julie Maltby

Since its inception on Canada Day 1998, CultureWorks has been providing international students with a safe place to build language skills and confidence.

The program is offered at two locations on the grounds of Brescia University College and King's University College. CultureWorks also has partnerships with The University of Ontario Institute of Technology and the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies at The University of Western Ontario.

President Tina Bax founded the program and continues to oversee its success. "We started working in Brescia in 2001. We had eight or nine students in the first class. Now we have 80 students," Bax says with pride. There are 80 students at each of the affiliated colleges. The program is designed for a maximum of 18 students per class, but they haven't reached that number yet, and some classes are running with as few as nine students.

A small class size is just one of the advantages of learning English with CultureWorks. A letter of conditional acceptance to university distinguishes it from other programs for international students wanting to learn or upgrade their skills in English before studying at university. The length of the program ranges from three months to one year, depending on the individual's needs.

"The curriculum is developed with Brescia as an end in mind. We have a Brescia professor come into class to give a mini-lecture. Students ask questions and are given feedback on how they ask those questions," says Bax. The classrooms and classes are integrated within Brescia's timetable and space so that the students in the program aren't ghettoized.

The programming and extracurricular activities planned for the students are considered with care by Bax and her

staff. "I approach my decisions as an administrator by thinking like a teacher. I put the students first and focus on attracting and retaining the best students out there." Bax studied English at Western and then earned a BEd at Althouse College. When she graduated, there were few teaching jobs. She always wanted to travel so she spent 18 months teaching English in South Korea. "It's important for our teachers to have worked overseas so they can understand the change in culture and feelings of homesickness."

Brescia science student Khulood Almaskari left her home in the United Arab Emirates with the goal to study plant genetics one day. The first stop on her educational journey in Canada was CultureWorks. Like anyone leaving the familiar for the unknown, Almaskari did not know what to expect. "At first I thought I would be wasting a year of my life when I could be starting school, but now that I've done it, I realize how important it was to build a foundation for my future studies," she says.

About 1,000 students have realized the benefits of the CultureWorks experience and Bax and her team are committed to making the program accessible to as many students as possible. To help those with financial need and to reward excellence, the organization designates 10 per cent of annual profit to student awards. And, to address students' requests for programs not offered by Brescia and King's—Engineering and other Science-related programs in particular—the CultureWorks program is opening a new location at the Institute of Ontario Institute of Technology in Oshawa.



'48 In recognition of their 60th reunion, members of the Class of '48 donated an engraved chalice for Homecoming Mass and gorgeous yellow roses, which were placed at the altar.

MILESTONES MARRIAGES BIRTHS & DEATHS

MILESTONES:

'48 Lois Gordon thoughtfully filed the following report on the news of members of the Class of '48:

Marie (Johnson) Hardy married Bob in 1949. She has a Master's degree from the University of Windsor and taught school for years. They have seven children and 17 grandchildren. They divide their time each year between Florida and Canada.

Pat (Hardy) O'Grady is well. Her four children and six grandchildren are widely scattered and doing very well in school.

Elaine (Dever) Inglis married Charles and they have one son, Charles. He is extremely clever, having earned several degrees and teaches at Ryerson, as does his wife. They have two children. Unfortunately Elaine's two sisters (who studied at Brescia), four brothers and her husband have all passed away.

Patsy (Steepe) Haurie passed away February 2008. Alice (Burbridge) McLeod visited with Patsy in Duluth, Michigan

during the summer of 2004, and in 1983 after a skiing trip in Aspen. Patsy had such good humour and was a good friend.

Alice (Burbridge) MacLeod spends several months in Arizona, where she takes painting lessons. Alice taught school for 25 years. She and her husband have four children and five grandchildren. They are scattered from Saudi Arabia to Thunder Bay.

Jo Ann (Hayden) Rand has been included, even though she graduated in '49. She took post-graduate work and taught kindergarten. Her first husband, Sumner Carroll, didn't want her to work as he needed her in his political life. They have five sons and four daughters. Sumner had a heart attack and died suddenly. Jo-Ann married George Rand. They travelled a lot but he died of cancer in 1991. She has 14 well-educated grandchildren.

Kay Arpin graduated with a BSc Degree. She worked in teaching administration, consultation and research. After retiring, she travelled, volunteered and is presently a member of the Parish Council at the Heaven Centre and a member of Mid-Toronto Community Services.

Patricia O'Dwyer taught nursing at St. Joseph's Hospital in London and was made Director of the School from 1973-77. In the twilight years of her career she was involved in geriatric nursing.

Geraldine (Zink) Payne has a Master's Degree in English and Latin. She taught school for 12 years. She married John in 1962 and completed a Masters Degree from the University of Windsor in English. They have four children and one daughter, Mary Liz, attended Brescia. After her children were all in school, Gerry taught at Catholic Central in London. They retired to a home on Lake Huron and are involved in their church and community services. They have four grandchildren.

Marcy Calareo passed away a number of years ago, as did Danny Stewart.

Charlotte (Tache) Stasiuk married Peter in 1955. She taught English to Spanish students. They have five children. Charlotte served as a member of the Ukrainian Catholic Council and the North York Physicians

Wives Association. She passed away July 15, 2007 and was predeceased by Peter. They left 14 grandchildren.

Betty (Wintermeyer) Bennan spends part of the year at Mared Island and the rest at their cottage in Lake of Bays. She has six children and 10 grandchildren. Her husband, Bill, passed away many years ago.

Mary McInnis was a dietitian at St. Michaels Hospital Toronto and St. Mary's Hospitals in Montreal. She received a Masters Degree from Iowa State University and later taught at Brescia. She was also a dietitian at London Life before her retirement.

Bev Ballantyne married Herb in 1950. They have one daughter and son, and five grandchildren. Bev does a lot of volunteering. She plays golf and cards. They spend three months each year in Austin, Texas.

Phyllis McKeller passed away in 2005. She left a son and daughter.

Lois (Greening) Gordon married Eugene John in 1961, and taught at Grimsby High School for two years. She then managed her husband's Ophthalmologist office. They have four children and six grandchildren. She wrote, "It was truly God's blessing that we were all taught by the Ursulines and received their sound advice. May they increase in number to be there for many other students."

'55 Rosemary McConkey's grand-niece, Miss Erin Murray, has been accepted into the graduate program in Communications Sciences in fall 2008, to pursue her interest in Speech Therapy.

'57 Nora Newton hosted a lunch on June 4th at the Granite Club in Toronto, at which several Toronto alumnae had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Colleen Hanycz before she officially arrived at Brescia to assume the role of Principal.

'70 Jo-Ann (Ollerenshaw) Carrothers has eight grandchildren, including three-month old twins, a 90-year old mother and 98-year old mother-in-law. She retired from teaching 10 months ago but has not yet had time to realize it, having left the workplace treadmill for the family treadmill, which has proved to be more than full-time. They bought a retirement home on the water last year so they try to run away occasionally. She wrote that if anyone told her in 1970 that she would

retire and have a cottage and boat she would have laughed, as all she wanted to do then was travel.

'73 Mary (McFadzean) Fox has spent the first two years of her retirement planning and building a home in the Halliburton Highlands with her husband, Jim. They are now settling into a new community and their days are filled with seasonal sports, volunteering and a variety of social activities. Their three children are in their 20s and love to come to visit. They celebrated her parents' 60th wedding anniversary with a party this summer and look forward to many more milestones to celebrate at the lake. They are thankful for good health and all of God's blessings.

'77 Louisa Yue-Chan started a new job at VON in September, 2008. Her 26-year-old daughter got engaged in August, and her 22-year-old son is starting his fourth year at Guelph. Louisa's family is looking forward to a very exciting milestone year ahead!

'00 Tanya (Pulley) Mailhot married Paul on May 17th, 2008 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Together with many friends and family, they exchanged their wedding vows in an intimate ceremony followed by a cocktail reception by the ocean. In Tanya's summer message, she announced that they were expecting their first child in October, 2008.

'04 Kristina Henning launched a career in 2005 with Medbuy, Canada's leading healthcare Group Purchasing Organization. She was recently appointed to the position of Marketing and Communication Specialist. This past year she also completed the Project Management Program at Western and hopes to begin working towards her Professional Certificate in Marketing in the coming year.

'06 Jennifer Henning successfully completed the Master of Arts degree in Sociology at Memorial University of Newfoundland in September 2008. Having been awarded a full fellowship from Memorial's School of Graduate Studies, she is now continuing her research at the doctoral level. Currently, Jennifer also serves as the Eastern Canada representative for the Canadian Sociological Association. Having worked as a teaching assistant throughout her Master's program, Jennifer will be teaching a second-year undergraduate course titled 'Culture in Contemporary Canadian Society' in the winter semester.

Kim Resendes has just been hired as Recruitment and Alumni Relations Co-Ordinator with CultureWorks. President Tina Bax says, "Kim is a fabulous fit for us."



TORONTO LUNCH WITH DR. HANYCZ LEFT TO RIGHT: Dr. Colleen Hanycz, Nadia Martin, Diane Warden

BIRTHS:

Several Brescia staff members have welcomed new additions to their family in recent months:

Registrar's Office Liaison Officer Rhea Johnson and her husband, Scott, welcomed their first baby, Alice, on March 13th, weighing 7 lbs, 6 oz.



Brescia Foundation Development Officer Leslee Lefteruk and husband, Randy Harris, are thrilled to announce the safe arrival of Meghan Annalyse Harris, born Saturday, August 16, 2008 at 4:44 a.m., weighing 8 lbs, 11 oz.



Brescia Registrar's Office Receptionist Rebecca Neaves and her husband, Alex, are pleased to announce the arrival of daughter Robin Margaret. Robin was born November 2, 2008 at 11:15 p.m., weighing 7 lbs, 2 oz.

DEATHS:

We send our sympathies and warm wishes on behalf of the Brescia community to families and friends who have recently lost loved ones.

'53 Barbara (Brock) Moss died on November 1, 2005 of cancer. She leaves behind husband Norm, two sons and two granddaughters. When reaching out to classmates from '53 in the summer, Homecoming Representative Adrienne Pollak learned the sad news.

'65 Sandra (Ollerenshaw) Darby passed away August 14, 2008 after a long battle with cancer. Her sister, Jo-Ann (Ollerenshaw) Carrothers '70, wrote that Sandra "had the Brescia fight".

'85 Elizabeth Attridge's mother, Elsie (Stanton) Attridge, passed away peacefully in her 81st year, surrounded by her family at Parkwood Hospital in London, on Monday, June 16, 2008.

'98 Elaine-Joy Holman '98 BA (ACS) lost her father, Robert, on November 27, 2007 after a courageous seven-month battle with cancer. Elaine-Joy was able to spend the last six months taking care of him and listening to all the stories and advice he had for her. She misses him everyday but is glad for the time they had together.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Brescia University College
Bulletin Fall/Winter 2008

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Brescia University College
Alumnae Council

Kelly Almeida '03
Melanie Caldwell-Clark '00
Marilyn Campbell '68
Tiffany Chin '03
Katie George '03
Kristal Hartwell '03
Sheriann Heath-Johnston '98
Beckie Laskey '03
Helen McHenry '67
Sister Mary Lou McKenzie '58
Jennifer Purdy '03
Donna Stewart '81

Ex Officio: Dr. Colleen Hanycz, Rita Gardiner, Suzanne McDonald Aziz, Julie Maltby

CALLING ALL BRESCIA ALUMNAE!

Are you looking for a wonderful way to relive your days at Brescia? Come back for the Brescia Ball on January 17!

Alumnae are always welcomed back to join current students in this fabulous evening of food and dancing. Tickets can be purchased from the Students' Council Office by contacting Noha Abdo, Brescia Ball Convenor at bresciaball@bucsc.ca or by calling 519.432.8353, Ext. 20105.

Did you meet or celebrate the love in your life at Brescia?

In the Spring 2009 *bulletin*, we would like to feature stories and photos about alumnae who met your husbands while at Brescia, who got married in the chapel, had wedding photos taken on the grounds, and who celebrated an anniversary at Brescia. Please submit your stories and photos to Julie Maltby at julie.maltby@uwo.ca or by mail to Brescia by April 24, 2009.



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