

FALL/WINTER 2008 | VOLUME 26 | ISSUE TWO

# GEORGIAN ALUMNI VIEW



**5** Grad goes global *From Barrie to Beijing and beyond*

**9** Desperately seeking Susan...and Bruce and Lisa...*help find alumni and win!*

**20** Georgian means jobs – *good news in bad times*



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**INSIDE! GRADitude magazine highlights Georgian supporters**



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# GEORGIAN ALUMNI VIEW

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## GRADITUDE

THE POWER OF  
EDUCATION CAMPAIGN  
*makes gains*



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- Construction industry digs students

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#### Stories:

Dave Dawson  
 Anne-Marie McAllister  
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Dave Barton

**GEORGIAN**  
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## Encounters

*Message from  
Brian Tambyn,  
President and CEO,  
Georgian College*

With Georgian College Alumni now exceeding 45,000 graduates, there are many times

throughout my travels when I cross paths with alumni and their families – and their stories never cease to amaze me.

I recently attended a wedding and a couple approached to tell me about the success of their son, who graduated from Georgian in the Business Administration program. He went on to complete his Bachelor of Commerce degree in university and is now a successful Chartered Accountant. The mother shared with me that, to this day, her son believes he received the most out of his education at Georgian. She went on to say that he found his college program to be the most challenging and valuable in his academic journey. The mother concluded by commenting that Georgian set her son on a path to both career and life success.

I enjoy hearing these stories, and I know there are countless more out there. If there was one message I would convey to our graduates, it is to think of their graduation not as the end of their journey but, instead, the beginning of a lifelong association with Georgian. It explains why Georgian has one of the most active and dynamic alumni associations in the entire Ontario college system. By virtue of having graduated at Georgian, you are a lifelong member of the Association. There are no annual dues. You are a member on the basis of merit, having successfully completed your post-secondary studies at Georgian.

The Alumni Association is led by a Board of hard working and dedicated volunteers – graduates like

yourself who unselfishly contribute their time by constantly looking at new ways to keep members involved and connected with Georgian. What the Association can offer is timely and relevant services that will benefit you and your family, even years after your college life. While some of the programs and services directly benefit graduates who still reside close to one of our campuses, we know many of you have moved on to other parts of the province and country, and it is for this reason we have lined up business partners who can provide services that extend right across Canada. One such example is Johnson Insurance; it offers attractive rates in automotive and household insurance resulting in savings to your pocket book made possible simply by your membership in a group of 45,000+ graduates. Through the alumni website, the Alumni View magazine and regular mailings, the Alumni Board strives to keep you informed of the growing benefits of your membership.

I look forward to many more encounters with our graduates and families across this country and beyond, and I want to hear their stories. Please ensure we have your updated information so you continue to be informed of the existing and ever-evolving benefits for Georgian alumni. Remember, it pays to “Keep in Touch.”

My very best wishes to each of you for continued success.

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## Pathways

I recently returned from a vacation that took my family on a round trip of more than 2,000 kilometres, visiting various destinations from Barrie to Niagara Falls, to Frankenmuth and Mackinaw City, Michigan to Sudbury. After 10 days, our pathway brought us home. The grass was longer, the gardens were bigger and the trees seemed to be turning a new shade of green. That was only 10 days; imagine what 10, 15 or 25 years would have looked like!

Since graduating from the hallways of Georgian in 1986, I have journeyed through the hallways of industry from beer to soft drinks, to hockey, to garments. My compass on those paths was the education I received at Georgian. Now, 25 years later, I have come full circle and my path has brought me back to Georgian once again. When I attended the Barrie Campus in 1984, we had A, B and C buildings, and campuses in Orillia and Owen Sound. I distinctly remember pub night in a crammed cafeteria, a gymnasium that put spectators of varsity sports literally on the sideline and a library that was smaller than that of my high school. Fast-forward 25 years and we now have seven campuses with state-of-the-art facilities that are both technological and architectural delights. I am proud to say your Alumni Association has been instrumental in that change and we have the proof to back it up.

I encourage you to find your own pathway back to Georgian, to see what has changed about the campus that changed your life. I've heard many people say Georgian is known well but not well-known. That is why I ask all alumni to consider journeying back to Georgian. Whether it is for continued education, volunteerism, giving back, using the facilities now in existence, checking out a campus community event or just walking down memory lane with your children, it is worth putting Georgian into your GPS as a destination point.

Fast-forward another 25 years and the campuses we know will look nothing like they do today. It is an ongoing commitment of support and stewardship



*The Brox family visits Silent Night chapel in Frankenmuth, Michigan.*

by the graduates of yesterday and today that will light the way for Georgian to be a beacon of new beginnings for all alumni to call home.

*Howie Brox  
Georgian College Alumni Association*

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# Meet our stars

By Tina Hurst, Alumni Development Officer, Georgian College

Each year, every Ontario College is asked to submit nominations from among their graduates to the Ontario Premier's Awards. These awards recognize graduates of any college program who have demonstrated outstanding career success and are making a contribution to their community or society. This year, Georgian is proud to nominate the following two outstanding alumni. Both have been recognized by Georgian already through the Board of Governors' Distinguished Alumni Award. Nominations are submitted in October and the winners in each category are announced at an awards ceremony in February.



## **Ellie Sykes**

*Vice President, Qualitative and Online Communities, Angus Reid Strategies, Graduate 1998 – Research Analyst program (RAP)*

Ellie Sykes has gone from strength to strength since her graduation from Georgian College. An outstanding student who graduated with honours from Georgian, Ellie worked for Viewpoints Research and then Market Explorers (both in Vancouver), where she eventually became a partner.

Ellie taught marketing, international marketing planning and market research at the British Columbia Institute of Technology from 2003 to 2006, operating her own consulting firm at the same time. She is the first of Georgian's RAP alumni to achieve national certification as a Certified Marketing Research Professional. As a result of her success, the Marketing Research and Intelligence Association recently announced that Georgian College RAP alumni have achieved the academic learning of a marketing research professional and after two years of practical workplace experience are eligible to write the certification examination. Georgian is the only educational institution to have received this recognition in Canada.

In her current role as Vice President, Qualitative and Online Communities with Angus Reid Strategies, Ellie's goal is to develop technologically innovative approaches to qualitative research which will help define simple solutions to clients' complex questions and challenges.

Over the years, Ellie has set new standards of achievements within her career, by her volunteerism in the marketing research industry and in her continued generosity in sharing her experiences with researchers on the rise from Georgian College.



## **Greg Davey**

*Associate Director, Olympic Services, Bell Canada, Graduate 1982 – Electronic Engineering Technology program*

Read all about Greg in our cover story on page 5!

## **Looking for more stars**

We are continually looking for outstanding graduates of Georgian who demonstrate exceptional career success related to their college experiences and who have made noteworthy contributions to their communities.

The Ontario Premier's Award program acknowledges six outstanding graduates in the categories of Business, Community Services, Creative Arts and Design, Health Sciences, Technology and Recent Graduate.

*If you know of a Georgian alumnus who would be an excellent candidate for a Premier's Award, please contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at (705) 728-1968, ext. 1213, or at [thurst@georgianc.on.ca](mailto:thurst@georgianc.on.ca)*

*For more information about the Ontario Premier's Awards, go to <http://www.thecouncil.on.ca/>.*

# Grad goes global

## From Barrie to Beijing and beyond

By Dave Dawson

When he was in high school, Greg Davey, a self-proclaimed geek, had the best stereo money couldn't buy. Davey, who loved to play around with electronics, built his own sound system that outclassed anything available on store shelves at the time.

*"I had a wicked sound system that I built from scratch with stuff acquired from here and there," says Davey with a laugh. "I just loved to build things and electronics was my hobby."*

Little did he know then that he would go on to build a ground-breaking television network and find himself at the helm of a massive operation critical to the Olympic Games of 2010. But to understand Davey's success, you have to unravel his past.

During his high school days in Orillia, it was his love of electronics that led Davey to divert from what

seemed like his chosen path. He had applied to the University of Guelph to study recreation in what seemed like a natural evolution for someone who taught waterskiing in the summers at Geneva Park YMCA, where his dad was the director.

"But my mom was the co-ordinator of the nursing program at Georgian College in Orillia and, somehow, I heard about the Electronic Engineering Technology program being offered at the Barrie Campus and decided to go that route," Davey recalls of that decision in 1979. It would drastically alter the course of his life.

After struggling through high school with barely passing grades, Davey discovered his life's calling and found himself at the top of his class – despite the difficult college curriculum.

"For the most part, I found it came easy to me and I loved it," said Davey.

Perhaps more importantly, he met a mentor in Professor Serge Moiseev – an energetic, demanding teacher whose courses focused on designing and building systems.

"He had this vision of teaching irresponsible kids like me to work out the math and then be able to build electronic circuits to imitate that math; taking the theoretical and making it practical," recalls Davey. "And I have built and designed many, many things since then."

That started in earnest when Davey graduated in 1982 and landed a job with Bell Canada as a technician. His work ethic and aptitude saw him make a steady progression up the ladder of the huge corporation.

"In fact, I wrote the first business case for Bell to purchase IBM PCs for an operations group," Davey recalls. "Today, a computer is like a



pencil; it's essential. Back then, I had to make a business case as to why we needed it."

He was successful in convincing his department to buy computers and then found himself writing, designing and building software programs that streamlined operations for Bell. That prompted Davey to become known as Bell's 'set-up, fix-up' guy – a well-earned moniker for a guy who got a lot of the odd and broken or new and exciting projects.

In 1992, Davey's career took a meteoric turn when he was moved over to Bell's television division. Little did Davey know then that Bell was integral to television and was handling television responsibilities for the newly opened SkyDome, as well as Maple Leaf Gardens, the Parliament buildings and many other facilities.

"Up to 1992, about 90 per cent of video was on satellite," says Davey. "But work had started on building a terrestrial network (with fibre optics). It was about that time that the Anik satellite failed and the only way you could get TV news and sports feeds around the country was through our new Bell "VideoRoute" network," said Davey, who jokes he

had nothing to do with the well-timed failure of the Anik satellite.

By the end of the '90s, that initial network was becoming obsolete with the world converting to digital video – and high definition TV on the horizon. That prompted Davey and Bell to build their own telecommunications network design exclusively in video, so the Bell Digital Video Network was born.

*"And if you're watching election coverage or sports on TV, you're watching it on a network I designed and built and it was all built on new technology," says Davey, with pride. "That, for me, is one of the highlights of my career."*

One of his key partners on this project is also a Georgian alumnus – Mark Eccleshall, who is product manager for Video Services at Bell.

But the story doesn't end there. When Vancouver won its bid for the 2010 Olympic Games, Davey immediately wrote a memo to his bosses, suggesting Bell bid to provide all the telecommunications needs of the winter Olympiad.

"Bell was already the traditional Olympic sponsor,

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but we had to compete for this in our competitors' own backyard."

The bid was successful. Since then, Davey, who was named Associate Director, Olympic Services for Bell, has been at each successive Olympic Games, observing and learning. Most recently he was in Beijing where he worked on the broadcasting side of the international event.

And now he's focused intently on 2010.

"In 2003, I started working on this and in 2005, I was asked to move to Vancouver and join Bell's Olympic team," said Davey. "My responsibility for Bell is to provide all services to the broadcasters and to be the general manager of the Vancouver Convention and Exhibition Centre," said Davey. "That will serve as the international broadcast centre, which is the leading centre of its kind in the world. It's an absolute technological marvel and is due to open in March 2009."

"One of the great things about working on so many cool projects is that I have been able to work with some of the best and brightest people," said Davey, "The Olympics is no exception; I have the pleasure of working with people from around the globe, and some of the best people in Bell Canada. We have so many talented people!"

It's a long way from piecing components together for a home stereo.

"I oversaw the project and did a lot of the design work and it all goes back to those years spent at Georgian College, where we first learned the concepts behind problem identification, design and building solutions," said Davey.

His experience in Beijing this summer reiterated to him why he's so passionate about his job.

"I got to see Michael Phelps win his first gold medal," said Davey. "It reminds me that the Olympics are not about leading-edge technology, they're about sport. But it also reminds me that you don't get two chances to film that gold medal moment so you have to get it right. Our motto at Bell is 'Flawless Games.'"

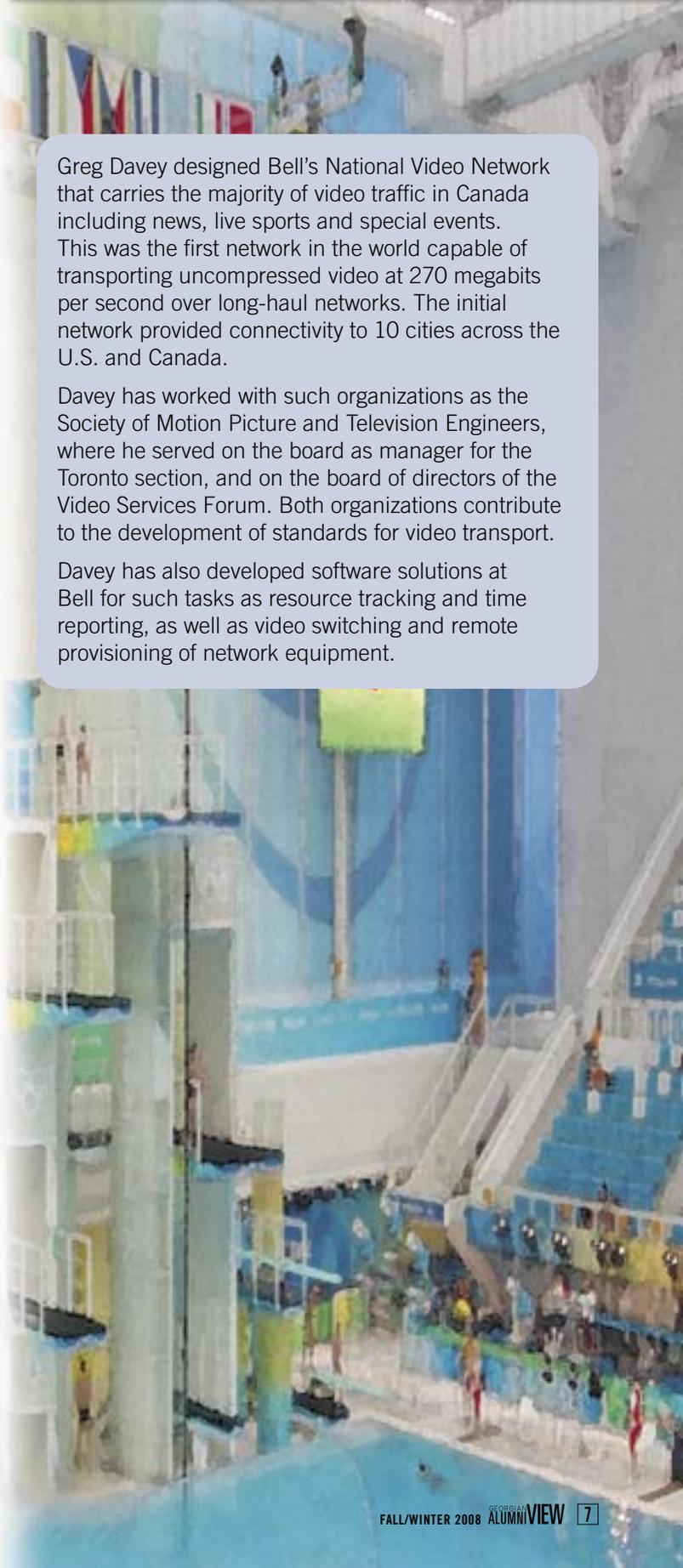
Because Davey has got it right so often, he won a 2008 Georgian College Board of Governors' Distinguished Alumni Award and has been nominated for a coveted Premier's Award.

*"You never do this thinking you might win an award," concedes Davey. "But it's a great honour to be considered and it's something that means a lot to me."*

Greg Davey designed Bell's National Video Network that carries the majority of video traffic in Canada including news, live sports and special events. This was the first network in the world capable of transporting uncompressed video at 270 megabits per second over long-haul networks. The initial network provided connectivity to 10 cities across the U.S. and Canada.

Davey has worked with such organizations as the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers, where he served on the board as manager for the Toronto section, and on the board of directors of the Video Services Forum. Both organizations contribute to the development of standards for video transport.

Davey has also developed software solutions at Bell for such tasks as resource tracking and time reporting, as well as video switching and remote provisioning of network equipment.



# KIT GEORGIAN COLLEGE ALUMNI KEEP IN TOUCH

By Tina Hurst, Alumni Development Officer

Here it is – the Alumni Association’s new Keep in Touch logo – watch for it everywhere, from the magazine to our business cards to the website. It reminds you to always keep in touch, always send us your updated address information, always encourage other alumni you know to do the same. There is strength in numbers, the more members we are in touch with, the more interest affinity partners will take in offering discounted services to our members.

*An affinity partner is a company willing to offer our members a discount to its services, and also give back to the Alumni Association and College for each alumnus that uses its services. It is a win-win situation. You get lower priced services, and help your college at the same time!*

We also have discount partners who offer a straight percentage off to our members. And then there are the free services and discounts through Georgian for alumni.

We are seeking to improve and grow our offering of benefits and services to you – watch for new and exciting affinity partners over the next year. Our current partners include:



## WINNER! (another way it pays to Keep in Touch)

Thanks to all alumni who returned the survey included in the Spring/Summer Alumni View magazine. Here are the winners of the prizes offered for returning the survey:



Congratulations to Bernice Van Loenen, Business Accounting graduate, 1991, on winning the laptop. Bernice was thrilled with the prize. With a husband and two children there is always a struggle for time on the computer at home.

*Bernice Van Loenen, Graduate of Georgian's Business Accounting program, 1991, receives the laptop from Howie Brox, Past Chair of the Alumni Association.*

Winners of exclusive Alumni Backpack

Mandy Rodgers, 2005 grad

Erik Lund, 2007 grad

### Survey Results Highlights:

- 50 per cent of respondents would like to see more about services and benefits in the magazine
- 41 per cent would like to see more grad profiles
- 49 per cent would like to read more about student recipients in our Gratitude section
- 47 per cent would direct their donation dollars to expansion/improvements in their former program area
- 75 per cent prefer to receive the magazine in print form
- 75 per cent would attend a reunion of their program area
- 77 per cent knew they became a lifetime member of the Alumni Association upon graduation and 64 per cent knew they were eligible to receive a growing program of discounted benefits and services, however, only 53 per cent knew about the alumni page on the Georgian website [www.georgianc.on.ca/alumni](http://www.georgianc.on.ca/alumni)
- 75 per cent were not aware the Alumni Association produced an e-newsletter, The Loop – send us your e-mail address so you can start receiving it!

# Desperately Seeking... Susan (and Bruce and Lisa and Neil and...)



It was 1986. Robert Palmer was *Addicted to Love*, Simply Red was *Holding Back the Years* and Peter Gabriel was swinging his *Sledgehammer*, while the *Cosby Show*, *Family Ties* and *Cheers* battled it out on TV, and *Aliens*, *Crocodile Dundee* and *Platoon* dominated the box office. And you were attending Georgian College. Please help us find our lost grads. If you know the whereabouts of the people below, ask them to e-mail our Alumni office at [alumni@georgianc.on.ca](mailto:alumni@georgianc.on.ca), or fill out the grad update form at [www.georgianc.on.ca/alumni](http://www.georgianc.on.ca/alumni). Then they won't miss out on news, reunions and exciting alumni benefits. (And, if they put your name on the grad profile update form, you will be entered into a draw to win a prize!)

## Advertising

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Manuela Marquis  
Peter McMaster  
Susan Syme

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Alma Smith  
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Laurie Asemgeest  
Beatrice Berriault  
Cynthia Muirhead  
Karen Pressy  
Julie Schell  
Kelly Thompson  
Beverly Vallis  
Sylvia Zetzsche

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(Certificate)  
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Patricia Doerr  
Sandra Jackson  
Christine Kelly  
Evonne Struyk  
Cindy Warner  
Susan Weppler

## Legal Secretarial

(Diploma)  
Donna Moran

## Medical Secretarial

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Parmod Chhabra  
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John Rodnick  
Sharon Sharp  
Heather Sponagle  
Denis St Pierre

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Raymond Dell  
David Loughheed  
Robert Osthoff

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2 and 3 year  
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Tamara Johnson

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2 and 3 year  
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Mary Bonell

## Graphic Des I

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Chyrrille Huber  
Shelley Kewaquom  
Helen Kuglin  
Karen McCann  
Sherry Smith

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Maria Kovacs  
Tarry MacDonald  
Cindy Miller  
Margaret Saint  
David Taylor

## Graphic Des 3 yr

Susan Hopkins  
Cynthia Saunders

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2 and 3 year  
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Charles Salter

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Barbara Murphy  
Christopher Snedden  
Mary Snedden- Pocock  
Janet Van Dyken

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## Civil Eng. Tgy. – Municipal

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William Coutts  
Manuel Pena Silva

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Peter Klie

## Elec. Eng. Tech

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David McConkey  
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Keith White  
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Pierre Schmidt

## Marine Tech Navigation

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Colin McBean  
Dave Roeslein

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Karin Foster

## Mech Eng Tn Ind

Douglas Jolie

## Mech Eng Tec-D

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Bill Rowe  
Jeff Underdown  
Dean Verner  
John Walichnowsky  
Stephen Walsh

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Michele Naccarato  
Sharron Powell  
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Susan Glentworth  
Karen Godfrey  
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Doris Kentel  
Wendy Kirschner  
Andrea Lovering  
Tracy Morrow  
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Stephanie Sheffer  
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Margaret Blom  
Diane Casier  
Dawn-Ava Duran  
Allison Hicks  
Blanche Hrnir  
Darla Phippen  
Lisa Tuplin

## Dispensing Optician

Dan Akande  
Charlotte Annett  
Yvan Bertrand  
Paul Carey  
Mary Beth Connell  
Lorie Cormier  
Michael Cranston  
Jamie Gamble  
Lisa Gauthier  
Julie Gray  
Michelle Jaksic  
Janet Knubley  
Brian Loney  
Claudette Marcille  
Shawn McLuhan  
Allan Mitchell  
Eli Ovadia  
Anita Parmar  
Alfonso Scardera  
Thomas Smart  
Cheryl Smith  
Kay Spiers  
Pierre Trudelle  
Jon Vezina  
Patrick Wong

## Nursing

Maxine Ayers  
Tammy Berger  
Tara-Lee Calhoun  
Annemarie Canning  
Frances Cantwell  
Theresa Cascagnette  
Heather Coughlan  
Ariene Crichton  
Mary Dolotowicz  
Deborah Elford  
Lorraine Forrester  
Anne Fryer  
Lori Hill  
Sandra Hislop  
Kathy Hook  
Carolyn Ingram  
Juanita Jackson  
Barbara Johnson  
Ria Kleinveld  
Lise Lalonde  
Lori Lockhart  
Kelly Lougheed  
Susan Magee  
Karen Magill  
Sandra Major  
Carol McCorquodale  
Troylea McCulley

Bonnie Mick  
Darlene Mulock  
Deborah Myles  
Junette Neale  
S. O'Brien  
Michael Readman  
Linda Rich  
Paulette Sedore  
Linda Sinclair  
Kimberley Stearns  
Melanie Stever  
Louise Trepanier  
Sandra Wickiam  
Audrey Zondervan

## Nursing Assistant

Adrian Brammer  
John Bressette  
Barbara Bridges  
Anne Cadeau  
Selina Crow  
Jeffrey Dunn  
Mary Ellingwood  
Tim Hogan  
Valerie Hutchison  
Robert Ladouceur  
Dale MacNeill  
Cindy Marshall  
Ted Marsters  
Charlene Martin  
Marlou Naylor  
Pamela Priest  
Karen Smith  
Darlene Taylor  
Diane Thornton  
Shirley Turner  
Kim Vaillancourt  
Valerie Williams

## Hotel and Res Admin.

Carol Harris  
Jian Sheng Huang  
Bryan Stevens  
Laurie Whittaker

## Hotel and Res Oper.

John Berko  
Marsha Ceaser  
Karen Day  
Susan Inch  
Cathy Karlein  
James Muraki  
Helen Pinault

## Tourism Management

Lisa Consaul  
Shannon Franklin  
Wilfred Harbridge  
Lisa Heiskanen  
Robert Lamarre  
Michael Schwarz  
Irene Ursano  
Patricia Wardle

## General Arts and Science

(Native Ed)  
Barbara Cook  
Jennifer Abernethy  
Roman Bezak  
James MacMillan  
Bonnie Minor  
Jerry Muzzerall

## 2 Year

Lisa Hobbs  
Catherine Sallach



# Captain steers students in right direction

By Dave Dawson



John Archer has had a long and eventful life that has included long stints at sea, four years in the Air Force and a lengthy, successful career. But his 11-year 'career' at Georgian College stands out among his fondest memories.

"Those years, from 1973 to 1984, when I taught Marine Technology at Georgian, were a special part of my life," says the man fondly remembered by generations of students as Captain Archer. "Really, it was a delightful time in my life and I enjoyed my work there immensely," reminisces Archer, 96.

Archer left Canada in 1936 to study in England before serving as a navigator for four years in the Canadian Air Force. Upon his return to Canada, he landed in B.C. with his new bride and attended the University of British Columbia, where he earned his Bachelor of Commerce degree. He then embarked on a 27-year career with Shell Oil's tanker fleet, a voyage that took him from a lowly assistant on an oil tanker to a management position that put him in charge of a fleet of tankers.

But Archer was not ready to retire. He knew Captain Rucy Behran, who was heading up the Marine Technology program at the Owen Sound Campus, and decided to get in contact with his old friend. Soon after, he began his career as a professor.

"We lived in Toronto, but I kept a little apartment in Owen Sound," Archer recalls. "I worked there from late November to June and that left me six months to do whatever I pleased," he said. "It was ideal."

Archer taught students, mostly adults, about navigation, instruments, electronics, marine history, the rules of the seaways, ship construction, "the whole gamut," he says.

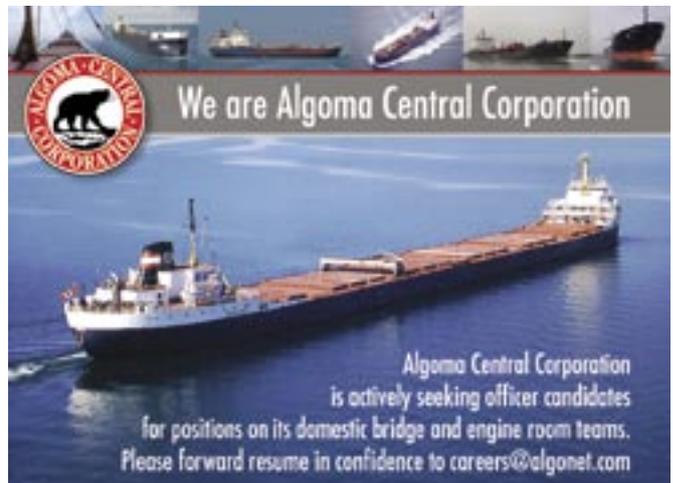
*"With Shell, as manager, I bought and sold ships and had a pretty vast and varied knowledge, so I was able to teach them about all the operational stuff," Archer says.*

"I wasn't too hard on them," he quips, "but I wanted them to learn how to behave as officers."

For Archer, who spent many months at sea during his long career, the job at Georgian married his love of the sea with his desire to teach others. "I really liked the atmosphere and the staff; I enjoyed those years immensely," said Archer. "I taught two women who went on to become officers; they were the first two, so that was a real milestone."

These days, Archer lives in a long-term care facility in Mississauga. But each day, he catches a cab and, despite needing a walker, travels to a nearby hospital to visit his wife of 67 years.

"That's my job now," says the father of four grown boys. "I'm not complaining; my health is pretty good and life has treated me very well."



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# GRADITUDE

A publication highlighting the generosity of Georgian supporters

WINTER 08

## THE POWER OF EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

### MY EMPLOYER GAVE MY COLLEGE \$250,000

#### *RBC invests in Georgian's Centre for Health and Wellness*

Georgian alumna Maria Artuso says it came as no surprise to her that her employer, RBC Royal Bank, is giving \$250,000 through its Foundation to support the College's plans to construct a new Centre for Health and Wellness on the Barrie campus.

"RBC is known for its commitment to building prosperity by caring for the communities in which we live and work. This donation is a perfect example of how collaboration between two top-notch organizations can benefit the region in which they operate," said Artuso, a Business

Administration graduate. "But this is far from the first time RBC and Georgian have come together for the greater good. Not only has RBC been Georgian's key bank for decades, it's also been a co-operative employer, and has hired many Georgian graduates like myself."

Since Artuso began her career with the bank over a decade ago, she has spoken to classes at Georgian about careers at RBC, hired co-op students from Georgian, and worked with many other Georgian graduates.

"RBC and Georgian have a lot in common. I speak highly of the two organizations that have played such an important role in my life. They've both offered me amazing and limitless possibilities for my future and

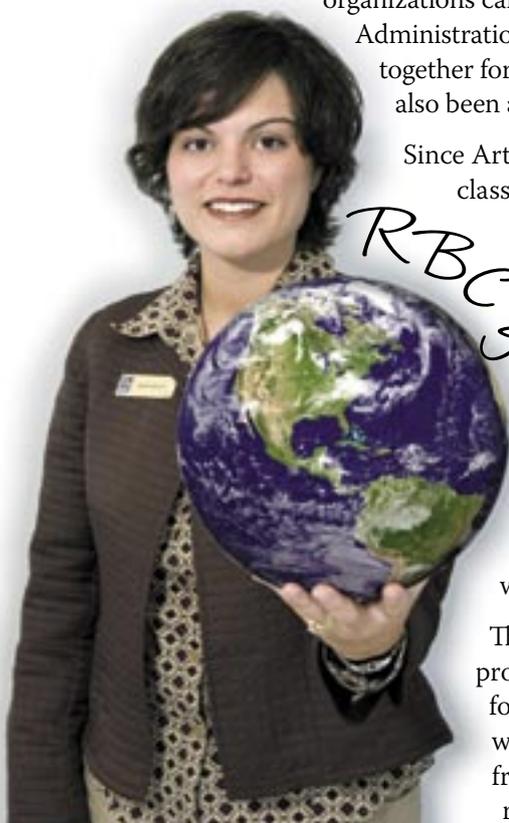
### THE POWER OF EDUCATION!

they make me feel like I'm part of a great family," she said. "I'm very proud they have come together to support the building of a health and wellness centre because it will have a significant positive impact on our region."

The Centre for Health and Wellness will house all Georgian's health sciences programs under one roof, and will offer the public and students an opportunity for greater access to health care in new student-run teaching clinics. The space will also enable Georgian to increase enrolment in its health sciences programs from 1,500 to 3,000, allowing more people to pursue health care careers in the region through certificates, diplomas and a growing list of degree programs.

"With so many health care professionals nearing retirement, a skills shortage is looming. To be responsive to our community health care needs, it is imperative that Georgian supplies our region with graduates who are prepared for the 21<sup>st</sup> century," said Dr. Cassandra Thompson, Dean of Health Sciences. "Additionally, our new facility and clinics will facilitate interprofessional care, a collaborative health team approach whereby our nursing, dental, optician, paramedic and massage students are learning and working together for the benefit of patients. This is the future of Canada's health care, and it's where Georgian College will be."

**GEORGIAN**  
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#### INSIDE

- Alumnus invests in future workforce
- A student's perspective on Robbert Hartog
- 2007/08 fundraising financial results
- Honda drives home support for CAPE
- UPS executive stands behind Georgian
- Construction industry digs students



## ALUMNUS SERVES UP \$10,000 DONATION

### *Restaurateur supports H&T programs*

After commuting from Barrie to an air freight logistics job in Toronto for years, Georgian Aviation graduate Sam Dolmaya finally decided enough was enough – it was time to live his dream.

“I was on the road for up to four hours there and back. And then one day I spun my car out on Highway 400. Other than being a little shaken, I was fine, there were no other cars involved, but it was a defining moment and I knew it was time to get on with what I had always wanted to do – have my own restaurant,” he said. “The timing was right, a great location became available on busy Bayfield Street – it just all came together.”

Surprisingly, Dolmaya had never worked a single day in a restaurant. But in 2007, backed by a serious love of cooking and a supportive family, he opened Alfanoos, Barrie’s first and only authentic Mediterranean buffet. Business is now steady, as local people have come to appreciate his dishes – all made fresh from scratch every morning.

The decision to donate \$10,000 to Georgian’s Power of Education campaign, which will be directed to help build a new eco-friendly outdoor courtyard for Georgian’s Hospitality and Tourism programs, wasn’t difficult according to Dolmaya. Given his history and experience with Georgian College, it was an emotional decision but it also made good business sense.

“There are so many reasons why I donated this money to Georgian. I am a restaurant owner and I am interested in employing Georgian graduates. The College is and will always be the source for quality workers who I will rely on to help me run a successful business,” he said. “In fact, I fully intend to invite other local restaurant owners to jump on this opportunity and take part in supporting Georgian. We can all share in the reward of having an educated workforce that we can entrust with our businesses and livelihoods.”

Dolmaya’s time at Georgian as a student in the early 90s led to a lifelong connection to the College. He is currently a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

“My Georgian experience left a lasting imprint on the person I am. For a guy who spoke English as a second language, very shy and timid, I had the time of my life. I met great people and made friends,” he said. “It’s part of the reason that I decided to return to Barrie after I got married to begin our life together. And now, I’m living my dream with my restaurant and am once again active at Georgian.”

Alfanoos Mediterranean Buffet Restaurant gave a gift of \$10,000 to Georgian College’s Power of Education campaign. It will be directed to help build a new eco-friendly outdoor courtyard for Georgian’s Hospitality and Tourism programs. The space will allow students to train in outdoor special events, including open air dining, which is a growth industry in Ontario. Pictured: Tina Hurst, Alumni Development Officer; David Cloutier, Georgian alumnus; Mike Agema, Georgian College Hotel & Resort program co-ordinator; and Sam Dolmaya, owner of Alfanoos Restaurant, gather to celebrate the gift.





## STUDENT GRATEFUL FOR ROBBERT HARTOG'S GENEROSITY

*By Fairen Deugo, Bachelor of Science in Nursing student*

I wish I'd had the opportunity to meet and thank Robbert Hartog, a man who has had an unexpected and profound impact on my life. Although he passed away last year, one day before his 89th birthday, he will forever be remembered by colleagues, friends and family as a savvy entrepreneur and a philanthropist with a huge heart. I will remember him as the man who helped me pay for and realize my dream of becoming a nurse.

Georgian recently re-named the Midland campus the Robbert Hartog Midland Campus in honour of Mr. Hartog's long-time support and contribution to our College and students. He was a member of Georgian's Board of Governors, and was a Georgian College Fellow, which is Georgian's highest honour. A celebration of the campus dedication took place, and I had the privilege to tell the attendees at the event exactly how Robbert Hartog changed my life – I am the first winner of the Robbert Hartog Scholarship of Excellence for \$5,000.

Like most students, I worry about how to pay for my education. Working two part-time jobs helps, but it's simply not enough. I was determined to find a way to continue my studies because becoming a nurse means a great deal to me. I have recently dealt with the death of my father who battled cancer. After providing palliative care to him while still taking my courses at Georgian, I knew helping people was my calling. I was not going to let finances stand in my way of becoming a health care provider. When the Georgian Awards Office called to tell me I had won the scholarship, I knew I must have a guardian angel. This award is to be given out annually to a student entering his or her second year, who demonstrates academic merit, leadership qualities and financial need. For me, winning this scholarship was literally a dream come true.



*Fairen Deugo*

When I complete my degree I will think of, and silently thank, Robbert Hartog, who played an integral role in helping me get to that point. And he will continue to make an impact on students every year for generations to come with this endowment. I am only one of many learners who will benefit from his generosity.

I was very proud to have had the opportunity to pay tribute to Robbert Hartog at the dedication ceremony and through this article. I will forever be grateful for his support of my career goals.



## SUPPORT FOR AUTOMOTIVE PIONEER DRIVES NEW STUDENT AWARD

When Dan Donnelly passed away in December 2007 at 77 years of age, the automotive industry lost a friend, leader and colleague. As one of Ottawa's most respected entrepreneurs, the founder of the Donnelly Automotive Group began his career as a heavy truck salesman and worked his way up to owning four dealerships in the nation's capital region. Tom Donnelly, Dan's son, said his dad always had a great attitude and a big heart for his family, employees and friends.

"If my dad was asked on any day of the week how he was doing, his response was always '500 per cent,'" said Donnelly.

Dan was best known for his leadership, entrepreneurial skills and his sense of humour. To honour his memory, 17 automobile dealers and associations donated a combined total of \$36,750 to establish the Georgian College Dan Donnelly Memorial Award. Through a provincial government fund-matching program, the value of the endowment fund is now \$90,877, benefiting students and the Power of Education campaign for growth and development at Georgian. This money will help generations of Georgian's Canadian Automotive Institute students pursue their dreams of a career in the automotive industry.

Donnelly added, "Dad would be pleased that students will benefit from this award and enjoy careers in the greatest industry in the world."



## A LOOK BACK – 2007/08 RESULTS

Every dollar received in support of the Power of Education fundraising campaign in 2007/08 has brought Georgian one step closer to being able to build and position itself for the future. These results would not have been possible without the support of donors who have stood behind Georgian, and who have taken action to ensure Georgian can continue to offer the best possible post-secondary educational opportunities. Some notable contributions are:

- Alumni donations of \$40,000 through awards and scholarships, the Alumni Endowment Fund and individual donations
- Staff donations of \$43,000 through awards and scholarships, Governors’ Circle Membership, Georgian Golf Classic and individual donations
- Third-party fundraisers by community members which raised \$16,000
- \$1.6 million, including matching dollars from the Ontario Trust for Student Success and endowment scholarships, was raised for awards and scholarships and will benefit hundreds of students each year for the foreseeable future
- A leading corporate gift of \$170,000 (BMO Bank of Montreal) was given to fund expansion in health sciences programs
- The \$1-million goal for the Robbert Hartog Midland Campus renovations was met, and the Recreational Boating Centre of Excellence was built, largely due to the support of the Ontario Marine Operators Association
- A \$750,000 investment from Hydro One was made to support changes to the Electrical Engineering Technology program leading to custom curriculum catering to the utilities sector
- A total of \$769,000 was raised from the Muskoka community to support opening the new location of the campus in Bracebridge. This total included a gift from the Town of Bracebridge of the land and the building for the new campus.

### HOW YOUR DOLLARS ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

In the last fiscal year, Georgian’s fundraising efforts and donor generosity were elevated to new heights, creating a positive ripple effect across the College. The annual fundraising goal of \$3 million was not only met, it was exceeded by 29 per cent. And there are over 650 donors to thank for that result. But there is so much more to the story than the numbers reveal. While the dollars are an indication of success, they are only a piece in a very large puzzle. The really interesting part about the numbers is how those donations, many of which were given to benefit the Power of Education campaign for growth and program development, are making an impact at Georgian, and on our students.

*Here are three ways the average student, industry and our communities will benefit from the money raised:*

#### 1. Greater access to health care and health sciences education

A donation of \$170,000 by BMO Bank of Montreal helped Georgian College begin its plans for a new health and wellness building, a leading-edge facility to be built on the Barrie Campus. With the additional space, there will be increased opportunity for collaborative learning among all health science students, and increased access to health services in specialized teaching clinics for students and the public. Georgian will also have the capacity to double the number of enrolment spaces in the health sciences programs from 1,500 to 3,000, allowing more people to follow their career dreams through certificate, diploma and a growing list of degree programs. This will lead to an increase of much-needed health care professionals filtering into the hiring pools in local areas.

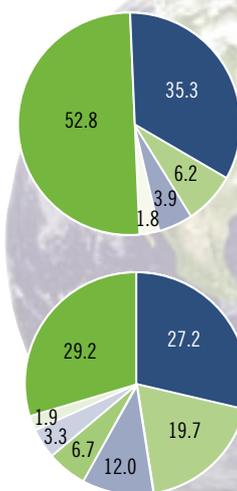
#### 2. More highly skilled graduates for an industry in need

The \$1-million campaign goal for the Robbert Hartog Midland Campus was met, enabling Georgian to establish a state-of-the-art Recreational Boating Centre of Excellence. Much of the support came from the Ontario Marine Operators Association (OMOA), whose members are in dire need of more qualified workers. The upgrades to this campus mean students train on modern equipment in classrooms configured with technologies that provide an optimal learning environment. A revitalized campus has also resulted in an increase in enrolment which will benefit the marine industry through increased numbers of graduates in the hiring pool.

#### 3. More awards and scholarships

With about \$550,000 awarded annually, Georgian is now a contender for a top spot in the College system for the amount of awards and scholarships available to students. There has been a significant increase in endowed scholarships which will benefit thousands of learners for generations to come. Seeing the smiles on students’ faces when they pick up their award cheques is certainly one of the best parts of fundraising!

### FUNDRAISING





## Power of Education campaign gaining momentum

### A LOOK AHEAD - \$8.6 MILLION RAISED TOWARD \$25 MILLION GOAL!

With \$8.6 million raised toward our campaign goal of \$25 million, the future looks promising. Donors continue to support our College, our students, and our goals to grow and improve, ensuring Georgian remains a first-rate post-secondary education institution. Through the Power of Education campaign, we will continue to connect with old and new friends of Georgian, and seek the assistance needed to achieve our objectives, benefiting students, industry, the communities in which our College operates and beyond. Thank you to all donors for your support of Georgian and our students' success. Your belief and enthusiasm for your College is much appreciated, and your contributions are invaluable to our organization.

Sincerely, Lisa Eveleigh, MBA, CFRE, Director, Office of Development & Alumni Relations

### Georgian is seeking contributions to build and develop its programs in these areas:

#### New Georgian Centre for Health & Wellness (Health Sciences programs)

*Why?* When you need health care in Central Ontario, there's a good chance one of the professionals who helps you will have received their education at Georgian College. The proposed Health and Wellness building will house all Georgian's health sciences programs under one roof, and will offer the public and students an opportunity for greater access to health care in new student-run teaching clinics. Enrolment space will increase significantly and the new facility will enable Georgian to facilitate interdisciplinary teaching methods. It's the future of health care, and it's how courses and practical learning will be taught at Georgian.

#### New Centre for Sustainable Technologies (Civil, Electrical, Automotive, Environmental and Architectural Engineering Technology programs)

*Why?* Roads, bridges, sewers, buildings, lights and even the vehicle you drive – engineering technicians and technologists play a role in creating almost every basic service used in daily life. At Georgian College, the soon-to-be built Centre for Sustainable Technologies will be the location where these professionals will learn in a new leading-edge environment with modern technologies and industry-developed curriculum. There is a great need for more of these highly skilled graduates for the utilities sector and construction fields, where a skills shortage is expected. Georgian will continue to focus on growth in enrolment in its electrical program and new civil technology program, ensure the best possible academic environment for students, and provide industries with more skilled workers for their hiring pools now and into the future.

#### Revitalized Hospitality & Tourism program facilities

*Why?* Hospitality and Tourism is a billion-dollar industry in Canada, and it continues to grow, particularly in areas around Georgian College and its satellite campus in Muskoka. An aging labour force has significantly reduced the pool of qualified workers, while prosperity and

retirement trends have increased the amount of people utilizing hotel, resort and other leisure facilities. Employers in the hospitality and tourism industry are literally lined up to hire Georgian students and graduates. Georgian is striving to further develop its technologies, tools and facilities to ensure its hospitality and tourism students are prepared to make an immediate and positive impact on the workforce.

#### Owen Sound – Great Lakes International Marine Training Centre

*Why?* An investment into modernizing and expanding the Georgian College Great Lakes International Marine Training Centre in Owen Sound has made it a world-class destination for marine engineering technology training. Another million is needed from College supporters to fund the remainder of this project, which is crucial because a significant number of workers in the Great Lakes marine transportation industry are set to retire in the near future. A lot is riding on the College's ability to train more workers for the marine transportation sector. The good news is that enrolment is growing and this can be attributed to the new facilities and the support for the program from the marine industry.

#### Awards and Scholarships program

*Why?* Connecting donor generosity with deserving students will always be a priority for Georgian. Helping students pay for their studies is of key importance, and the escalating cost of living is just another reason why a healthy awards and scholarships program at Georgian is imperative.

**\*Muskoka and Midland campuses** – Campaign goals for these campuses have been successfully met thanks to so many generous donors!

## HIGHLIGHTS

<b>Fundraising Activity</b>	
<b>April 2007 to March 2008</b>	<b>%</b>
> Capital Campaign .....	52.8
> Annual Giving .....	35.3
> Alumni Giving .....	6.2
> Fundraising Events .....	3.9
> Gifts-in-Kind .....	1.8
	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Use of Donor Dollars</b>	<b>%</b>
> Georgian College Projects .....	29.2
> New Endowments Invested .....	27.2
> Awards and Scholarships .....	19.7
> Reserves .....	12.0
> Alumni Projects .....	6.7
> Campaign Administration .....	3.3
> Fundraising Events .....	1.9
	<b>100.0</b>



## AUTOMOTIVE LEADER DRIVES HOME SUPPORT FOR CAPE *Donates \$50,000 to Power of Education campaign*

Honda of Canada Manufacturing gave the green light on a \$50,000 donation to Georgian's Power of Education fundraising campaign. The generous gift will be directed to fund advancements in the College's Centre for Automotive Parts Expertise (CAPE).

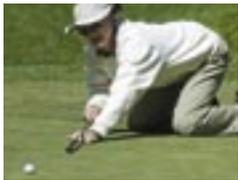
"Skilled workers, particularly engineering technologists and technicians, are extremely important to the future of our business at Honda," said Joe Sperduti, Vice President and General Manager, Administration, for Honda of Canada Mfg. "By supporting the Power of Education campaign, and the automotive-related engineering technology programs, we are in fact contributing to the education of the next generation of our workforce, and that is an investment we're proud to make."



Bob Emptage, Dean, Technology, Environment and Apprenticeship, said Honda's contribution will make a positive impact on students' educational experiences and on the quality of the programs. Georgian is seeking to raise a total of \$1.5 million for the benefit of its automotive Engineering Technology programs through the Power of Education campaign.

While many engineering technology programs in Ontario have experienced a decline in enrolment, Georgian has focused on new marketing initiatives and program enhancements to ensure it can provide the highly skilled workforce demanded by Ontario's manufacturing industry.

"We're very grateful for this support. Through the help of business leaders like Honda, Georgian will be able to attract and train a growing number of our students on current equipment that mirrors what is found in the industry," said Emptage. "In the engineering technology programs, and in our workforce retraining, it is crucial that we teach the most up-to-date technologies to ensure our graduates can make a seamless transition into the workforce. This is not only beneficial for our graduates and transitioning workers, but it is also important to employers such as Honda at a time when process improvement and manufacturing efficiency is paramount."



## GEORGIAN GOLF CLASSIC BETTER THAN PAR FOR THE COURSE

It was an outstanding day on the links at the Georgian Classic, one of the longest running golf tournaments in Simcoe County. Held at the Hawk Ridge Golf and Country Club on May 28, the proceeds from the event, totalling about \$57,000, were directed to Georgian's Power of Education campaign for growth and program development to benefit the awards and scholarships program. Over the past 21 years, \$670,000 has been raised from the tournament to support students by helping them pay for the cost of their education.

"Despite the fact that there continues to be more and more charity golf tournaments in Simcoe County, we were very grateful so many of our supporters chose once again to attend or sponsor the Golf Classic," said Hank Thibideau, Manager, Community Relations and Corporate Events. "Many people return year after year to play for the benefit of our students, and we are extremely appreciative of this support."



## UPS DELIVERS!

Georgian alumnus Stephen Flowers, Vice President of Strategy and Acquisitions for UPS, hand-delivered a \$12,500 donation to Georgian's Power of Education campaign to Brian Tamblin, President and CEO of Georgian College, at Georgian's Dream Catcher Gala on Oct. 17. Other key members of the UPS team were on hand to support Georgian and enjoy the gala. Thanks to UPS!



# GRADITUDE

## SIMCOE COUNTY HEAVY CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION DIGS GEORGIAN STUDENTS

***\$160,000 endowment established***

Being the first recipient of the Simcoe County Heavy Construction Association (SCHCA) financial award came as a big surprise to Georgian College Environmental Technology student Sonya Wrigglesworth.

“I’m one of a small number of women in my program and the only female working at my co-operative employment in the sewer and watermain field, so I thought my chances of winning the award were slim,” she said. “This is a male dominated industry to say the least, so I feel extremely proud and excited to be the first recipient of this award. As a mature student, I can certainly use the money to help with the cost of my schooling.”

Through the financial support of the Ontario Sewer and Watermain Construction Association, the SCHCA recently donated \$41,000 recently to Georgian, benefiting the Power of Education campaign, and the College’s awards and scholarship program. The award has been set up as an endowment, and the amount has been matched by the Ontario Trust for Student Success, bringing the value to a whopping \$160,000. Beginning in 2008, there will be two annual \$3,000 scholarships available to Georgian Engineering Technology students.

“A generous donation like this will benefit a countless number of dedicated technology students for generations to come,” said Bob Emptage, Dean, Technology, Environment and Apprenticeship. “Together with key industry partners such as the Simcoe County Heavy Construction Association, we are doing our best to ensure our students receive the highest quality education needed to be the best candidates available in the industry. This endowment will be used to support students, like Sonya, and we are thrilled and grateful for this level of support.”

Chris Graves, president of the SCHCA, said the award is to be directed to benefit students entering their third year of a technology program. They must clearly demonstrate an understanding of the sewer and water main industry, have a commitment to the construction industry, exhibit leadership abilities, and have a minimum grade point average. Financial need is also considered.

“It’s a challenge for our members to find qualified, skilled workers. Technological advances mean almost every job in our industry requires some level of education or



Engineering Technology students at Georgian have been given a financial step up through a new \$160,000 endowment established by the SCHCA. (Left to right) Tom St. John, Engineering Technology program co-ordinator and Bob Emptage, Dean, Technology, Environment and Apprenticeship congratulate the first recipient of the award, Sonya Wrigglesworth, and thank Ontario Sewer and Watermain Construction Association president Graeme Clarke and SCHCA president, Chris Graves.

training. We need our workers to be educated to remain competitive,” he said. “By supporting students at Georgian, we are encouraging the next generation of our workforce to focus on their studies, so they are prepared to make a positive impact in our business as employees.”

Graves added that Simcoe County is booming with development and will continue to grow, so the association’s members foresee a great need for Georgian graduates over the next decade and beyond.

To respond to this growth, Georgian College is gearing up to build a Centre for Sustainable Technologies, where a leading-edge Civil Engineering program catering to the construction industry will be offered.



# GRADITUDE

## SMALL CAMPUS WITH BIG HEART CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY *Muskoka donors gather to mark special day*

The opening of the new and improved Muskoka Campus location one year ago would not have been possible without the support of the local community.

A special gathering was held on September 11 to mark the day the campus relocated to Wellington Street in Bracebridge, and to honour those who have generously donated to the campus. The funds raised have supported the building of an optimal learning environment for a wide variety of programs that prepare students for careers in skilled trades, health sciences, hospitality and tourism and business. The gifts from the community include the building and land, given to Georgian College in 2007 by the Town of Bracebridge.



*Jerry Moroz, campaign volunteer, unveils a new donor recognition plaque at the Muskoka Campus.*

“Georgian has successfully operated a local campus for three decades, and our new, more comprehensive location, which houses hundreds of students each semester, is without doubt the hub of post-secondary education for the region,” said Bonnie DeWitt, campus manager.

“Thanks to our donors, our students are learning in a modern facility, on up-to-date, relevant technologies. We are so grateful for the support of the Muskoka community and to those who have given to ensure students have the best possible educational experience.”

DeWitt outlined in a speech to the contributors how their dollars have made an impact on students. “What an amazing year it has been,” she said. “We opened this campus with a mandate to identify the training needs of Muskoka and to prepare local residents to fill those jobs. We are succeeding.”

Some of the key highlights of the last year include:

- The Personal Support Worker program reached a 98 per cent job placement rate.
- Twenty Grade 12 students enrolled in Introduction to Hospitality and Tourism which paves their way to a future in a sector that is critical to the economy.
- Over 100 carpenters trained in the shop and graduated with the practical abilities to begin their careers.
- Community involvement has been a key focus throughout the curriculum with pre-apprentice carpenters working on Habitat for Humanity projects and building everything from toy chests for women and children’s shelters to lawn swings for retirement homes. Georgian prides itself on not only producing great students but good citizens!

“We are a small campus with a big heart and we have the pleasure of getting to know our students and their families,” said DeWitt. “It could not happen without the support of the citizens of Muskoka and everyone who has donated to our campaign. On behalf of the College, students, staff and faculty of the Muskoka Campus, thank you and keep watching for great things to come!”

Invest in the future of Georgian College. It's easy to donate. Simply contact the Office of Development & Alumni Relations in one of these four easy ways:



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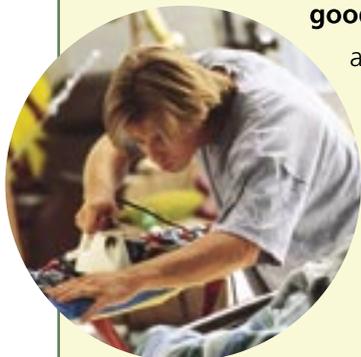
## Did you live at Georgian Green?

**Hard to believe that in May 2009, Georgian Green Student Residence is turning 20 years old.** Hmm... that means the buildings will be older than most of its current residents.

**You are invited to join in the celebration** by attending one of the "reunion" parties being planned on different weekends throughout the summer of 2009. What a great chance to reconnect with **old**

**roommates**, talk about the

**good times** of living at Rez and catching up on what everyone has been up to lately. **Who knows? You might even be able to stay overnight in your old residence room.**



Not much has changed at the residence or with residence life. Georgian Green is still a great place for College students to meet new friends and socialize while attending classes at Georgian College.

Terry MacFarlane, Property Manager, is a former Students' Administrative Council president (1987) who went directly from Georgian College to become the complex's only property manager. He jokes that he will have to



consider retiring when the children of past residents start showing up to move in. His Georgian College education in Tourism Management became an asset when the new owners (Canada Student Residence Corporation) decided to become affiliated with

the Hostelling International organization in 1999. Now, during the summer months, Georgian Green operates two of its three buildings as a hostel, offering overnight rental accommodations.

There are loads of great stories to be told about living at Georgian Green. A lot of "learning" outside of the classroom has taken place in those buildings over the years. It would be amazing to hear what you remember best about living at Georgian Green. Some former residents have set up a Facebook group called (surprise) Georgian Green. Feel free to join their group and add your own pictures and stories.



**We hope that you will join us in Barrie next summer.** Watch for the next issue of Alumni View magazine for more reunion party details.

# Georgian means jobs

By Dave Dawson

In our uncertain economy, a good job is more important than ever. With that in mind, Georgian College is proud that 94 per cent of its graduates find employment within six months. But Georgian also understands that's not enough. That's why the College is proud to be able to help students upgrade from diplomas to degrees, provide professional career services and even help laid-off grads find new jobs.

## GRADUATE PLACEMENT

"Our job is to ensure our graduates find a job and we have many different avenues that students can use to ensure that happens," said Steve Lichty, Director, Organizational Planning and Development for Georgian College.

In fact, when it comes to graduate employment, Georgian is the top college in Ontario. This comes as no surprise to recent grads such as Julia Horne and Colleen Meaney-Shaughnessy. Both were able to find work in their chosen fields before the ink was dry on their diplomas.



*"I actually got hired before I graduated," said a beaming Julia Horne, who finished her two-year Primary Care Paramedic course in April, a few weeks before she secured a job with the County of Simcoe. "I'm from Simcoe County so to get a job doing what I love at home is fantastic. Georgian did a great job preparing me for the real world."*

Meaney-Shaughnessy agrees. "I got a job as a practical nurse at Southlake Regional Health Centre and it's my dream job," she says of the position she started in May, just before her graduation.

It's these kinds of stories that bring a smile to Lichty's face. He said it's confirmation Georgian is doing its job. "If you look right now at the economy we're in, this is very important. We're proud of these results."

## CAREER ADVICE

While Lichty said offering the right programs at the right time is critical, some timely advice and well-informed career counselling also goes a long way to helping grads marry their skills and desires with the right job. That's

where staff at the Centre for Co-operative Education and Career Services steps in.

"We provide invaluable assistance to students during their tenure at the college," said Colleen Boyko, Graduate Consultant, noting the centre offers a wide range of services, from resumé workshops to career assessments and testing, to helping hook students up with part-time, summer, contract and graduate jobs, along with co-op and internship assistance.

Whether it's a first-year student looking for part-time work or an alumnus looking to find a new job, the Co-op and Career team can help.

Meaney-Shaughnessy can testify to that. As she was nearing graduation in the Practical Nursing program, she sent several resúmes to prospective employers – and didn't get a single response.

"Then I met with Colleen and she gave me some great advice about the right words to use in a cover letter and resumé," she explained.

The resumé is the key that opens the door, Boyko says. "You have to look at a resumé like you have 10 seconds with the queen...you want to make a good impression and we can help you do that" she said.

Meaney-Shaughnessy sent her newly-revised resumé and cover letter to various employers and immediately received responses from each one – which led to the job at Southlake.

"As a new graduate, it helped that it didn't cost me anything and it I was able to get a job that I absolutely love," Meaney-Shaughnessy said.

And while the recent grad loves the job and has no plans to leave any time soon, she is now privy to many top-notch opportunities.

*"We register all of our graduates and stay in contact with them when they leave," said Boyko. "We have a partnership with Workopolis and we are putting 100 to 200 jobs a month through here which I send via e-mail to our alumni."*

## DEGREES

While a diploma from Georgian often translates into jobs for graduates, some, on their pathway to career success, need to upgrade and many need a university degree to fulfil their professional dreams. And Georgian can help there as well.

"The world looks at a university degree as the currency required for jobs," says Cherylyn Cameron, Associate Vice President – University Partnership Centre, Research and Scholarship.

That's why Georgian has more than 300 articulation agreements with universities in Ontario, Canada and abroad, so students can expand their opportunities.

*"With the University Partnership Centre right here on campus, 1,700 students are studying at the degree or graduate level. We help students or graduates obtain their degrees or facilitate transfers to other institutions," Cameron said.*

This was good news to Christopher Treschak, who graduated with a three-year Business Marketing diploma from Georgian, and is now working on his Bachelor of Business Administration through Laurentian University.

*"After finishing my diploma from Georgian, I spent two years working in the area. I wanted an opportunity to continue my education within the city and atmosphere I was comfortable with, and the UPC provided me with a university degree option within a college atmosphere."*



## UPGRADING

Barrie's Chantal Dugdale, who was a student in the three-year Tourism Management program in the late 1980s, said the guidance she received in upgrading has been instrumental in her quest for a high-level executive position.



*"It's been a great benefit to me to go back to Georgian and to apply my work experience and pursue my dream," said Dugdale.*

Dugdale said many employers recognize the Certified Sales Professional (CSP) designation from the Canadian Professional Sales Association, which led her to enrol in Georgian's Business Studies Marketing Certificate of Achievement program. The program allowed her to fulfil the educational requirements for the designation while earning an industry-recognized marketing certificate in just one year. She was granted CSP designation in 2007 and, after completing the College's three-year Business Administration – Marketing program, she was granted the MCInst.M, Professional Member from the Canadian Institute of Marketing, becoming the first Georgian student to earn two professional designations while still completing the requirements of a college program.

Chantal is not finished yet. She plans to apply to Laurentian University's Bachelor of Business Administration program next year.

It's all part of Georgian's multi-pronged approach to help its graduates find work in their chosen field.

## SECOND CAREER

Not everyone is as fortunate as Horne or Dugdale. Some study and prepare for several years for what they foresee as the perfect job only to find out they don't like it. Others find good work only to see trends beyond their control eliminate those jobs in a slowing economy. Georgian College has programs in place to help those graduates as well.

"Unfortunately, the reality is that there are a lot of people affected by layoffs, particularly in the manufacturing sector," explained Stan Ryba, who oversees the College's Second Career Strategy (now taken over by Suzanne Morton), a joint initiative with the provincial government. "What our program does is allow those people to have access to post-secondary education – and a shot at a second career."

Second Career is a new Ontario government program that helps people who have been laid off within the last 12 months and are currently unemployed or working less than 20 hours a week. The program will help unemployed workers who commit to a long-term training plan make the transition to new careers in growing areas of the economy.

Second Career can help an applicant with the cost of tuition, books, living expenses and other costs associated with the training to build skills for a new career.

*"Georgian is one of 24 publicly funded colleges in the province involved in this program," said Ryba. "Each college has prepared a list of eligible courses (visit [www.georgianc.on.ca/secondcareer/](http://www.georgianc.on.ca/secondcareer/)). The key is that these programs will provide unemployed individuals with relevant training in a new career path, which will allow them to access sustainable employment."*

Throughout your life, Georgian is there to help with your career success. Georgian really does mean jobs.



# Engineering a passion for literature

*By Lesley Hain, Georgian College Communications Specialist*

to the University of Toronto or York University, but was thrilled to find out he could study close to home in Barrie. Parkes, 36, was also happy to learn he was not the oldest person in class – UPC has many mature learners.

“When evaluating my options for continuing education, one of my priorities was to find a school that matched my values, those being a commitment to my community and to my family. Without having to leave Simcoe County, I found those values at the University Partnership Centre and Georgian,” he said.

After earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in English through UPC, he seized the opportunity to pursue a Bachelor of Education degree, again without having to leave his community or family.

“When it comes to value-forward education, I believe UPC and Georgian College is the place you need to be to pursue your educational needs.”

Parkes also had the opportunity to explore university culture, forming the Newplace Literature Reading Series and reading at the Leacock Summer Festival of Canadian Literature in Orillia.

Parkes is currently employed by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto as Co-ordinator of Youth Ministry at St. Mary’s parish in Barrie. He organizes sporting events for youth and forges relationships between schools and the church. He has also initiated “Theology on Tap,” a speaker series at the Barrie Campus.

Parkes’ ultimate goal is to teach primary or high school students and obtain his master’s degree in English. His success has inspired his children, aged six and eight, to do better with their own schoolwork.

“The education has opened me up to new ideas and new ways of thinking. The professors made literature come alive. Education can really enrich your life.”

Robin Parkes always hated reading – with a passion. But after 15 minutes listening to a talk by University Partnership Centre (UPC) professor Bruce Meyer, his dislike of reading was turned upside down.

“Suddenly, I got it. The way he spoke really made me want to read. He spoke so eloquently and made me understand what reading could be,” Parkes said.

Before he knew it, Parkes was reading books, nurturing his love of history and even churning out poetry.

“I wrote a poem and saw it as a mathematical formula,” said the former engineer. “My professor actually said it was publishable and it won an award (the Gordon Poetry Prize) through Laurentian University.”

The road to university was lengthy for Parkes, who went straight from high school to working at IBM. He started working there as a summer job and never left. He stayed for 15 years, working his way up to an engineering position.

“It was a job, but I wasn’t really happy,” Parkes admits. “I was away from my family and often I was working six days a week, 13 hours a day.”

When an upgrading opportunity came along, one special trait Parkes always possessed came to the forefront. Ever since high school, peers and associates had noted Parkes had a natural ability for training and human relations. He could have gone

# Lifelong learning: more adults return to school each year

By Anne-Marie McAllister, R.N., B.Ed., Manager, Organizational Learning, Georgian College

Labour market analysts and educators agree that today's workers face a lifetime of learning. Lifelong learning has become a career necessity, according to Statistics Canada's Adult Education and Training Survey (2002). In Canada, participation in job-related courses increased dramatically between 1993 and 2002.

The rapid change of pace in today's workplace puts demands on workers to remain current in their fields. In fact, twice as many Canadian adults are taking credit courses today than they did in 1980 (Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey [LFS]). In the past 10 years, the number of adult women taking credit courses has risen 124 per cent and women now comprise the majority of adult students. Canadians engage in a variety of courses, with the highest participation rates found in business and management courses, followed by courses

in computers, health and recreation and personal improvement.

Adults reap many benefits when they engage in lifelong learning. In addition to gaining satisfaction from new social relationships and networks, adults often find their natural abilities are enhanced, they become more adaptable to change, and they increase their self-efficacy. Lifelong learning helps adults keep their brains active and develop critical and creative thinking skills.

Take some time to reflect on your goals, establish your priorities, and make a learning plan that removes any obstacles in your way. Enlist the support of your family and friends...then take action and enrol in a course. And don't forget to celebrate your ongoing success as you continue to learn!

## ***What factors contribute to adults choosing to return to school?***

- ◆ Technological advances in their fields of employment
- ◆ Competitive job markets
- ◆ Preparation for more challenging occupations
- ◆ Desire for personal growth
- ◆ Increased availability and choice of part-time courses
- ◆ Employer willingness to sponsor learning



# Alumni encounters

*Interesting places you run into Georgian Alumni...*

“Several years ago, I was involved in an event at the Air Canada Centre in Toronto and bumped into Hamish Selby, a graduate of Hospitality and Tourism and a former student of mine. At that time, Hamish had just accepted a part-time position as a quick service supervisor in the food and beverage department of Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment Ltd. (MLSE), the parent company of the Toronto Maple Leafs Hockey Club, the Toronto Raptors Basketball Club and the Air Canada Centre. We have stayed in touch since that initial encounter and I am pleased to report that Hamish has just celebrated his first-year anniversary as a full-time employee with MLSE in the role of Assistant Manager, Food and Beverage, Quick Service. Look for Hamish the next time you attend an event at the Air Canada Centre!”

*Martha MacEachern, M.A. (Ed)  
Faculty member, Tourism Management,  
Georgian College*

“I was setting out for a game of golf when the marshal asked my husband and I if we would team up with another couple. We gladly did, only to discover he had graduated from Georgian in the '80s from the Engineering Technology program. It was great to fill him in on the changes at Georgian – and he was a very good golfer!”

*Rebecca Truax, Manager of Annual Giving,  
Georgian College*

## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Do you have an interesting story you would like told in your Alumni View magazine? Do you know of an alumnus whose career/life is so amazing people should read about it? We are always looking for articles and stories for your magazine – and would welcome suggestions from alumni. You can either write the story yourself and we can edit it, or we can have a writer compose the story for you. Contact the Alumni Office today!

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## Nursing

### Elizabeth Archuleta (néé Chausse)

*Orillia Campus, 1994*

Liz has been living and working in Loveland, Colorado, since graduation. Her work has been mostly with the geriatric community, although she is now transitioning out of nursing and into the financial services world. Liz has seven-year-old twins, Andrew and Chloe. Former classmates can contact Liz at 970-214-8953 or [archlnd2@msn.com](mailto:archlnd2@msn.com).

## Early Childhood Education

### Cara Stephens

*Orillia Campus, 1996*

Hello to all the faculty and fellow ECEs who graduated in 1996. After Georgian, I went on to Ryerson's direct entry program and completed my degree in ECE. I am working at a child care centre in Edmonton, Alberta, in a Kinder room. In Alberta, the government has decided to support our field with a funding initiative to draw qualified ECEs back into the field. If you want to chat or just catch up, contact me anytime at [cjstephens@sympatico.ca](mailto:cjstephens@sympatico.ca).

## Interior Design

### Michelle St-Onge (néé Newton) and Daniel St-Onge

*Barrie Campus, 1974*

Hello to anyone who may remember Michelle or Daniel from the old days, before all the new additions to the college and when the Gryphon Theatre was brand new (I was one of the first students to perform on that stage). I am still involved in the theatre community in North Bay and I owe it in part to a very good start at Georgian. I am a freelance designer and work at the North Bay general hospital and Daniel is retiring this month. Daniel and I got married after graduation and have been married for 34 years and have four daughters,

one who works as an interior designer! You can contact us at [stongm\\_2000@yahoo.ca](mailto:stongm_2000@yahoo.ca).

## Tourism Management

### Michael Schwarz

*Barrie Campus, 1986*

Michael is hoping to get in touch with Linda Rhodes. He can be reached at 416-894-1561.

## In Memoriam

### Kyle MacKay

*Canadian Automotive Institute, 1999*

1973 – 2002

After graduation, Kyle returned to P.E.I. and was in the process of preparing to take over the family business, Fair Isle Ford Sales, in Charlottetown, at the time of his sudden death. He had been married to Rhonda for only five months and is sadly missed by his family and friends.

### Dana Parker

*Canadian Automotive Institute, 2007*

1984 – 2008

*"I was lucky enough to call Dana my friend, and my memories of him will never be forgotten."*

*– Lee Naraine*

*"Dana Parker was a person whose name went hand-in-hand with outstanding qualities and traits any person would want in a true friend."*

*– Chris Liguori*

*"I miss his dedication to life, his bigger than life smile and attitude. Dana is admired, loved, cheered, honoured, respected, in life as well as in death."*

*– Petr Havelka*

# Reunion news

## CAI Annual Alumni Homecoming at TLC

Each year Canadian Automotive Institute (CAI) alumni gather on the Saturday of Auto Show weekend for an annual reunion. Thank you to the Alumni Association for contributing to this year's successful event held on Sept. 20, with nearly 85 alumni in attendance. The crowd consisted of recent alumni, and those from 15 years ago. Special recognition was given to the class of '98. If you are interested in being involved with the planning of future CAI alumni events please e-mail [jsheremeto@georgianc.on.ca](mailto:jsheremeto@georgianc.on.ca).

## Professional Golf Management 10-year reunion

On May 26, Georgian College's Professional Golf Management program held its first-ever reunion golf tournament and welcomed 78 graduates back to Barrie. Heritage Hills Golf Club was the very generous sponsor site and provided fantastic course conditions on a beautiful summer day. The

Alumni Association generously contributed to the event. Graduates came from as far west as British Columbia and as far south as South Carolina to reconnect with their classmates and their alma mater, Georgian College.

*Kyle Campbell (class of 2001 - ball in mouth) and Jason Pritchard (class of 2000). "one of the more challenging lies that one of our grads found his ball in."*



*Left to right – Shawn Plain, Harley Thompson, Tom Arnott, Nathan Jackson – all from the class of 2002 and the class of the field, as this group won the overall tournament. Thompson shot the day's best score finishing with a 70.*

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# DREAM CATCHER

## GALA 2008

### "FIRE AND ICE"

The second ever *Dream Catcher Gala* was held on Oct. 17, 2008. The evening was a huge success and \$140,000 was raised for student scholarships. Many alumni were in attendance!

*Lisa McCarthy-Tamblyn, Georgian alumna and Premier's Award nominee, Chair of the Dream Catcher Gala committee*



*Stephen Flowers (r), UPS Senior Executive, Georgian alumnus and 2005 Premier's Award-winner, speaks to Brian Tamblyn, President and CEO of Georgian*



*Rose Adams, lawyer, Georgian alumna and 2003 Premier's Award-winner, gave the opening remarks*

*Lance Chilton, A-News Anchor, was Master of Ceremonies*



*Sarah Rohland and Christopher Treschak (Georgian grad), current Laurentian students*



*Donna Danyluk, Journalism grad, and Howie Brox, Journalism grad and Past Chair of the Alumni Association, head the live auction*



*Guests were greeted by the Ice Queen*



# Health and Wellness building on Georgian's horizon

By Lesley Hain, Georgian College Communications Specialist



Plans to build a "Centre for Health and Wellness" at Georgian's Barrie Campus were unveiled at the University Partnership Centre dedication ceremony on Oct. 7. Pictured: Artist's rendition of the new building.

A new Georgian Centre for Health and Wellness is on the horizon for the Barrie Campus.

A total of \$10 million will need to be raised as part of the College-wide *Power of Education* campaign to build the centre. The facility will provide space for more than 3,000 additional students in diploma and degree programs, and will be the heart of a collaborative, multi-profession, team-based approach to health, wellness and science education.

Tom Ambeau Sr., Chair of the *Power of Education* campaign fundraising cabinet, is optimistic the community will support this goal, given the positive impact this project will have on the future of health care services in Simcoe County and beyond.

"More graduates from health, wellness, and science programs are needed to ensure workers with the right skills are available for the local health agencies that desperately need them. Barrie's Royal Victoria Hospital, for example, has predicted it will require 600 nurses, and 1,200 employees overall, over the next six years alone," he said.

"The construction of this building will result in Georgian expanding programming in several

strategic areas. Georgian's enrolment growth rate consistently surpasses that of other Ontario colleges, and the *Power of Education* campaign is a key way Georgian plans to fund and accommodate a fast-growing number of students, as well as respond to employer and industry needs for more qualified candidates for their workforce."



## Stay in The Loop

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Contact the Alumni Office today at [alumni@georgianc.on.ca](mailto:alumni@georgianc.on.ca).

## Adopt-A-Book

ANNUAL PROGRAM



### Adopt-A-Book Initiative

One of the basic tools for any student is books. This is why the Alumni Association launched the Adopt-A-Book program in September. Utilizing alumni support, the project focuses on getting much-needed books into our library. While Georgian College allocates a very respectable percentage of its annual budget for books, the annual need for books continues to outweigh the funding available.

You will have received a mailing explaining the Adopt-A-Book program and how you can be recognized for your support of the College. There is also a response card included in this magazine. We hope you will consider supporting the project and giving back to your College. To date, our alumni have donated enough to purchase 30 new books.

It is still early in the campaign and we hope more alumni will adopt a book in order to ensure students have the resources they require for a meaningful education.

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