If You Build It, They Will Watch

Alumnus Ramsin Khachi takes bespoke design and building skills to the small screen.

Bringing UNICEF and UTM Together

Student Alicia Pompey pushes limits to raise awareness and funds for children in need.

Taking on the Self-Help Industry

Professor Mari Ruti tackles the Mars-Venus Myth; watch her lecture here.

Scythian Ink

Medical illustrator and biomedical communications professor Dave Mazierski gets under the skin of Bronze Age tattoos.
May 23, 2012, will be a watershed for U of T Mississauga. On this date, we will enter a new era for this great campus – an era that will be defined by transformative growth, social impact, greater community engagement and exciting new initiatives focused on innovation. On May 23, we launch the Campaign for the University of Toronto Mississauga and our aspirations for global leadership.

U of T Mississauga, it must be said, is on the cusp of monumental change. Only 45 years old, we have a campus reaching its prime with plenty of room to grow; a culturally diverse, international student population; faculty with talent, ideas and the curiosity to push the limits of knowledge; alumni who serve in leadership roles in every walk of life who are our greatest ambassadors; and donors whose generosity is simply extraordinary. We build and nurture enviable community ties that encompass business, non-profit, civic and government partners, and we enjoy all the benefits that membership in Canada’s pre-eminent research and teaching powerhouse, the University of Toronto, bestows. With a pedigree like this, U of T Mississauga is poised for greatness.

And so it is – within such a supportive environment – that we arrive at a turning point in our institutional history. Our past and our present will inform our future; on May 23, as we launch our campaign and defining vision for the next five years, we will celebrate the leadership of those who helped build this campus and the leadership of those who will help us take our next giant step forward.

I don’t want to spoil the surprise, but you might say our future is looking truly boundless.

Deep Saini
Vice-President, University of Toronto
Principal, U of T Mississauga
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For someone who cut her teeth in print-based journalism school and wrote articles on an electric typewriter, the jump to a completely digital magazine was, surprisingly, not a difficult one. The first U of T Mississauga Magazine rolled off the presses in the spring of 2006. Now, in a communications world irrevocably altered by social media, smartphones, tablets, mobile apps and the need for immediacy – to say nothing of a greater awareness of environmental sustainability – the time is ripe for change.

The U of T Mississauga Magazine spring 2012 issue, maintains many of our popular sections and our focus on the people behind the news and research but we’ve added new elements. You will see a greater emphasis on multimedia features such as video interviews and slide shows, more photos, more opportunities to provide feedback, better search mechanisms and tags, and a regular archival highlight. We hope you will take the time to click, to browse, to linger, to watch. And to let us know your thoughts. We’re excited by the possibilities ahead. We hope you are, too.

Jane Stirling
Director, Marketing and Communications
U of T Mississauga
LOOK UP -- WAY UP!

COURTSIDE CLASSROOM

Professor Deep Saini, Vice-President, University of Toronto and Principal, U of T Mississauga, along with a packed lecture theatre of Language Studies students, met with Toronto Raptors star Andrea Bargnani. The creative writing course includes the chance for students to talk to Italian celebrities to enhance writing and language skills.
The Young Entrepreneurship Challenge, organized by the Digital Enterprise Management Society, brought together speakers and guests representing the big players from various fields within the digital media industry. Participants shared personal stories and words of wisdom, and DEM Society partners BizMedia Agency produced this video about the event.

Check them out at facebook.com/bizmediaagency.

Donors Terrence Donnelly, left, and Carlo Fidani, right, celebrate the opening of the Terrence Donnelly Health Sciences Complex with Professor Deep Saini, vice-president, U of T, and principal, U of T Mississauga, on Nov. 1. The four-storey health sciences complex houses the Mississauga Academy of Medicine as well as U of T’s internationally renowned biomedical communications program, Department of Anthropology offices and research laboratories, lecture theatres and medical teaching classrooms. Three hundred guests including politicians, hospital representatives and U of T community members attended the official opening. PHOTOGRAPHY BY STEPHEN UHRANEY
A CAUSE FOR GOOD

FROM CUPCAKES TO CLUB NIGHTS, UNICEF@UTM MAKES A LITTLE GO A LONG WAY

Whether it’s having Vice-President and Principal Deep Saini and professors walking around campus in life-sized UNICEF boxes to raise awareness about impoverished children in Somalia, or pumping pop music and asking the boys of “Movember” to help sell cupcakes to rebuild a school after an earthquake in Haiti, UNICEF@UTM sure knows how to turn heads.

“Our club strives to make students aware, help them connect with the causes we support and motivate them to take action,” says Alicia Pompey, co-founder and president of UNICEF@UTM. “And, to have a little fun with it,” she adds. Student involvement, Pompey believes, has led to the new club’s rapid success: two events garnering local media attention and raising over $1,200 in the process – a Save the Kids Pub Night with DJ Danny D and a student fundraising challenge with a grand prize trip to UNICEF headquarters in New York City.

“When we have an event, we’re not just collecting donations. We make sure everyone we speak to gets our message,” says Pompey. While students decorated their own cupcakes at the bake sale, for example, club representatives spread the word about UNICEF’s global work for children, gathered e-mail addresses, and plugged the UNICEF@UTM Facebook page.

Pompey started UNICEF@UTM with fellow students Samia Mirza and Hadia Hussain in September 2011. As an immigrant to Canada from Guyana, Pompey can empathize with the plight of those who seek education in developing countries. “When I look at the opportunities I have here, I can’t help but feel for the people in this world who don’t have the same opportunities, and I need to act on that,” she says.

Her goals for the club are to lay the groundwork and formulate its constitution so that when she graduates in June with plans to pursue a masters and, ultimately, a career as a human rights lawyer for the United Nations, the club will continue to move forward and make a difference.

“I believe that through giving back to others, we are not only providing someone else with an opportunity, but are also adding meaning and purpose to our own lives. The feeling that we give to those in need, and the feeling that resonates in us afterwards, will transform lives and remain with us always,” says Pompey. NADEEM BASARIA
A FLUID KIND OF LEARNING

PROJECT OFFERS INTERACTIVE LEARNING ABOUT WATER AND ENERGY

As a Vancouverite, Kate Campbell grew up with an innate understanding of the importance of water. “Water surrounded us,” she says. “Some of my earliest memories are of watching the fish jump up the ladder at the Capilano River fish hatchery.”

Now, Campbell is educating others about water. As part of her Master of Science in Biomedical Communications research project, Campbell is developing and evaluating an interactive water learning module for the Ontario Grade 8 science curriculum.

Campbell is focusing on the relationship between water and energy. The complexity of the concept lends itself well to interactive learning, she says. “It addresses many areas students have trouble understanding, such as the impact of changes on a system.” The half-day module is designed for a group learning environment using either an interactive whiteboard or computer. Graphics and interactive elements – all created by Campbell – expand on information provided in the text.

For instance, the hydropower chapter includes an animated hydroelectric plant with toggles. Students can move the toggles, which adjust flow rate, and see how the changing values influence power and energy output. As well, Campbell uses graphics to illustrate information about world energy production, hydropower production by country and hydropower in Canada.

“The visual aspects support the data and statistics,” says Campbell. “Students can work through the data by dragging and dropping, clicking to animate and clicking to reveal different functions.”

The project is a collaborative effort between Campbell, the Program on Water Issues at U of T’s Munk School of Global Affairs and WaterCan, a Canadian NGO dedicated to clean water projects. Campbell’s module will be housed online on WaterCan’s Water Wisdom portal, as part of the H2Oh! learning series. LANNA CRUCEFIX
HELPING HANDS
STUDENTS, CHARITIES TEAM UP, TACKLE COMMUNITY CHALLENGES

Making a difference in the community is nothing new for University of Toronto Mississauga students. And now they have yet another way to help out. The Community Innovation Project (CIP) is a pilot initiative launched by the Department of Student Life, matching student volunteers with local non-profit organizations.

“We want students to graduate with tangible skills to put on their resumes,” says student development officer Dray Perenic Price. “The Community Innovation Project enables students to apply their knowledge, develop new contacts, learn how to work in teams and think critically.”

Through the project, students tackle problems that charities may not have the time or the staff to address independently. Working in teams, students analyze a charity’s main challenge, devise solutions and present them to the organization’s board of directors at the end of the project.

For example, the Caledon/Dufferin Victim Services group needed a marketing plan to increase its profile in the community. Ammin Gill, a fourth-year student in human resources and industrial relations, was keen to put his knowledge into practice. “From my standpoint, I looked at what programs and policies were already in place, and how we could make them more effective.”

For Ioana Gheorghiu, an English and biology graduate, CIP prepared her for future studies. “I plan to pursue a bachelor of nursing, so CIP provided a great opportunity to work in the community,” she says.

Mohamed Abdel Hadi, meanwhile, joined CIP simply to obtain work experience. And along the way, the first-year life sciences student received an important life lesson. “One thing I learned is that deadlines are commitments that you cannot break.”

DANA YATES

Non-profit groups wishing to work with students can visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/student-life/community-engagement/innovation-project.
Imagine a student initiative that dares to go global in its first contribution to shaping “the energy landscape of the future.” That was the vision of Marijana Josifovska, a graduating economics and political science student who, as founder and president of Investors Beyond Borders, is already making strides in the international renewable energy market.

“Finance and the environment are the two interests closest to my heart,” explains Josifovska. An avid investor since the age of 16, she “developed a routine throughout the years” for identifying prime investment opportunities. And at university, she discovered a passion for environmental issues.

Keen on finding a way to combine her interests, she and a small group of fellow students founded in 2009 Investors Beyond Borders (IBB), a non-profit student organization that promotes and supports sustainable energy solutions in developing and pre-emerging nations. It is the first such group of its kind in the world and, three years later, has affiliates across four continents.

Driven by its mantra of Find Your GEM, or Green Emerging Market, IBB immediately set to work on its flagship initiative, the International Renewable Energy Case Competition. The program quickly grew into a global network of investors, educational institutions, government bodies and energy experts, thus providing participants with an unparalleled opportunity for making a real world impact on green energy development.

For its initial competition, IBB targeted the Republic of Macedonia, a nation experiencing energy production shortages and ranked highly on the World Bank’s official list of “doing business” countries.

Teams of students, both undergraduate and graduate, from all over the world were invited to research, develop and submit an achievable clean energy business plan suited to Macedonia’s particular investment potential.

The competition, which will now become a bi-annual event, proved an unqualified success. The winning team, a group of Canadians operating under the name of Greenetics, is currently in negotiations with the Macedonian government regarding terms for the development and implementation of its proposal.

“The government was also very open to hearing other policy changes and suggestions we had to offer,” Josifovska reports, and has since brought forth an energy policy “very specific to supporting renewable energy projects and limiting greenhouse gas emissions.”

Reflecting on her experience, Josifovska adds, “Our journey and our success with IBB highlights that there is no dream that’s too big and no vision that’s unreachable.”

CHRISTINE KRUPA
Marijana Josifovska combines her knowledge of economics with her passion for environmental sustainability.
For nearly 30 years, Vigen Nazarian didn’t go by his given name. An Iranian immigrant of Armenian heritage, Nazarian was nicknamed Vik by a fellow student while attending the University of Toronto. Why? Vigen (“Vee-Gan”) was difficult to pronounce and Vik, the student reasoned, was close enough.

“I wanted to fit in, so I said ‘fine,’” says Nazarian, an entrepreneur and U of T graduate. Over the years, Nazarian, who served on the advisory board of U of T Mississauga’s masters of biotechnology program and mentors newcomers in the Pathways to Employment in Biotechnology program, has heard many name-changing stories from immigrants. Hoping to gain acceptance in Canadian society, some newcomers adopt anglicized versions of their names. But along the way, they lose part of their personal identity, he says.

“Names are gifts from our parents. In fact, Dale Carnegie once said that a person’s name is the sweetest and most important sound to them in any language.”

As for his own name, Nazarian re-embraced Vigen a few years ago. But as he soon discovered, using his name was one thing and teaching others how to pronounce it, quite another. So he set out to create a verbal “cheat sheet”– a personal recording of his own name that could be shared with others.

Today, Nazarian is founder and chief executive officer of ANTVibes Inc., which owns a digital technology called an Audible Name Tag (ANT™). An instant audio pronunciation that clarifies how to say names, ANTs can be embedded in various communication platforms, such as an e-mail signature or Word document. ANTs take the guesswork out of pronunciation. Users simply click on a small ant-shaped icon to play (and replay) the digital file.

The ability to make a personal recording is a key feature of an ANT, says Nazarian. “There are subtle differences in how each person says his or her name. Basically, a name is like a song, and people need to know how to add up the sounds before meeting you.”

DANA YATES
I CAUGHT A FISH THIS BIG

Mississauga visual artist and U of T Mississauga alumnus, Eric Oberhauser, displays his fish sculpture, Diversity, in the Credit River near campus. The fiberglass art piece, featuring more than 230 flags of different countries, represents the distinctive cultural mosaic of Mississauga. Diversity, one of 24 jury-selected designs in The Salmon Run Project: The Exhibition, was displayed in the community of Streetsville in 2011 and is now part of the city’s permanent collection. The Salmon Run Project was jointly sponsored by the Art Gallery of Mississauga and the city’s Arts and Culture Division. PHOTOGRAPH BY STEPHEN UHRANEY
IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL WATCH

ENTREPRENEUR RAMSIN KHACHI ON BUILDING OUTSIDE THE BOX
One of the early signs that Ramsin Khachi would become a successful entrepreneur and design-build guru came when he was just 10 years old and, together with a friend, built a go-kart out of old two-by-fours and whatever scraps they could find. The pair took turns proudly pushing their go-kart around the neighbourhood.

“It was all about the thought process,” says Khachi. “We didn’t have the Internet to tell us how to build things, so we had to figure everything out for ourselves.”

And figure it out, he certainly has. For over 15 years, Khachi has led his own design-build firm, Khachi Design Group, specializing in commercial and residential design and construction—anything from custom homes and offices to specialty spaces such as wine cellars and home theatres.

A reputation for taking ordinary suburban homes and turning them into extraordinary dream houses has landed Khachi a stint as design-build contractor on The Marilyn Denis Show on CTV Toronto. He also spent over a decade as the in-house design expert on Citytv’s CityLine, writes columns for various newspapers and magazines, and speaks publicly to professional associations.

His designs have what he calls a “Khachi feel”—a certain refinement that blends common sense, technology and practicality. “When I create a space, it has to make life better for people,” he says.

But Khachi didn’t set out to be a designer. He initially considered dentistry and, after studying general sciences at U of T Mississauga, he dabbled in retail business management and real estate, but never quite found his niche. Then one day, he helped a contractor-friend install cabinets in a Forest Hill medical office and, with that, his life changed.

“I fell into doing what I love,” says Khachi who, by his third contract, led a $400,000-office renovation. “I was 25 and fearless and taught myself what I needed to know.”

Little has changed. Today, Khachi continually challenges himself to innovate—to “push boundaries”. Looking ahead, this means growing his business—in scope and size. He plans to evolve as a “solutions company” focused on specialty spaces, and expand into a 15,000-square-foot facility complete with his own “design lab” where he can sit, imagine and create.

“There’s nothing we can’t build. There are no limits. If I can dream it, we can build it.”

TRACY MONIZ
Skin Deep

It started with a dragon and it ended with a dragon.

In between were a few others. A carp. A line of four rams and a laughing lion with a spiral tail. Stags and a moufflon sheep, elegant as a dancer. Possibly a griffin or two.

“There are eighteen in total,” says Dave Mazierski, an associate professor in Biomedical Communications at the University of Toronto Mississauga.

Mazierski knows, because these are the designs he has had tattooed on his arms, legs, back and chest – all exact replicas of those found on the mummified remains of the “Frozen Scythian”, a Siberian chieftain who lived over 2,500 years ago.

The body of the chieftain was found in a barrow, or burial mound, with the remains of a female, says Mazierski. He was from the Pazyryk culture, nomadic pastoralists and warriors who traded in horses and had relationships with central, eastern and south Asian civilizations. The Pazyryk have since been connected with the later Scythian culture of the Ukraine.

Story by Lanna Crucefix
Photography by Matthew Plexman
Videography by Ron Kolumbus
With the help of his friend, tattoo historian, professor and medical artist Stephen Gilbert (who originally showed Mazierski the distinctive designs), Mazierski has been adding to the tattoos over the last twenty years. Most of the tattoos were created by machine, but some were “hand-poked” by Gilbert using a small block of needles mounted in a utility knife holder (“all fully sterilized,” Mazierski points out).

As part of a television documentary produced by KensingtonTV, Mazierski recently travelled to the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg to see his ancient body-art forebearer for the first time. He was amazed to find that new infrared analysis had uncovered a previously unknown tattoo – a rooster with an outstretched neck on the right thumb.

“Naturally, I had to have it,” he says.

Analyses also showed tattoos on other Pazyryk individuals. Mazierski briefly played with the idea of incorporating some of these into his own design, but ultimately decided against it.

“Right now, it’s pretty unique,” he says. “I like the idea of sharing these designs with that one individual from across the world, who lived so long ago.”
THE CASE FOR FALLING IN LOVE

Professor Mari Ruti takes on the self-help industry’s stereotypes in her book The Case for Falling in Love.

Click below to watch her lecture at the Philosopher’s Cafe series and answer questions about her book.

VIDEOGRAPHY BY RON KOLUMBUS
Anecdotes claiming that tablet computers help autistic people communicate have set the community of parents and teachers of autistic children abuzz in recent years.

But there was no hard proof that investment in a $700 tablet such as the iPad would really pay off. Now, new research from U of T Mississauga shows that educational applications (apps) on tablet computers can as much as double communication skills in autistic children.

“I was visiting the Beverley School in Toronto and a teacher told me that the iPod Touch was doing amazing things for students with physical and developmental disabilities,” recalls Rhonda McEwen, a professor in the Institute of Communication, Culture and Information Technology.

When McEwen couldn’t find any research on the topic, she decided to launch her own study. About 80 per cent of the children with autism at the Beverley School are non-verbal, she notes. “People with autism have two major deficits: social interaction is very hard and they have difficulty creating language to express their thoughts.”

Over a two-year period, she trained the school’s teachers to measure the children’s ability to communicate before and after exposure to tablet computers. The teachers monitored non-verbal behaviors including the ability to gesture, nod and make eye contact.

After working regularly with apps such as counting, word and picture games, one-third of the children doubled their communication skills. About 80 per cent of the students boosted their ability to identify objects. And half experienced a significant increase in attention span.

Although it can take as long as a year for some children to catch on, their new-found prowess to express their needs and thoughts has transformed their lives. One teacher told McEwen, “I had no idea that one of my students could identify who he was compared to other people, but with the iPad, he has 95 per cent accuracy at picking out his picture from a group of faces.”

McEwen’s next step is to help developers create apps specifically for children with autism. JANET PELLEY
Research led by U of T Mississauga paleontologist Robert Reisz, with alumnus and co-author David Evans of the Royal Ontario Museum, unearthed clutches of 190-million-year-old dinosaur eggs, many with embryos, as well as tiny dinosaur footprints, providing the oldest known evidence that the Massospondylus hatchlings remained at the nesting site long enough to at least double in size. Their excavation at a site in South Africa has revealed significant clues about the evolution of complex reproductive behaviour in early dinosaurs.

ILLUSTRATION BY JULIUS COSTONYI
GOOD BONES
NEW AWARD HELPS STUDENTS IN FINANCIAL NEED

When Bruce Pynn took Professor Robert Reisz’s paleontology course in 1980, he had no idea what he would do after graduating. But Reisz instilled in him a love of bones that eventually led Pynn, step by step, to a successful career repairing broken teeth and fractured bones as a maxillofacial dental surgeon in Thunder Bay.

Now, Pynn wants to give back to U of T Mississauga with the Pynn Family Paleontology Award. Beginning this year, the award will provide student support for undergraduates in financial need who are pursuing paleontology, the study of fossilized plants and animals. “I set up research courses every year for students so that they can work in my lab, and financial assistance for them would be very helpful,” Reisz says.

Pynn launched his senior thesis with Reisz over 30 years ago, digging for ancient pelycosaur fossils in a cow pasture in Kansas. That summer, he became lifelong friends with Reisz and Chuck Hardesty, the landowner of the fossil site. “Until he passed away six years ago, my monthly chats with Chuck in Kansas were the equivalent to Mitch Albom’s Tuesdays with Morrie – I loved that book and thought of Chuck as I read it,” Pynn says.

His work with Reisz helped hone his fine motor skills while his science background led to his first job in a microsurgery lab on U of T’s St. George campus. Further education followed – a masters degree in muscle physiology and microsurgery, and then dental school. “Specializing in maxillofacial surgery seemed to be a perfect match with the hand skill set I developed in the fossil work and the microsurgical technique I learned in the lab,” he says.

Pynn now reconstructs faces shattered by car wrecks and other trauma. “I wouldn’t be in my current occupation had it not been for the course work in anthropology and paleontology offered at UTM,” he says.

“Paleontology,” Reisz adds, “is an influential field because it’s the only scientific endeavor that gives us a deep time perspective.” For instance, Reisz and Pynn joined forces last year on a research project exploring the world’s oldest known tooth infection. With the aid of a CT scan, they found evidence of a massive infection in a 275-million-year-old reptilian jaw. “The results suggest that we have to be careful when battling bacteria because they’ve been around with us for a long time and quick fixes, such as antibiotics, will not work in the long run because bacteria adapt very quickly,” Reisz concludes.

“The paper was our second publication together, 29 years after we published the results of my senior thesis,” Pynn says. “Now, it’s gratifying to look back at those academic experiences and lasting friendships which represent some of my finest memories.” JANET PELLEY
NOTES

Desmond Parker (bachelor of arts, 1976) has retired from the United Nations as chief of protocol. After 16 years of distinguished service to the UN, he announced his retirement in February 2012, noting he will “embrace this next stage of my life and hope to continue to contribute to humanity.”

1980 TO 1989

NOTES

Ingrid Abbott-Permell (bachelor of science, 1985) is now a Registrant of the National Registry of Certified Microbiologists. In December, 2011, she was certified as a Specialist Microbiologist in Biological Safety Microbiology. The National Registry is a voluntary certifying body for microbiologists in the U.S. and on six continents.

Kerri Weller (bachelor of science, 1987, AMM in Medical Illustration) was chosen as a Finalist in the Still Life Category of the prestigious International 2010/2011 ARC Salon, Art Renewal Centre. www.artrenewal.org. for her painting, November Kale, Oil on canvas © (below left). Weller was also recently interviewed by Rita Celli on CBC’s Ontario Today about botanical art.

1990 TO 1999

BIRTHS


NOTES

Kathryn Chorney (master of science in biomedical communications, 1998) received notice that her “Bracket Fungus (Ganoderma) on Stump” © K. Chorney, received a Second Prize Award from the Puget Sound Mycological Society’s 48th Annual Wild Mushroom Show this past October in Seattle, WA. She painted the image (right) in watercolour and ink on paper during the summer of 2011. In other news, her third-year illustration class from the Bachelor of Applied Arts Illustration program at Sheridan College collaborated with the Ontario Science Center and the Stem Cell Network (Ottawa) to create graphic design, illustrations, and animations for the exhibit “Super Cells: The Wonder of Stem Cells.”

The exhibit commemorated the 50th anniversary of the discovery of stem cells by Canadian researchers Till and McCulloch. The exhibit ran in the OSC’s Idea Gallery from May to October 2011.

Brett Hodnett (honours bachelor of science, 1997; master of science, 1999) has written Paddling with a Naturalist (iUniverse, 2010), offering readers “an opportunity to gain a strong sense of the forces behind, and the interconnectedness of the natural world.” Written like a travelogue for canoeists, it “gives
a better understanding of how nature works (it’s mostly about adaptation and natural selection),” says Hodnett. He currently works as operations manager for non-profit BioRegional North America, which consults on sustainability and delivers the One Planet Communities program. He lives in Gatineau, QC.

2000 TO PRESENT

BIRTHS
Neal Carley (honours bachelor of arts, 2001) and Mahsa Carley welcomed a daughter, Roxie Delphine on Aug. 7, 2011, weighing 2.9 kg in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

NOTES
Caitlin O’Connell (master of science in biomedical communications, 2009) has been working at the anatomy lab at McMaster University where part of her job involves photography. There are about 3,000 specimens in the lab that will need to be photographed, edited and labeled for online student use. The image above is an example of the photos taken so far. © C. O’Connell

Leslie Predy (master of science in biomedical communications, 2008) recently worked as a User Experience Designer for an iPad app project, 123D Sculpt by Autodesk for iPad (see below). The image on the left is the app’s splash screen; the one on the right is a face sculpture Leslie made with the app itself.

Rumeet Toor (honours bachelor of arts, 2006) has been honoured for the second time as one of Canada’s Most Powerful Women: Top 100 Award in the “future leaders” category by the Women’s Executive Network. Toor has contributed to school building initiatives in Africa and South America, and founded The Toor Centre for Teacher Education in the rural community of Nzeveni, Kenya. She serves as president of Jobs in Education, an employment job board, and is currently pursuing a PhD in higher education at U ofT and a collaborative doctorate at U ofT’s Munk School of Global Affairs.

Madiha Khan (honours bachelor of science, 2009), is currently working on her MASc in biomedical engineering at McMaster University. She recently returned from a two-week trip to Kenya as part of the United Nations University’s Graduate Diploma program (in water, environment and health). While in Kenya, Khan (below, wearing hat) was involved in a number of initiatives including an examination of water projects such as boreholes, research into the use of experimental strips of paper to test for water purity, and a humanitarian visit to a village.

KEEP IN TOUCH!
Share your news with fellow alumni—pass on your notes to: news.utm@utoronto.ca
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MINI-MED SCHOOL
APRIL 19 TO MAY 17
Become a more-informed patient and a better caregiver. Every Thursday evening, dynamic speakers will explore current issues in health science and answer questions. Individual sessions include: the impact of the environment on health; exercise is medicine; insomnia; cancer prevention and screening. For more information and to register, visit www.learn.utoronto.ca or phone 416-978-2400.

CONTINUING EDUCATION
MAY 2012
The U of T School of Continuing Studies’ spring courses begin at U of T Mississauga. For more information and to register, phone 416-978-2400 or visit www.learn.utoronto.ca.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
APRIL 24
All alumni are invited to attend the UTMAA annual general meeting and listen to keynote speaker, Professor Len Brooks, director of the Master of Management and Professional Accounting Program and the Diploma in Investigative and Forensic Accounting Program, on After Enron: Who bears the blame for white collar crime? The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Davis Building. To register, visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/alumni/events

BACKPACK TO BRIEFCASE
MAY 5
Listen to a panel of U of T Mississauga alumni experts who can help young alumni make a seamless transition from university to the workforce. They will share their views on career paths and offer insights on ways to succeed after graduation. An alumni services fair will precede the panel discussion, showcasing services that are available to alumni upon graduation. The one-day event will be held 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Instructional Centre. To register, visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/alumni/events

U OF T MISSISSAUGA GOLF CLASSIC
MAY 9
The 2012 U of T Mississauga Golf Classic will be held at Lionhead Golf and Country Club in Brampton, ON. Cost is $175 per golfer or $650 per foursome which includes lunch, dinner and a golf cart. Shotgun start at 1:15 p.m. To register, visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/alumni/events

HEALTH IN THE CITY
MAY 12
Get some golf tips from the pros, learn about healthy aging and tour the underground thermal system at U of T Mississauga. Interested in your health and wellness? Attend this wellness open house and take home some information that will positively impact your daily life. Health in the City will be held 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at locations spread over the campus. Parking will be free. For more information, visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/research/research-office/health-city-utm

FLICKS ON THE FIELD
JULY 13
Save the date for the annual under-the-stars movie night at U of T Mississauga. Screening will start at dusk and movie-goers are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets. Parking will be free in certain lots.

DOORS OPEN
SEPT. 29
U of T Mississauga will be participating in Mississauga’s 2012 Doors Open event by showcasing its Instructional Centre, Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre, Communication, Culture & Technology Building and Blackwood Gallery. The buildings and gallery will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Self-guided or guided building tours (led by members of the UTMAA and a special architect tour) will be available. Blackwood will have special artist talks in the gallery. There is no cost for the event and parking will be free in lot 9.

RUN FOR THE CURE
SEPT. 30
Save the date to participate in Mississauga’s Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation CIBC Run for the Cure, starting and ending on the U of T Mississauga campus.
VIST UTM ON FLICKR:

Staircase to library stacks, 1970s

Alumna Claire Carver-Dias and Principal Robert McNutt, October 2000

Bed race, November 1990

Little Mosque on the Prairie's Zaib Shaikh in a Theatre Erindale production, mid-1990s.

Erindale College cheerleaders, late 1970s-early 1980s

BLAST FROM THE PAST
Visit the UTM campus to learn about efforts to improve health in the Mississauga community. Topics include:

- Physical & Mental Well-being
- Green Power & Green Living
- Mississauga Academy of Medicine

www.utm.utoronto.ca/rendezvous