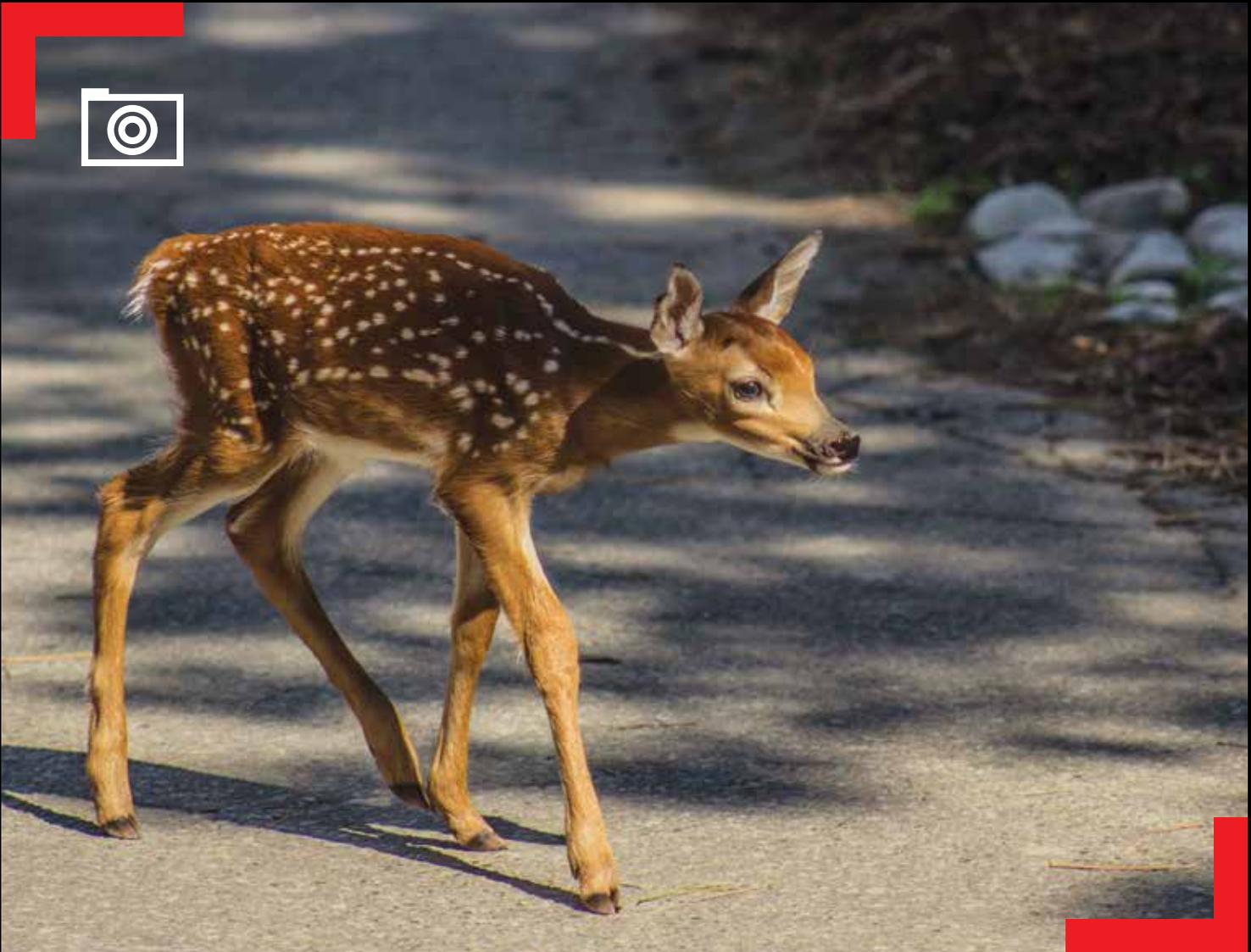


# M



## Clarity in the Blur

How UTM connects minds and creates impact in our digital world



**VIEWFINDER**

# Froshie — Stephanie Santos

**The Photographer**

Stephanie Santos is the communications coordinator in UTM's Hospitality & Retail Operations office. She is a graduate of the Visual Culture and Communication program.

Stephanie Santos snapped this picture of a newborn fawn near the William G. Davis Building. The fawn spent several days with its mother in the courtyard near the beginning of the Five-Minute Walk, where it captured the delighted attention of many students, staff and faculty. The campus has long been home to white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), which nibble on local greenery such as maples and Virginia creepers. Students often encounter the deer near the residences, along the Five-Minute Walk and near the Instructional Centre. In fact, the deer even have their own Twitter account: @UTMDeer.

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# Editor's Note

This magazine will tell the stories of UTM, and whether you now live a few kilometres or several plane trips from the Five-Minute Walk, you are a part of this campus' story.



**Nicole  
Wahl**

EDITOR

have relaunched our alumni magazine in a new and exciting print format. The title, *M*, is a nod to our location in and close relationship to Mississauga, a city that passionately supports and champions excellence at U of T Mississauga. We've overhauled our departments and included stories that will resonate with alumni from every era of the campus' history—whether you remember the Green Goliath or the Innovation Complex.

We are working with the phenomenally talented graphic design team at Hambly & Woolley, who are responsible for the fresh, professional and compelling look of the magazine that you now hold in your hands.

So, turn the page and get reacquainted with your campus. Meet students like Anqi Luo, the first-year commerce student who just won a Pan Am medal in table tennis (page 12). Learn about counsellor Heather Burns-Shillington, who takes care of residence students struggling with depression and anxiety (page 8). Visit alumnus Matthias Li in Hong Kong, where he is CEO of one of the world's largest theme parks (page 10). Find out how UTM is building a braintrust of faculty doing research in the digital realm (page 14). And open the Vault on the final days of North Building, where the first classes were taught on campus almost 50 years ago (page 32).

This magazine will tell the stories of UTM, and whether you now live a few kilometres or several plane trips from the Five-Minute Walk, you are a part of this campus' story. So, please tell me what you think. You can tweet at @UofTMississauga, send a message on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/UTMississauga](http://www.facebook.com/UTMississauga)) or e-mail me at [news.utm@utoronto.ca](mailto:news.utm@utoronto.ca). Share your photos, story suggestions and memories of UTM—we may include them in the magazine, online or on social media!

Thanks for reading,

**Nicole Wahl**  
Editor

**Deep in the filing cabinets** of my office are copies of some of this campus' original publications: the *Erindalia*—a quarterly newsletter for alumni designed with green banners and the Erindale crest; the photocopied *ERINEWS* newsletters featuring staff profiles, columns on local birds and computer tips for using WordPerfect 5.1. The grainy photographs reveal past-principals such as Robert McNutt and Desmond Morton. As the campus matured, these issues morphed into broadsheet, full-colour alumni newsletters, and the faculty and staff newsletter moved online. In 2006, the Office of Advancement launched its first alumni magazine, which moved to a digital format in the spring of 2012.

Now, based on how our readers responded to different types of stories in our digital magazines, and using the input from our new magazine editorial advisory board, we

## M Magazine Editorial Board

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UTM is building a braintrust of researchers in the digital realm

by Patchen Barss

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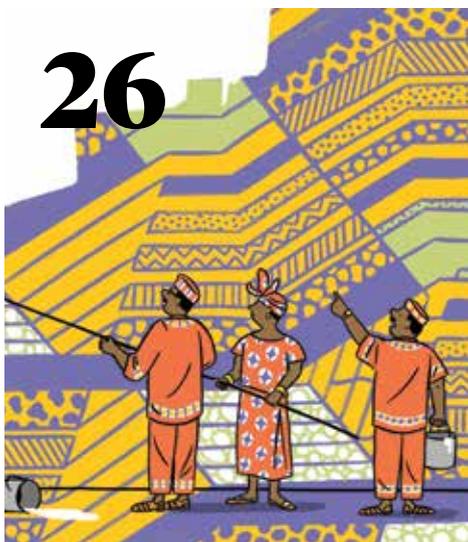
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# Campus News



**A Greener North**  
The new building will aim to be U of T Mississauga's first LEED Gold status structure—a recognition of achievement in energy and resource-efficient buildings. Design features will include: natural ventilation of the main public spaces to provide improved indoor air quality; elevated roof gardens and terraces overlooking the redesigned Campus Green area (formerly the north field) for faculty and student events; and solar shading.

## CAMPUS GROWTH

### ❖ Northern Renaissance Revitalizing campus' oldest building

**Demolition of the final section of U of T Mississauga's North Building will begin this spring, making way for the construction of a six-storey structure designed by Toronto architectural firm Perkins+Will that will complete the renaissance of the northern end of the campus.**

The \$121-million rebuild of the North Building—the first structure built on the Erindale campus in 1967—is one of the biggest capital projects in U of T history.

The building—scheduled for completion in summer 2018—will be home to the Departments of English and Drama, Philosophy, Historical Studies, Language Studies, Political Science and Sociology. It will also feature new active-learning classrooms and administrative space.

The yet-to-be-named building is the second phase of the North Building tear-down that began with the 2014 opening of Deerfield Hall—a four-storey structure with improved theatre rehearsal space, computer labs, classrooms, offices, formal and informal study space and an expanded food services area. The Departments of Mathematical and Computational Sciences, Psychology, and English and Drama have offices and research facilities in Deerfield Hall.

According to architect Andrew Frontini, who also designed Deerfield, the newest structure will feature a glazed, slightly metallic terracotta cladding, in keeping with the look of the buildings around it. Frontini says it will also connect with the greenery and natural surroundings, and a “North Hall” public space will provide a place to socialize and lounge.

U of T Mississauga's enrolment has doubled in the last 10 years, to more than 13,500 students. Current needs, combined with planned enrolment growth of up to 15,000 students, means a greater need for more and better learning spaces.

# 1

IMAGES COURTESY OF PERKINS+WILL

# Campus News

## 2

NEW DEAN

### GEOGRAPHY PROFESSOR BECOMES UTM'S CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

**Geography professor Amrita Daniere** has been appointed vice-principal, academic and dean, at U of T Mississauga. The Agenda Committee of Academic Board announced the two-year appointment in March. Daniere is a professor in the Department of Geography and Planning at U of T, and co-director of the Urban Climate Resilience in South East Asia Partnership through the Asian Institute at the Munk School of Global Affairs. Since joining the university in 1995, she has served in several administrative roles, including vice-dean, graduate, at UTM from 2010 to 2014.



Above:  
Professor  
Ulrich Krull



HELLO, GOODBYE

## 3

### *Deep Saini departs for Australia; Krull named interim*

**U of T Mississauga will say goodbye** to its vice-president and principal Deep Saini this fall, while welcoming an interim leader who has served in a number of strategic high-level administrative posts at UTM. Professor Ulrich Krull has been named interim vice-president and principal, effective Sept. 1, 2016.

Saini, who joined UTM in 2010, has been named the next vice-chancellor (president) of the University of Canberra in Australia. During his time at UTM, he has overseen the opening of a number of new buildings including the Innovation Complex and Deerfield Hall, the establishment of the Institute for Management & Innovation, and the transition of campus governance to a tri-campus council model.

Krull, a professor of analytical chemistry and holder of the AstraZeneca Chair in Biotechnology, has served in two vice-principal roles—research and special initiatives—and also as acting vice-president and principal. His past awards and honours include the Faculty Teaching Excellence Award at UTM and the U of T Faculty Award recognizing excellence in research, teaching and service.

An advisory committee will recommend on the appointment of the next vice-president and principal.

PHOTO: (DEEP SAINI) MATTHEW PLEXMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

# 4

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

## UTM in the moment

At UTM, there is something amazing happening around every corner. Here are a few of the moments that caught our eye:

**Follow UTM on:**

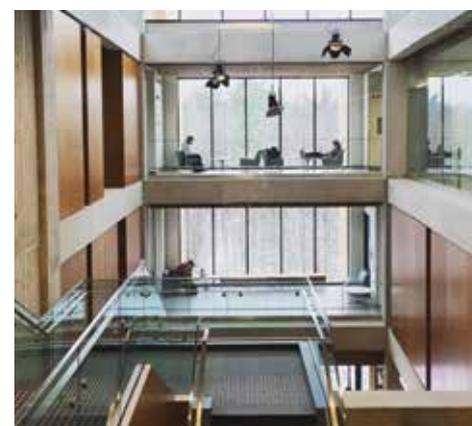
**Twitter** @UofTMississauga

**Facebook** www.facebook.com/UTMississauga

**Instagram** @uoftmississauga



Residence move-in day! Time to put up posters and plug in your mini-fridge with the help of UTM Residence Council and the UTM Eagle



A quiet study break at Deerfield Hall #shhhh



Congrats to Yue Chen, who won the bronze medal in men's singles at @TheOCAA badminton championships! #uoft #GoEagles



New work on the walls in the #MScBMC department by Wendy Gu. 3rd floor in the Terrence Donnelly Health Sciences Complex



Spot the deer? #utmdeer near the Lislehurst bridge

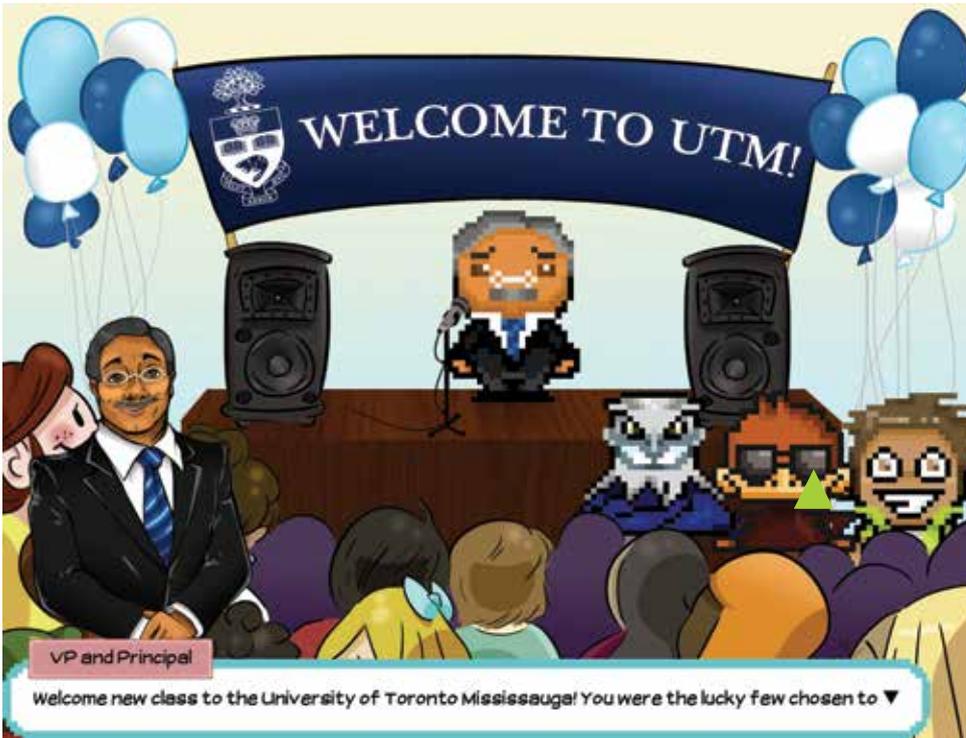


Puppies! #utmExamJam #uoft @uoft



Frosty morning at UTM #latergram #itsnowed

# Campus News



**Campus Quest**  
*Guardians of UTM* will complement existing transition programs, and the app's creators hope the "plugged-in" platform will appeal to the first-year, digital native demographic. In particular, they want the gaming interface to reach a larger percentage of male students—women in orientation/transition programming currently outnumber men at a ratio of seven to three.

# 5



## Guardians of UTM

### New gaming app helps students get to know campus

In September 2016, as frosh arrive at UTM, a new mobile game from the Office of Student Transition will help orient them to campus.

*Guardians of UTM* is an iOS or Android app designed to help new students find their way around campus and learn how to access important services they'll need in the years ahead.

"We wanted to create something fun and engaging, that also delivers information to help students have a successful transition to UTM," says Jackie Goodman, first-year transition and academic support coordinator. "UTM, and U of T as a whole, can feel very big to incoming students, and we hope that *Guardians* will give them a new way to learn about campus and find the tools that will help them thrive in first year and beyond."

The quest-based game follows a made-at-UTM storyline: a mystery intruder is selling UTM's secrets to other schools. Someone has to find the mole and stop the leaks. Players join secret society teams led by UTM mascots JimmiUTM, the Blind Duck, Hartley the Deer and the UTM Eagle. To solve the game, players must physically tour the campus and interact with other characters, completing challenges and gathering clues and tokens to help with later steps.

Sharp-eyed players may recognize campus staff and faculty in minor roles. Players must visit real locations around campus, like the Book Store or the Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre, where they will scan a QR code to proceed with the game. The entire game takes about six weeks to complete, culminating in a real-life *Amazing Race*-style day during Fall Reading Week that will bring together all players to solve the final challenge.

Computer science student Chris Primerano, along with students in art and art history, and commerce, together planned the story arc, wrote scripts, designed avatars and created code. Primerano hopes *Guardians* will help new students feel at home on campus. "It's about building pride at UTM," he says. "This will help students feel like they're part of UTM's campus community."

# UTMetrics



Approximate number of deer on campus: 40



# 2



# of Greenhouses:



- 1 new research greenhouse with six self-contained compartments and a corridor housing a common work area outfitted with microscopes, Wi-Fi access, workstations.



- 1 teaching greenhouse—a great place to relax and check out diverse botany.



UTM has alumni in 87 countries.

# 87



UTM's alumni are:



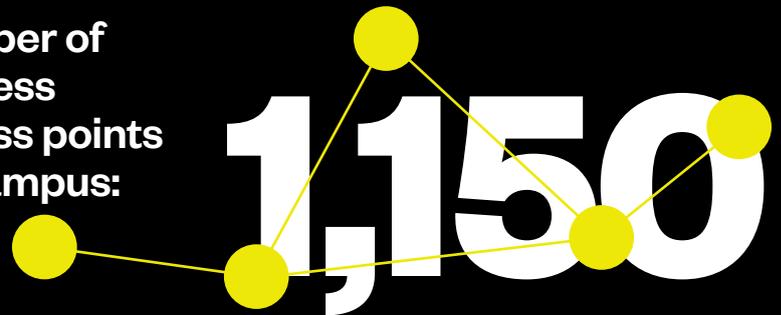
Number of international students:

# 17.8%



Number of wireless access points on campus:

# 1,150



Number of UTM graduates in 2014/15:

# 2,153



Campus cultivation—The North Side Bistro grows its own fresh baby kale, radish sprouts, wheatgrass and pea sprouts.



# Snapshot

## Change in Mind Campus initiatives battle stigma, promote mental well-being

Whether they're in residence or online, U of T Mississauga students struggling with stress, anxiety, depression and other mental health issues have more ways than ever to get help.

Responding to a growing awareness of the mental health needs of students on university campuses, UTM continues to expand outreach to those who may be struggling with the symptoms and stigma of mental illness.

For example, connecting to other students with similar challenges is now as simple as logging on to YouTube.

The UTMental Health Vlogs (video blogs), created by the UTM Health & Counselling Centre, are now in their third season and feature a total of 16 students talking about a range of issues to raise the profile of mental health.

Andrew Frenech, a Mississauga native and third-year psychology and environment student, is one of the most recent vloggers. Frenech has dealt with anxiety for years, and the stress of university exacerbated his symptoms. But he credits his support system—family, friends, his doctor and his therapist—with helping him to cope and even thrive.

"I wanted to do more for mental health, because it's talked about in abstract terms," says Frenech. "I wanted to put faces to it—to start a conversation with students, and tell them that they are not alone."

He says that as a first-year commuter student, he didn't feel particularly connected to campus life and he was hesitant to get involved in extra-curricular activities.



## Andrew Frenech

THIRD-YEAR PSYCHOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT STUDENT

But by second year, he decided to join the environmental Green Team, and quickly started getting to know other students and professors. From there, he began to attend other campus events and connected with the Health & Counselling Centre.

Eventually, HCC health education coordinator Chad Jankowski asked Frenech to consider recording vlogs for UTMental on the HCC YouTube channel. Frenech initially resisted discussing such a personal topic publicly, but decided that he needed to push himself out of his comfort zone.

The digital space, he says, is the ideal place to reach students—for many, it provides an anonymous venue to discuss a topic that is just starting to shed its stigma. “At a personal level, people are becoming more comfortable talking about mental health.” By taking the conversation online, “we can be there for students *where they are.*”

The UTMental vlogs reach anyone with access to the internet, but students living in UTM residences have an additional resource. Heather Burns-Shillington joined UTM in 2014 in a new role as the Personal and Student Family Life Counsellor in Student Housing & Residence Life.

A social worker and counsellor, she offers mental health services for the 1,500 students living in residence. It’s a busy role, but she tries to keep wait times to a minimum—in 2015, she was able to book appointments within 24 hours and see students within three days of their request.

Burns-Shillington finds that she is busiest in September, although demand also peaks in November and March—as exams approach. The biggest issues? “Anxiety, relationships—whether it’s with family, friends or a partner—and depression or suicidal thoughts,” she says.

The students who ask for help are overwhelmingly female and primarily in upper years. Approximately 32 per cent are international.

“I usually see students on a short-term

basis. If students require more intensive therapy, I work with the HCC and community supports to make sure their needs are met,” says Burns-Shillington.

Along with her counselling work, Burns-Shillington initiated Mental Health Week, and she is working to increase the number of faculty, staff and students on campus who are trained to recognize and assist students in crisis. In 2015, 87 staff and students received training in a two-day ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) workshop. ASIST teaches participants to recognize when someone may be at risk of suicide and work with them to create a plan that will support their immediate safety. She also led 150 staff and students through the one-day safeTALK workshop, which teaches participants to recognize a person with thoughts of suicide and connect them with resources they need.

Burns-Shillington also organized several ‘Lunch & Learn’ sessions on topics as diverse as addictions, religious radicalization and mental health resources in diverse cultural communities.

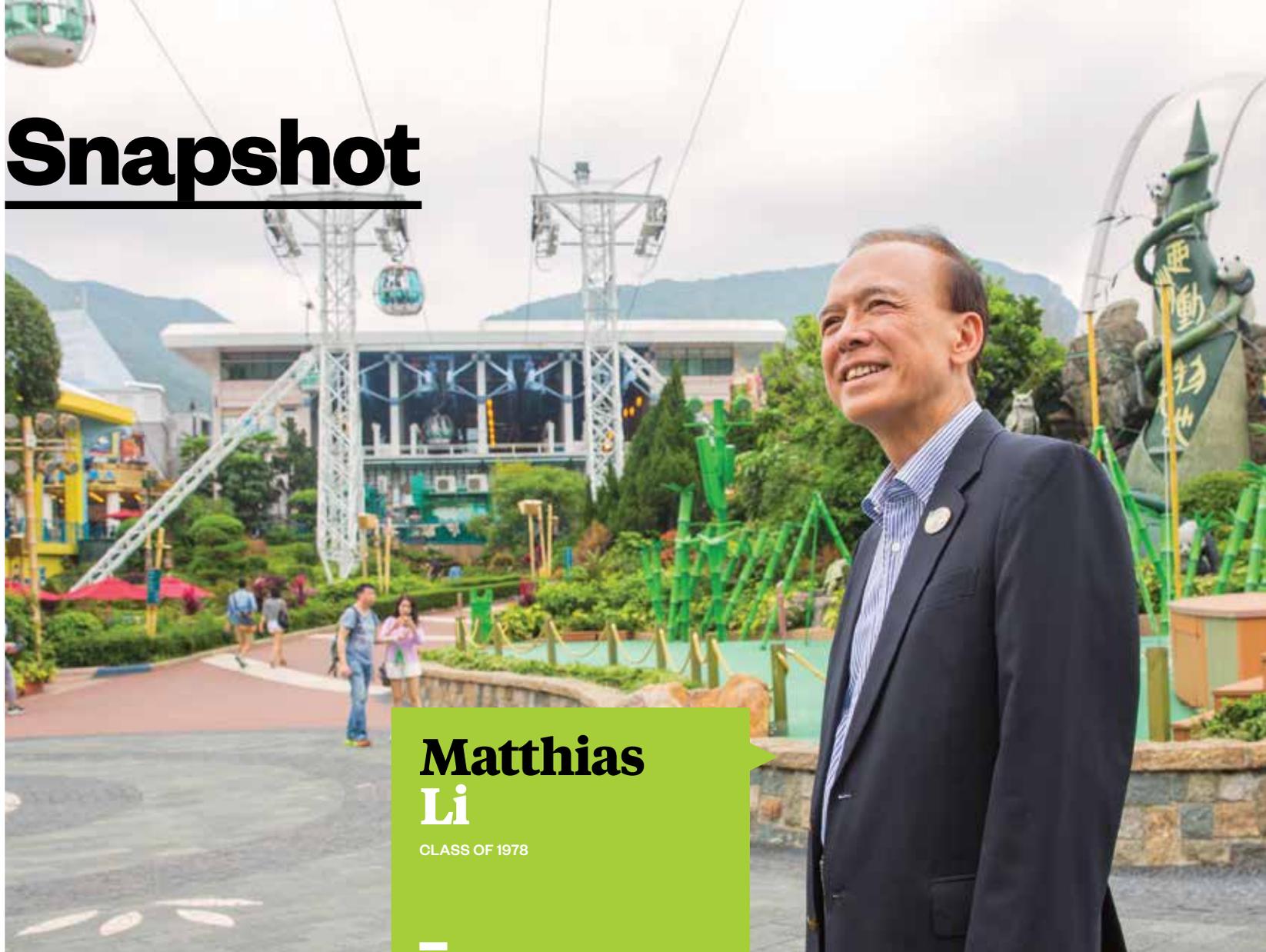
In a survey, students who received counselling reported that the service reduced their sadness and anxiety and increased their overall well-being and connection to residence and campus.

Burns-Shillington aims to expand the mental health services available to students in residence, by offering counselling in other languages and hiring a social work intern.

Frenech, who next year will be the HCC’s communications assistant, also hopes to expand mental health initiatives to reach students from different cultures and sexual identities.

“All of us are struggling collectively, and we should be working collectively to help each other,” he says. “Empathy is the greatest gift that I have received from [my mental health issues]. I want to show people that experiences with mental health are not a barrier to success.” — **Nicolle Wahl**

# Snapshot



## Matthias Li

CLASS OF 1978

### Wild Life Matthias Li makes conservation key at Hong Kong theme park

To celebrate his graduation from U of T Mississauga—then Erindale College—in 1978, Matthias Li bought a two-week, \$65 Greyhound ticket and headed west. He wound his way along the Trans Canada Highway, passing Thunder Bay and on to Winnipeg, Calgary and eventually Vancouver before returning to start his MBA at U of T's Rotman School of Management that fall.

A year later, with a second degree in hand and, this time with a bit of money in his pocket, Li flew to Halifax, rented a car

and camped throughout Nova Scotia, P.E.I. and New Brunswick.

Almost four decades later, those cross-country trips remain deeply connected to his memories of U of T Mississauga. “Studying is very important, but maintaining a sense of curiosity, being open to new things and seeing the world is important as well.”

It's a philosophy Li continues to live by. Now chief executive officer of Ocean Park Corporation, an animal-based theme park in Hong Kong, Li was the first in his family to emigrate from Hong Kong to Canada. He studied commerce because he wasn't “handy” enough to excel at engineering, earned his CA at accounting firm Arthur Andersen & Co. and then spent a decade in corporate and international banking at the Bank of Montreal. As the Toronto-based director of the bank's Asia Pacific region, he travelled to the region multiple times a year to meet

with government and financial institution clients. It was on one of those trips that he saw the ad for Ocean Park's finance director.

“I purposely chose a completely different industry. I wanted to see if I could rise to the occasion,” he says. Li and his wife also liked the idea of moving closer to family with their two young daughters.

Twenty-two years later, Li is lauded as Ocean Park's saviour. He steered the park's fortunes from near collapse during the Asian financial crisis in the late 1990s, through a HK\$5.5 billion expansion and a 185 per cent increase in attendance, from 2.6 million in 1994 to 7.4 million today. Still, he counts as his biggest accomplishment the establishment of the Ocean Park Conservation Foundation Hong Kong (OPCFHK), the park's fundraising, research and education organization committed to the conservation of Asian wildlife. Since 2005, OPCFHK has allocated



## Insect Entrepreneur Feeding the world, one insect at a time

“If someone had come up to me a few years ago and said that one day, I’d be an insect farmer in Austin, Texas, I would have told them they were crazy,” says Mohammed Ashour, a 2009 U of T Mississauga graduate. He’s far from insane, although his career has veered away from youthful dreams of medical school. Rather, he’s been named to the *Forbes Magazine* annual “30 under 30” list for 2016.

Ashour, who earned an honours B.Sc. in life sciences, was accepted into the joint MBA/MD program at McGill University. During his MBA studies, Ashour and four classmates won the prestigious \$1 million Hult Prize competition with their proposal for remedying global food insecurity with a microfarming project. The prize is awarded in partnership with the Clinton Global Initiative, headed by former U.S. president Bill Clinton.

The prize enabled the team to create the Aspire Food Group, a social entrepreneurship venture that helps microfarmers in Ghana cultivate palm weevil larvae—a popular food source—to provide both protein and income for their families. In the process of developing the project, Ashour decided that being a doctor wasn’t the only way to contribute to society’s needs; MBA in hand, he poured his energy into the startup instead.

“The idea is to empower independent farmers in Ghana to produce their own food and earn their own livelihood,” Ashour says. “We have more than 500 farmers working with us who farm in boxes in their own homes.”

Aspire provides the boxes and the farmers buy the necessary substrate and feed from the company at nominal cost. The farmers—largely women ages 55 and up—can feed their families and sell their “crop” at the local rural markets.

“Women of a certain age are treated like a social burden in the slums, but we’ve empowered these seniors to be the food providers of the family,” Ashour says.

The company has also pioneered industrial-scale insect farms in Texas to produce alternative protein sources for consumption, for restaurants and for production of power flour, a protein supplement. The flour provides an environmentally friendly way to supplement the North American reliance on animal protein, and the large-scale efforts helps fund the microfarmers.

Two years in, the company is still growing and exploring such possibilities as using its power flour in disaster relief.

“There’s a lot more we need to do,” Ashour says.

“I think my perspective has changed significantly since I dreamed of going to medical school. I wanted a career that would impact lives in a material way while I earned a great living. I can now do that in a more amplified way. This is an extension of my dream, not a departure.” — **Elaine Smith**



**Mohammed  
Ashour**

CLASS OF 2009

HK\$58 million to 400 research projects, including several involving giant pandas, and provided opportunities for more than 250 university students to engage in paid field work through the University Student Sponsorship Program in Wildlife Conservation.

“The same reason I had for experiencing Canada years ago is true for these young people today,” explains Li. “They want to associate the real world with what they’ve learned.”

So many years in one place hasn’t dampened Li’s own wanderlust either. In fact, he says he’s still revelling in new lessons and experiences every day. “I’m the same person I was in 1978, wanting to go out and embrace the world.”

He chuckles. “Just not in a Greyhound bus!” — **Christine Ward**

# Snapshot



**Anqi  
Luo**

FIRST-YEAR COMMERCE STUDENT

## On the Ball UTM table tennis talent eyes Olympics

Anqi Luo looks like your average university student until she picks up a table tennis paddle. Then, she turns into a fierce medal threat at any tournament in which she takes part.

Luo, a first-year commerce student at U of T Mississauga, was part of Canada's bronze medal-winning Canadian team at the 2015 Pan Am Games in Toronto. She attended the North American Olympic trials in April, hoping to earn a spot on Team Canada.

The 19-year-old table tennis star was born in China's Guangdong Province, the daughter of two professional table tennis players. The family immigrated to Canada when Luo was eight. She first took up table tennis here, playing in the basement after school since she had time

to do so with classes ending much earlier than in China.

"I played for fun for a few months and slowly got competitive," Luo says.

In 2006, she entered her first competition—the Canadian National Championships—and won a silver medal in the under-11 age category. Since that time, her medal collection has grown—it also includes a Commonwealth Games bronze—and so has her skill at table tennis. She currently trains with two coaches from China and spends her summers competing in tournaments in Canada and abroad. When she isn't doing homework or training, Luo can be found helping her parents run the table tennis club they own in Mississauga.

"I went into the commerce program because watching my parents run a business

has enlightened me and I grew interested in learning more about business," Luo says.

Competing at the Pan Am Games has been one of the highlights of her young career.

"I had never experienced something like that," Luo says. "It is very different competing in your hometown. My friends came out to support me, and the crowd cheered us on for every single point. It felt really great to show them how table tennis is.

"When you walk on the court wearing the Canadian uniform and everyone looks at you, it feels amazing."

The Olympics, of course, is her ultimate goal. "The Olympics has always been a dream since I started table tennis," she says. "I believe it's the dream of every single athlete." — Elaine Smith

PHOTO: DANIEL EHRENWORTH

# Build dreams



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# CLARITY IN THE BLUR

UTM is building a braintrust  
of researchers in the digital realm

By **PATCHEN BARSS**  
Illustrations by **ANTHONY GERACE**







**Privacy.  
Activism.  
Commerce.  
Medicine.  
Work.  
Play.**





## Bryan Stewart

VICE-PRINCIPAL, RESEARCH

**D**igital technologies are now woven into virtually every significant aspect of human activity, shaping and reshaping them into strange new forms.

Many people have become inured to the pace of change. We've barely heard about the next big thing before it becomes yesterday's news.

The University of Toronto Mississauga campus has become home to a growing community of researchers who distil clarity out of this digital blur. Just as technological innovation touches every part of daily life, it also reaches into every nook and cranny of the university community.

"On the science side of things, everything we do is now digital, but that transformation has also affected the social sciences and

humanities," says Bryan Stewart, vice-principal, research, at UTM. "When there's someone using digital technologies in a particular way, and someone in a different department can learn from that, my job is to connect them."

Connectedness comes naturally in work related to the digital realm. Many of the issues that come with a digital world cross disciplines: challenges of collecting, storing and analyzing big data sets; questions of privacy and security; demands to display advanced technological skills alongside subject matter expertise. It changes how people approach their fields of study.

"I work on how scientific and medical research are influenced by digital media," says Alessandro Delfanti, an assistant professor in UTM's Institute of Communication, Culture, Information and Technology (ICCIT). "I have a biomedical background and I am also a free-culture activist. I have always been interested in how science and medicine are shared in an open-source form."

Delfanti studies the relationships between digital media, science and technology, along with data sharing, hacking and

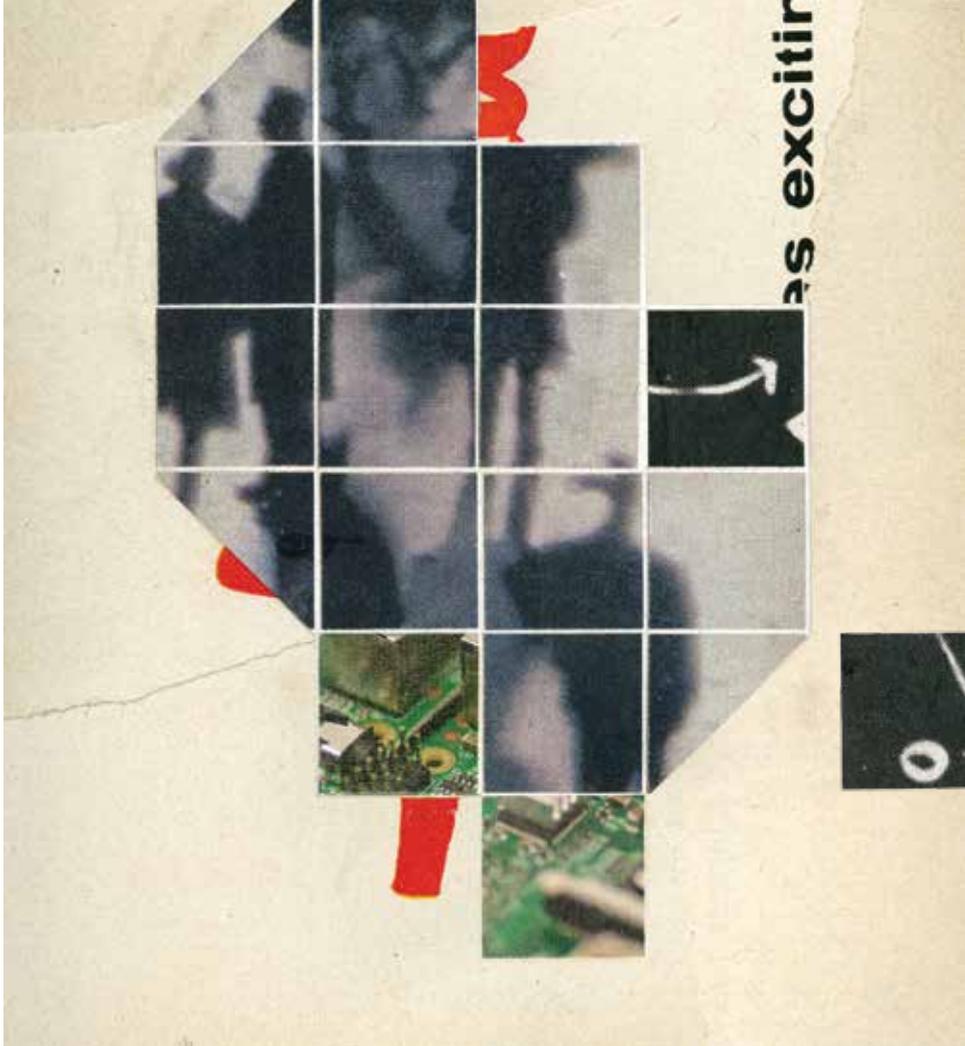


## Alessandro Delfanti

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, ICCIT

social movement politics in the digital realm. "I have studied very different groups, from mainstream biologists who open-source their data, to citizen communities that set up do-it-yourself labs to conduct scientific research, to patients who hack and liberate their medical records, to physicists who use online platforms to communicate their research in an immediate and open way," he says.

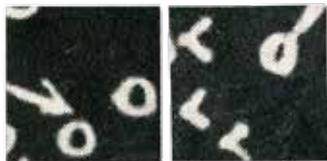
He arrived at UTM less than a year ago, but feels he has already found a rich intellectual home, rife with potential for future collaborations.



---

**“Digital marginalization is connected to social marginalization. But while technology can contribute to isolation, it can also reduce it.”**

---



“Within ICCIT, the atmosphere is quite collaborative. It has been easy to feel part of a community,” he says. “I have colleagues who study how value is created on the Internet, the politics of digital labour, and many other cool topics related to my own work on how people claim they can ‘hack’ science in order to take it back from institutions.”

But Delfanti shies away from the “data just wants to be free,” school of thought. “While it is easy to be in favour of the open exchange of information on the Internet, I try to unveil how new forms of power are created and who profits from these new regimes,” he says.

Digital-realm research often includes elements of who is in—in power, in

control, in the loop—and who is out. ICCIT assistant professor Victoria McArthur studies this inclusion in the context of gender, race and gaming.

“I focus on social inclusion in game design, working toward practices that ensure games can truly be enjoyed by all,” she says. “My recent work has been on avatar design, creating and presenting guidelines that encourage designers to make it possible for players to create representative avatars, while also ensuring that representations of race are respectful.”

McArthur is more than just a researcher; she’s also a gamer. It’s valuable, she says, to be able to draw on her personal experiences with video games and the gaming community to drive and inform her academic work. Her experience speaks as much to what’s great about computer games as it does to what can be improved.

“I care about these issues because, as someone who plays games, I see many missed opportunities for social inclusion,” says McArthur. “There are opportunities that wouldn’t ruin what’s already there, but would instead enhance all available options. That would allow users to see themselves in the games they play.”



**Cosmin Munteanu**  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, ICCIT



**Alexandra Gillespie**  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR,  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH  
AND DRAMA

Inclusiveness also plays a big role in ICCIT assistant professor Cosmin Munteanu’s research, though in a very different way. Munteanu studies how digital technologies can bring traditionally marginalized groups into the mainstream to a greater extent—and also how these same technologies can create new kinds of marginalization.

“Digital marginalization is connected to social marginalization. Shopping online, for instance, is connected to social isolation,” he says. “But while technology can contribute to isolation, it can also reduce it.”

About eight years ago, he says, he learned about a device that could help stroke victims who had lost their speech capacity to regain their ability to communicate verbally.

“At that time, this piece of technology cost \$15,000, and it was a clunky box you had to carry around so that it could speak for you,” he said. “Now it’s an app.”

“But as we move to solve certain issues, we can create other problems,” he says.

He uses the example of online tax filing to illustrate what he means. “It’s so much better for many of us—the software gets so much easier to use, even though the tax code is very complex.” Yet as the focus shifts to online, software-assisted filing, some people who used to have no trouble filing their taxes using paper forms suddenly find themselves newly marginalized.

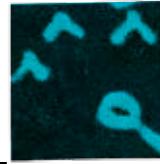
Munteanu offers no definitive answer to the question of where the digitization of life leads. “Overall, things get better, but sometimes other issues need to be fixed because of what we’re doing,” he says.

He believes the speed with which technology changes will always result in complex, less-than-perfect consequences.

“Everything is so rapidly evolving, and we’re so busy,” he says. “I don’t think we’re ever going to solve major social problems fully. There are not many problems we declare solved by technology, and even when we do, we usually haven’t fully addressed the problem.”

Increasingly, technology is crossing into academic realms that previously seemed separate from the digital world; some members of the UTM community never expected to add digital expertise to their curriculum vitae.

“I couldn’t have imagined machine-learning algorithms and digital annotation tools would be a part of my work,” says Alexandra Gillespie, an associate professor in the Department of English and Drama. “But we just received a grant to make medieval manuscripts more usable.



## Ron Buliung

PROFESSOR,  
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

## Rhonda McEwen

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, ICCIT



The chief output of the project is to enable people to reassemble collections of medieval manuscripts that are scattered all over the world.”

Gillespie, an expert on Geoffrey Chaucer, is part of an international team developing digital standards and tools that will allow researchers all over the world to study, annotate and analyze centuries-old documents with speed, economy and comprehensiveness never before possible.

“Right now about five per cent of surviving books up to the 16th century have been digitized, and that’s not even counting things like roman papyri,” she says. “What’s it going to be like when they’re all available and we can harness algorithms such that computers can do most of the searching for us?”

Her work involves designing standards that allow researchers to study diverse documents. She was originally brought into such work merely as a literary authority, but the seductive potential of digitization proved too much for her.

“You could sit in your pyjamas at home, looking at Virgil manuscripts in the Vatican Library,” she says. “If you care about literature, it’s amazing to consider.”

At the same time, Gillespie is working with the International Image Interoperability Framework Consortium, which arose in response to the alarming trend of rare documents moving online only in idiosyncratic, restrictive formats, and only viewable using customized, proprietary applications. The University of Toronto is one of 28 founding members of the consortium, which includes Ivy League universities, the Vatican Library, the British Museum, the J. Paul Getty Trust and many other world-leading libraries and research institutions.

U of T Mississauga continues to grow not only its faculty’s depth of digital expertise but also its breadth. ICCIT professor Brett Caraway studies online labour markets and file-sharing culture. New media professor Rhonda McEwen researches how mobile devices affect cognitive functions and sensory information processing.

Geographer Ron Buliung studies how technology affects urban mobility. In a recent study with Metrolinx, he found a decline among youth over a 25-year period in the use of physically active modes of transportation to commute to school, while the percentage of youth driven to school has doubled. Buliung calls the data “disappointing” given the increasing prevalence of childhood obesity in North America.

Gábor Virág, an assistant professor of management, studies people’s online bargaining and bidding strategies, and how they try to find the best possible price, product or job.

Despite this diversity, faculty consistently describe their community as tight-knit.

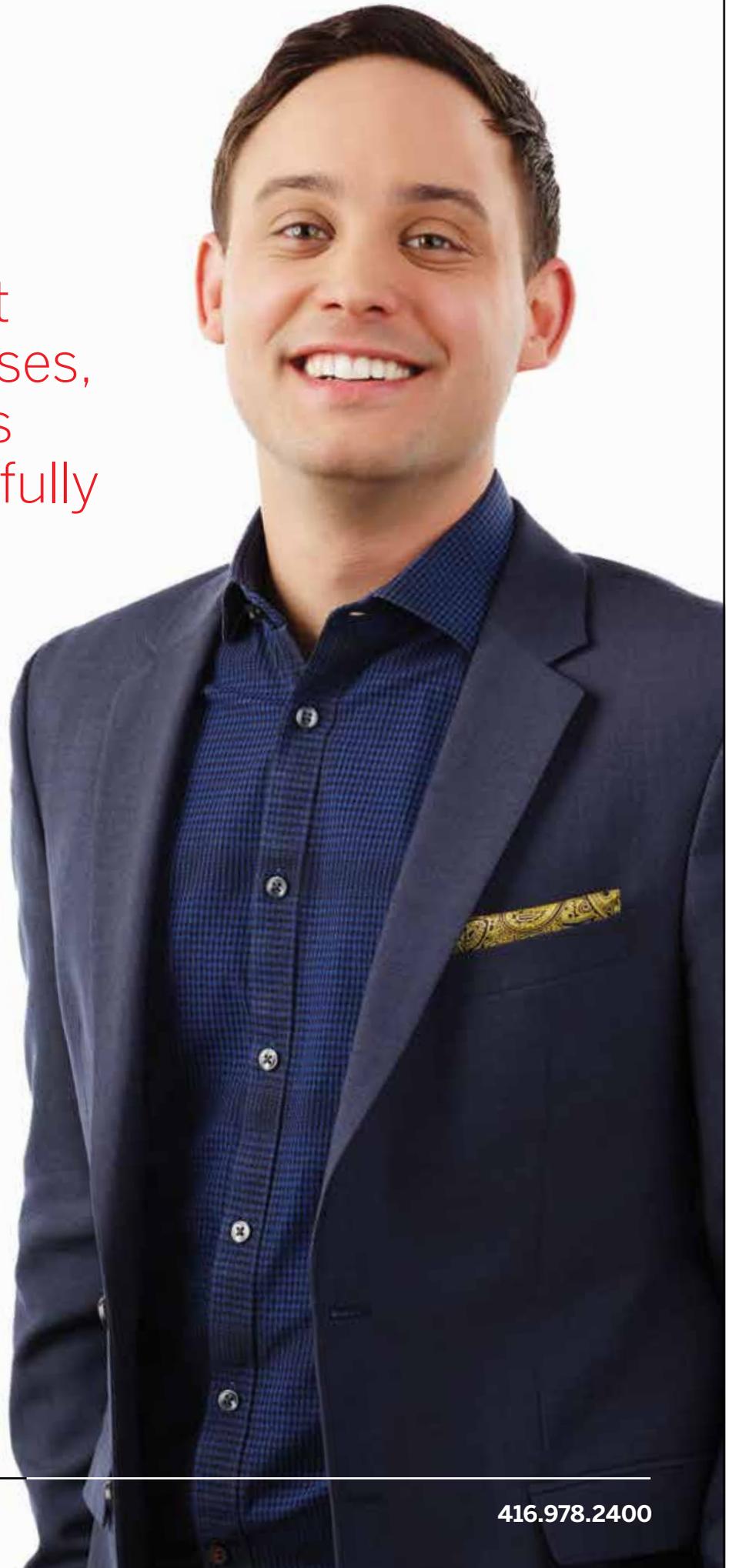
“Every university and research institute is dealing with the digital transformation,” says Stewart. “That’s part of why I and other research administrators take the job of connecting people seriously. We talk to many people across the university in many disciplines, which gives a sense of the overall effect—we see something big happening.” ■



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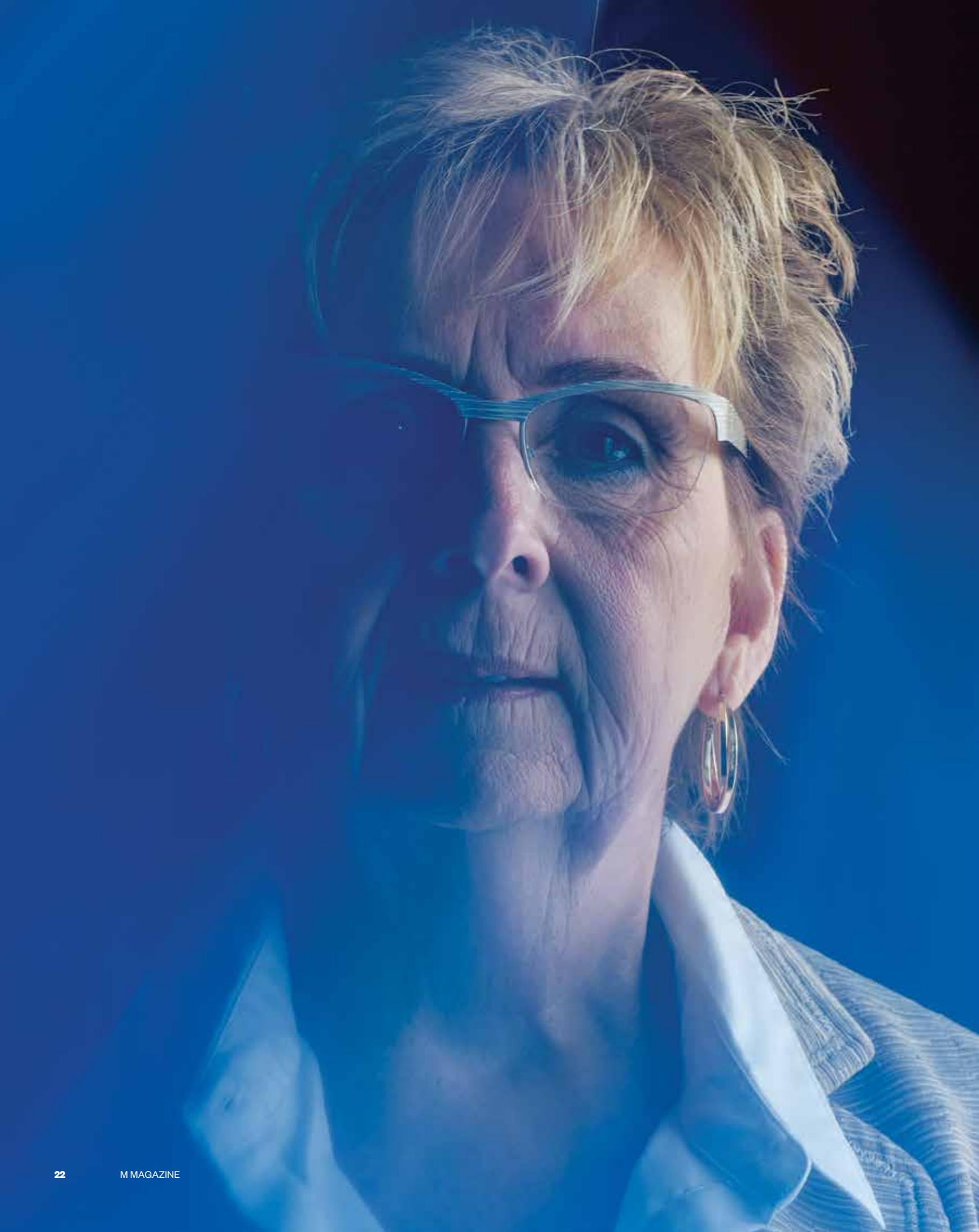
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By **CHRISTINE WARD**

# Profiling Pioneer

## Kate Lines looks back on an innovative career in behavioural forensics

**During the day, she was a hardworking University of Toronto Mississauga student. At night,** she combed some of Canada's most notorious crime scenes as a criminal profiler in the Ontario Provincial Police's forensic unit. The year was 1991, and Kate Lines had just graduated from the FBI's elite criminal profiling program in Quantico, Virginia—only the second Canadian ever to do so.

"When I returned from Quantico, I wanted to take some more courses," says Lines, who earned a BA from UTM in 1977. She enrolled in the crime, law and deviance certificate program, where she explored

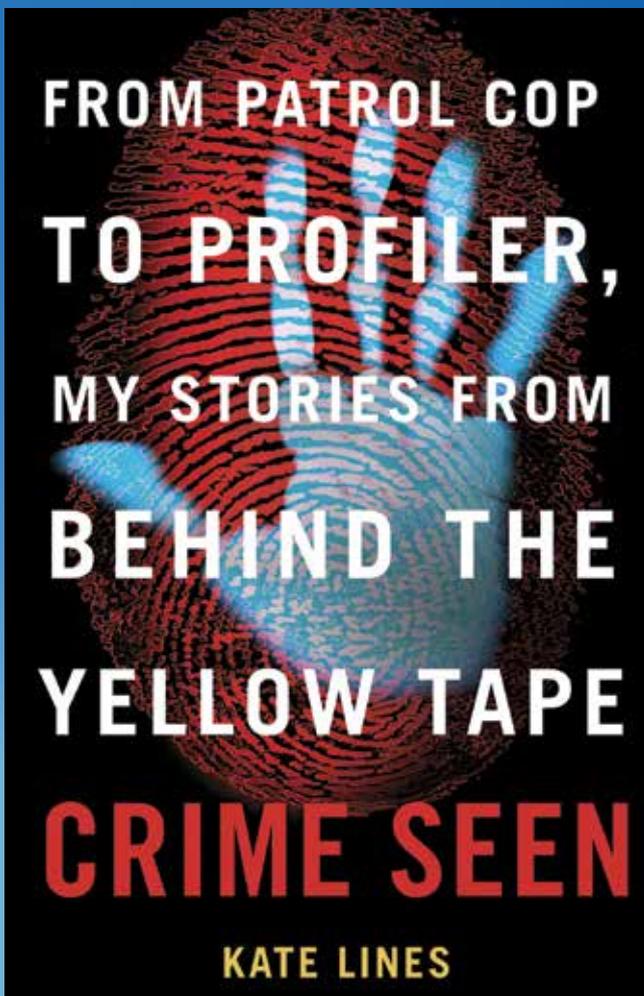
criminal theory in the classroom and then applied those lessons to such high-profile cases as the abduction and murder of Kristen French, the disappearance of four-year-old Michael Dunahee in Victoria and, later, the Tori Stafford case.

"I literally went from the classroom to the crime scene. Education doesn't get more impactful than that."

Lines eventually worked her way up the ranks, becoming the head of Canada's very first behavioural sciences section and an OPP chief superintendent. Now retired, she is hailed as an innovator, developing the OPP's Violent Crime Linkage

Analysis System (ViCLAS is the national database for tracking violent offenders and the crimes they commit) into a powerful crime-solving tool. She was awarded a Governor General's medal for her 33-year career and named Police Leader of the Year in 2003 by the Canadian Police Leadership Foundation.

While a high school student in the 1970s, Lines couldn't have predicted her future career. "I wasn't an angelic child," she admits. "My teen years were a bit wild." She enrolled at UTM because she had once visited her cousin there and was immediately drawn to courses in criminology and



**“I literally went from the classroom to the crime scene. Education doesn’t get more impactful than that.”**

the philosophy of deviance. After graduating with her bachelor of arts, “I remember asking, ‘What the heck am I going to do?’”

A roommate’s cousin suggested she consider policing. When she joined the OPP as a patrol cop later that year, there were only 50 women in the force. Four years later, she became one of the OPP’s first female undercover officers before being chosen for the FBI course in 1990.

“When I saw the FBI ad, I felt like it was the first position on which my education would have a direct impact. It sure turned out that way.”

Years later, as head of the force’s behavioural sciences section, Lines hired her former teacher Dr. Les Krames, then a UTM cognitive psychologist, to lead a research project gauging the impact of ViCLAS. While relatively common today,

collaboration between the OPP and academia was almost non-existent in the late 1990s, something Lines set out to change.

“I always saw the value of having academics and practitioners work together,” she says.

The partnership went both ways. During a presentation to one of Krames’ classes, Lines met UTM psychology graduate Angela Wyatt Eke. She gave the aspiring behavioural analyst a part-time job on the ViCLAS research project, an inspired decision. Eke, now head of the OPP’s criminal behaviour analysis research division, developed the Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA) in 2004. She credits Lines with helping to make it happen.

“Kate is a visionary. She was always looking forward. Even then, she saw the

value in this kind of risk assessment tool,” says Eke. ODARA is now used by police forces province-wide.

Despite such a high-profile career, Lines admits she’s even more proud of more recent accomplishments. In 2015, she published a book *Crime Seen – From Patrol Cop to Profiler*, in which she shines a light on the courage of victims and their families. As a profiler, she rarely gave herself licence to think about the lives of those torn apart by crime. As an author, telling their stories proved a fitting close to her career.

“I got to meet the families and found that they had things to contribute to my storytelling that I didn’t know. I saw how their lives are forever changed, but that they’re ok. It was really cathartic for me to write from their perspective.” ■

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# Spark



## Resumé 'Whitening' Even diversity friendly employers overlook racial minority job seekers

If an employer describes itself as “diversity friendly,” is a non-Anglicized name a disadvantage when you’re applying for a job? Think again.

Minority applicants may fare even worse in the resumé pile at companies purporting to support diversity than they would at companies that don’t make the claim, according to research by U of T Mississauga management professor Sonia Kang.

That’s because job seekers are less likely to “whiten” their resúmes—changing or deleting aspects of one’s resumé to conceal

or downplay one’s race—when responding to pro-diversity job ads. The odds of getting a callback for an interview when resúmes are not whitened are significantly worse, regardless of whether the company says it’s a pro-diversity employer or not. On the other hand, hiding one’s race by “whitening” was found to improve the chances of landing an interview.

“It’s really a wake-up call for organizations to do something to address this problem. Discrimination is still a reality,” says Kang.

The researchers found that while some minority job seekers refused to change their resúmes, roughly one-third of Asian and black job seekers in the study “whitened” their resúmes by either altering their first name—sometimes substituting a middle name or initial, or using something more “American-sounding”—or removing professional experiences and achievements related to their racial group, or both.

Participants mentioned that one reason

they would refrain from whitening is if an organization included a pro-diversity statement in their job ad, and a subsequent experiment confirmed that minority job seekers were only half as likely to whiten their resúmes when applying to an employer touting diversity values.

However, a final audit study found callbacks for interviews from employers that mentioned diversity in their job ads were just as low for unwhitened minority resúmes as they were from any other employer. Whitened resúmes were more than twice as likely to get a callback, regardless of whether or not an employer’s job ad mentioned diversity.

Organizations that want to do something about discrimination must go beyond simple statements about how they value diversity, says Kang. “By creating a false sense of security, these statements merely provide an illusion of diversity that might end up making things worse for minority applicants,” she says. — **Moira MacDonald**

ILLUSTRATION: KYLE METCALF

## Climate Change Big cities, big targets

How can city governments solve the problem of climate change? That's the question U of T Mississauga's Sara Hughes seeks to answer as she investigates how three major cities—Toronto, New York and Los Angeles—are delivering on ambitious pledges to improve sustainability.

"Globally, cities are where most people live, and where most economic activity takes place, and they contribute nearly 70 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions from energy and transportation," says Hughes, an assistant professor in the Department of Political Science. "Cities play a big role in contributing to climate, so they also have a big role to play in reducing those emissions."

"City governments have pledged toward emissions reductions of 50 to 80 per cent, but how are they going to do it?" she asks. "I'm interested in the big players in places where it might seem hard and complicated to make change."

"I'm looking at the patterns and strategies used by each city. I want to understand how programs get developed, funded and mobilized politically and institutionalized," she says. "What do they tell us about the internal structures of the city, about the local or broader political context that has led to the emergence of these strategies?"

"Around 2007, there was a political moment where climate change issues were popular, and leadership took advantage of that," Hughes says. "Toronto, Los Angeles and New York were early actors, which makes it easier to see if they've been effective at meeting their goals."

Since 2007, each municipality has claimed about 20 per cent reduction in emissions, but each city has achieved those goals in a totally different way, she says. "For example, Los Angeles has focused on solar energy; New York created new legislation to switch to cleaner heating fuel; and Toronto's success is related to energy conservation and benefits from closure of coal plants."

But governance also takes place outside of City Hall, Hughes notes. Cities run up against the private sector, or provincial, state or federal governments that might also have jurisdiction.

"In Los Angeles, the mayor appointed sympathizers to the utilities' governing body, leveraged state incentives, created a coalition of environmental non-profit groups and changed the municipal code to allow roof-top solar panels," she says.

"New York created a new building code to address energy use. That city has been really good at passing legislation through city council—it has a strong government and a strong mayor. Cities that have the potential to pass legislation at city-level could do the same and change the building code or the energy code."

"Toronto's innovation is the creation of an innovative funding scheme to loan money for energy conservation projects," she says. "Toronto is also getting good at making and quantifying carbon credits. They've seen other cities have success in that area, and the province is also moving in that direction. That could end up being a game changer."

There's no 'one size fits all' plan for cities, Hughes cautions. "But it could be helpful for other cities with similar power structures to examine the plans of Toronto, New York and Los Angeles and see where they might focus their own strategies," she says. "Cities contribute to climate change, and are a place where climate change is going to be solved." — **Blake Eligh**



# Class Notes



## **Kirstine Stewart** Twitter executive pens memoir, *Our Turn*

**It's impossible to capture the accomplishments of Kirstine Stewart in a mere 140 characters. As vice-president, Stewart oversees Twitter's North American media partnerships across television, film, news, sport, fashion and music.**

In 2015, Stewart published her first book, *Our Turn: Time for a New Kind of Leader*, which discusses the potential of female leaders in a time of new opportunities. She also received UTM's J. Tuzo Wilson Distinguished Alumni Award.

Prior to joining Twitter in 2013, Stewart was the executive vice-president at CBC/Radio Canada, where she oversaw the network's English-language radio, television and digital operations. Earlier, she was senior vice-president of programming for Alliance Atlantis, overseeing HGTV, the Food Network, National Geographic, BBC Canada and others. Stewart earned a bachelor's degree from UTM in 1988, and is a graduate of Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. Stewart is considered one to watch—in 2014, she was named to *Maclean's* magazine's list of "100 Most Powerful Canadians."



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PHOTO: LISA SAKULENSKY

## David Yee

### Governor General's award for drama

**The play's the thing...for which UTM alumnus David Yee has been honoured with the 2015 Governor General's award for drama.**

The play, *carried away on the crest of a wave*, was first produced at Toronto's Tarragon Theatre and published by Playwrights Canada Press. Yee wrote the play in response to the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami that struck Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India and Thailand after a magnitude 9.1 earthquake rocked the Indian Ocean. More than 230,000 people died, including many vacationers from countries around the world. The play portrays the tsunami's complex impact on people's lives worldwide. Yee, who graduated from UTM's theatre and drama program in 2000, is now artistic director of the fu-GEN Theatre Company in Toronto. He was previously nominated for a Governor General's award in 2010 for his play, *lady in a red dress*, and was shortlisted for the 2011 Carol Bolt Award for *paper SERIES*. Yee is currently a playwright-in-residence with the Tarragon Theatre.



## Giles Blunt

### *Forty Words for Sorrow*

Alumnus Giles Blunt, whose mystery novels capture the stark beauty and isolation of Northern Ontario, will soon see his characters on the small screen. The Canadian Television Network (CTV) is airing *Forty Words for Sorrow*, based on the six books in Blunt's Detective John Cardinal series, starting in the 2016/17 season. The series begins with the discovery of Katie Pine, a missing 13 year old whose body is discovered in the shaft-head of an abandoned mine. The series follows Detective Cardinal and his new partner, Detective Lise Delorme, as they attempt to uncover the mystery of what happened to the young girl. Blunt, who graduated from UTM in 1975 with a bachelor of arts degree, has won the British Crime Writers' Macallan Silver Dagger award and the Arthur Ellis Award for best novel.



# Class Notes

## Kirsti Haaka Alumna co- produced film on PTSD in first responders

**The mental toughness that Kirsti Haaka needed to play Varsity Blues hockey continues to serve her well today as she copes with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), a mental health condition triggered by experiencing or witnessing a terrifying event or events.**

Haaka, who graduated from UTM in 1994 with a B.Sc. in psychology, is both co-producer and on-screen presence in *Code 9 – Officer Needs Assistance*, a documentary film that addresses the impact of PTSD on first responders. Haaka, who also earned a diploma in law and security from Sheridan College and a master's degree in criminal justice administration from Niagara University in Lewiston, New York, was in the midst of a thriving law enforcement career when PTSD struck, leading to an extended leave of absence from her job. Haaka is undergoing therapy and, for the past year, she has had the support of Patty, a PTSD service dog. The documentary, which won the Audience Choice Award at 2015's Tampa Bay Underground Film Festival, is designed to raise awareness about PTSD among first responders and to educate them and their administrators about the illness.



**CODE 9**  
OFFICER NEEDS  
ASSISTANCE



### **GUIDO PUGLIESE**

#### **Remembering a scholar, teacher and playwright**

Professor Guido Pugliese, who for more than 30 years spearheaded the Italian theatre initiative at U of T Mississauga, passed away on Jan. 12. Born in southern Italy, Pugliese's family moved to Toronto in 1954. He studied Italian and English literature at U of T, then established the Italian section of the Department of Romance Studies at Brock University. Pugliese was invited to join UTM—then Erindale College—in 1975, to design academic programs to meet the needs of a large influx of Italian immigrants to Mississauga. An expert on Italian writers, poets and playwrights dating back to the 13th century, Pugliese believed that performing in Italian was an exceptional way for students to learn the language, and over the years he directed and co-directed 23 different Italian plays. He also involved the local Italian community, using costumes, furniture and props—such as shoemaking tools originally from Italy—to bring the productions to life.



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JUNE  
**1**



### Alumni Mixer – San Francisco, CA

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JUNE  
**7**



### African Lion Safari Alumni Day

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JULY  
**10**



### Rogers Cup Alumni Day

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JULY  
**27**



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# Vault

***It was never meant to last so long.*** When the North Building first opened in 1967, it was a “temporary” structure until other campus buildings could be constructed. But the long, concrete building—full of classrooms, a small library, offices and a food court where students, staff and faculty ate together—endured. It anchored one end of the Five-Minute-Walk, featured a mural by UTM alumna Denyse Thomasos, and the nearby North Field was a great place to play soccer or enjoy some fresh air between classes. As U of T Mississauga prepares for its 50th anniversary, we bid farewell to our first building. And though the brutalist shape of North didn’t necessarily make it an esthetic favourite, it will remain a much-loved part of Erindale—and UTM—history.

**1967**

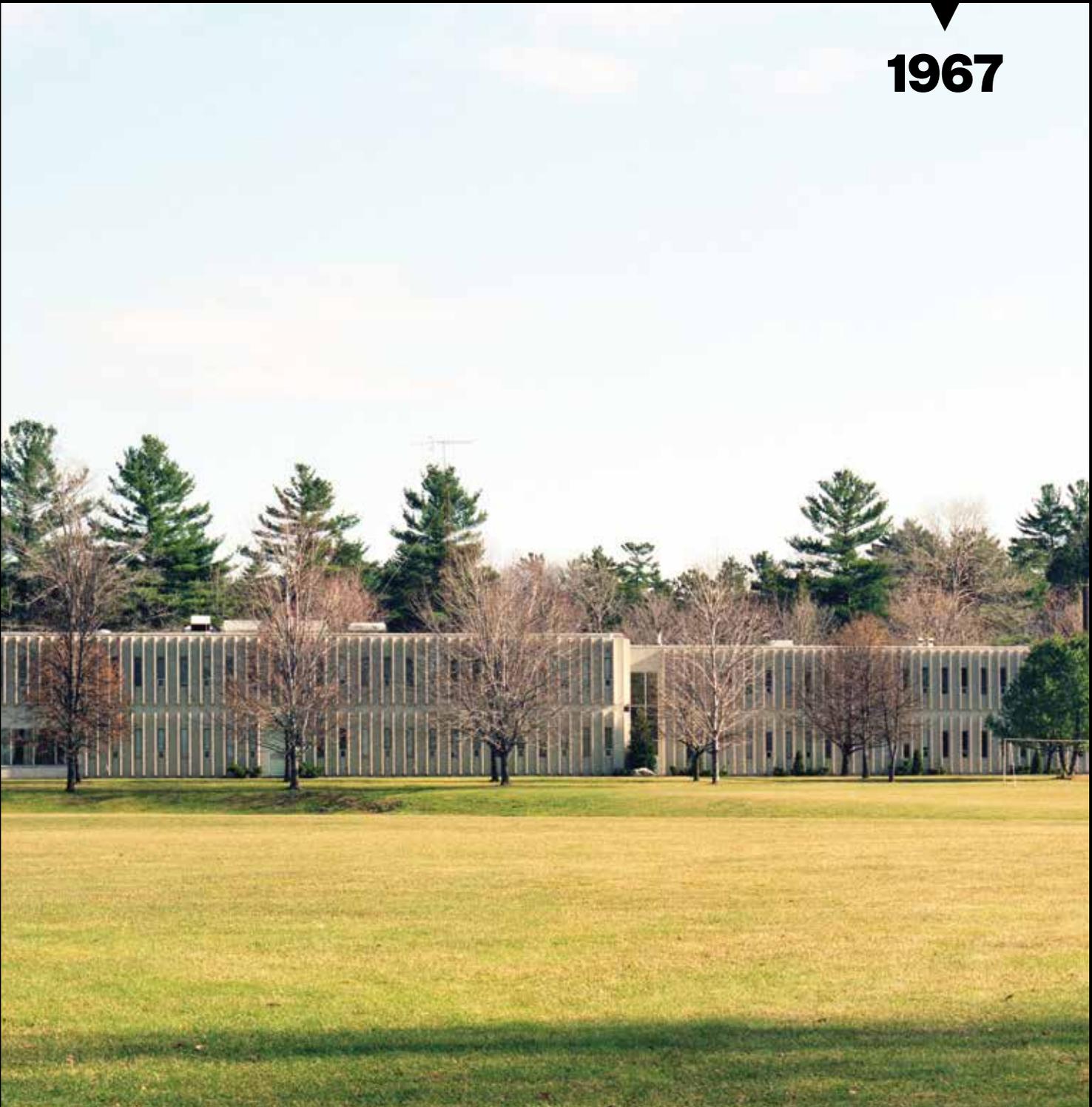


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