

121 Winters College

4700 Keele Street
 Toronto, ON
 M3J 1P3
 416-650-8199

wcmaster@yorku.ca

WINTERS FELLOWS NEWSLETTER



A message from Peter McKinnon



Dear Winters Fellows

I just walked across campus in my short sleeves in late January. That was a first for me. I guess I'm wondering when I will start my first winter at Winters.

On behalf of all the Colleges, I am on a York-wide committee that is charged with enhancing the student experience, especially with regards to campus layout and use of outdoor spaces. This committee has been specifically asked to recommend how the core of the campus should look and

feel once the subway construction is (finally) over. We already know that the Harry Arthurs Common will be made much more pedestrian friendly, and have no vehicular traffic. The two things that were brought up at our first meeting were that the college quadrangles should be better utilized and cared for; and that there should be no open parking lots in the core. From these comments, I will work to get back the Winters lawn that has been a temporary parking lot for a decade or more, and to enhance both the Winters and Vanier quads. For example, I have this idea of making the shared Masters' dining rooms into a more frequently used space, with easy access to the patio outside its windows.

In other news, I have hosted dinners with all the departmental students' associations, and many good ideas for the Master's Office to support and enhance activities through these associations have been discussed. Towards the end of the term, I will host the current and future Presidents of all the associations and of the WCC so that next fall there will already been some cooperative plans in place.

Internally, the JCR has been made into a really busy spot, and the Clubs Room as a quiet place to study during the day (with thanks to Jeff Collins for these ideas). I am also looking at replacing the furniture in the SCR, which is shabby indeed. On another front, the Ab Management Board is starting to talk with the Ab Manager about some changes, especially in light of the increased competition on campus from the Underground, and the arrival of Shopsy's in York Lanes.

And, lastly, there is the fund raising effort that we are involved in with the School of Arts, Media, Performance and Design to bring a refugee family over from Syria. Please email syriampd@yorku.ca for more information or to join the team.

In closing, my very best wishes to you all, and that you are well.

Regards,

Peter McKinnon

In This Issue:

- Don Rickard & Nikolaos
Pg. 2
- Markakis
Pg. 3
- Tabish Bhimani
Pg. 3
- Kym Bird
Pg. 4
- Nick Elson
Pg. 5
- New Fellows & Contact us: pg. 6

INTERIM MASTER

Peter McKinnon

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Kleanthi Markakis



Don Rickerd



Don Rickerd recently travelled to China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. This was his fourth trip to the DPRK, having first visited in 1995, shortly after the death of the founder of the DPRK, Kim Il Sung. Mr. Rickerd, with colleagues, was engaged at that time in discussions which eventually led to Canada's diplomatic recognition of the DPRK. His most recent visit to Pyongyang, the capital, revealed substantial development in the form of a modern new airport, sports facilities and high rise apartment buildings, as well as considerable challenges.

Don is now based at the Munk School for Global Affairs at the University of Toronto and is a Senior Fellow of Massey College.

Nikolaos Markakis/Half Second Echo Dance Collective



"Mesi" in "Alien Creatures"

Dancers: Justine Comfort & Nikolaos Markakis

Choreography by: Nikolaos Markakis

Written/Directed by: Kelly Paoli

Photography by: Brendon Adam-Zwelling

Half Second Echo Dance Collective, in my opinion, is a very special organization since it was founded by seven York Alumni: Justine Comfort, Monika Davis, Sarah Dowhun, Miles Gosse, Melina Pereira, Denise Solleza and I. Upon graduation 2013, the seven of us felt strong about pursuing a career in dance but did not want to wait on someone else to hand one to us, thus the creation of our dance collective. Now going into our second year, we have performed for Fringe, various thesis concerts, films, music videos, summer festivals, and a bi-annual show called Body Brake, curated and directed by Brandy Leary (another Winters and York Alumna). We, at HSE, have one major goal and vision and that is to create work and opportunities for our seven very different and unique artistic voices to be seen and presented. Continuing on my love and passion for dance and education, I have returned to York University to complete my Masters of Fine Arts in

Contemporary Dance Choreography (due to be completed by June of 2016). One of my greatest loves is finding ways to bring my Cretan culture into my everyday work. This is the major focus of my MFA research and what I, as an artist, bring to HSE. I am creating a lens and platform through my choreography to bring both my embodied resources of dance, Cretan Folkloric and contemporary practices, together as one on stage.

For further information on HSE, please visit our Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/HalfSecondEcho> and if you have any questions or are interested in my research and work, please feel free to email me at markakisniko@gmail.com. I look forward to hearing from you!

Tabish Bhimani



Tabish Bhimani is the Communications Chair for The Federal Liberal Riding Association of Ville-Marie - The South West - Nun's Island in Montreal. An Alumni Fellow, Tabish is Editor-in-Chief Emeritus of Winters Free Press.

This year's Federal Election Campaign had Canadians holding on to the edges of their seats (no pun intended) as we watched Conservatives, Liberals and NDP battle it out. I am now 27 years of age and before this election, I never voted. I live the good life, cushioned by a stable income and family support. I do not worry where my next meal or paycheque will come from. For all intents and purposes, life is good.

I could no longer bear the idea, however, that Mr. Harper had divided Canada in his signature, Draconian way. The misguided notion that we could somehow be stripped of our Canadian-ness through legislation was so repulsive that I got involved. Initially a volunteer for the Liberal

Party in Montreal two years ago, I am now the Communications Chair for the strategic riding of Ville-Marie – The South West – Nun's Island.

Being a Liberal Party member meant several things. First, I would hold firm to the vision that in Canada, better is always possible. Second, I would give more of my time to the campaign and less to personal indulgences so that this possibility becomes a reality. Third, I would do so without any desire for personal gain, that I would do this for Canada and fulfill my responsibility as a Canadian and honour my citizenship.

Then several things began happening. I felt more connected to our society's fabric than ever before. Somehow, I came face to face with my own biases and it gave me an opportunity to become more accepting of people. It was easier to relate with and smile at people with whom I previously had nothing in common.

Second, I began to trust that politicians are good people. No longer did I hold the image that all MPs have crossed over to the Dark Side. An alumnus of York, Iqra Khalid for example, is now an MP for Mississauga-Erin Mills and genuinely working towards making her riding better. My own candidate, Marc Miller, is authentic, hard working, and a family man. Several other MPs with whose teams I regularly communicate with also embody good faith and authenticity. They genuinely want to make Canada better. If attitude is a reflection of leadership, the MPs have done an outstanding job and deserve a standing ovation.

I do not believe in trickle-down economics. But I do believe that – next to knowledge – when values are passed down, they are the only things that benefit society as a whole. Thankfully, the new Government of Canada has passed down values of hope, confidence and strength in pluralism which we see reflected in the newly formed cabinet. I am honoured and proud to have been a part of the Liberal campaign. Sunny ways, my friends, sunny ways.

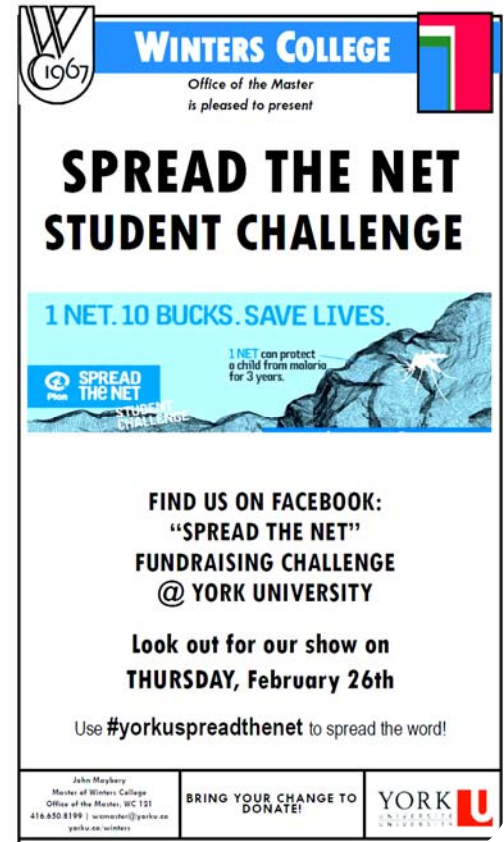
Kym Bird

It was January 2015. We were reeling from bad press related to the CUPE strike when Rick Mercer took his show to the nursing faculty where he met President Shoukri who later that month in senate announced that this was the kind of positive publicity a university just can't pay for. When Professor Susan Dimock urged senators to elaborate the good news participate in the Rick Mercer/Belinda Stronach initiated charity and student challenge, I couldn't resist the challenge.

With no time to spare, my class, a first year, Humanities, general education course entitled "Contexts of Canadian Culture" had two weeks to hone their singing and percussive skills," devise an on-line crowd-sourcing site and throw their collective hats in the ring. We competed with schools and universities across the country to raise the most money for anti-malarial bed-nets for Africa and bring Mercer back to York.

On February 26th, we turned ourselves into an itinerant group of players and cap in hand, travelled about the campus performing a York version of "The Cup Song," inspired by Lulu and the Lampshades. York made available its finest public spaces to our initiative and to all those administrators who were kind enough to do so, we cannot thank-you enough. York rose to the challenge. They opened their wallets and their hearts. Our community donated in person and on-line and in a mere 14 days we raised almost 5,000 dollars, making us 5th in Canada.

Thank-you to all who helped us make this a rousing success!!



WINTERS COLLEGE
Office of the Master
is pleased to present

SPREAD THE NET STUDENT CHALLENGE

1 NET. 10 BUCKS. SAVE LIVES.

1 NET can protect a child from malaria for 3 years.

**FIND US ON FACEBOOK:
"SPREAD THE NET"
FUNDRAISING CHALLENGE
@ YORK UNIVERSITY**

**Look out for our show on
THURSDAY, February 26th**

Use #yorkuspreadthenet to spread the word!

John Maybery
Master of Winters College
Office of the Master, WC 121
416.650.8199 | wmaster@yorku.ca
yorku.ca/winters

BRING YOUR CHANGE TO
DONATE!

YORK
UNIVERSITY

Nick Elson

Winters in Mexico

Several years ago I had the pleasure of being invited to participate in a TESL (Teaching English as a Second Language) teacher training course at *Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla (BUAP)* in Puebla, Mexico. Puebla is a fine old – and very safe - colonial city, located about halfway between Mexico City and the Gulf Coast and BUAP is the oldest and largest university in Mexico, tracing its history back almost 500 years. That teaching experience was remarkable for a number of reasons, not least of which was the propensity of the students - teachers returning to school to upgrade their teaching qualifications - to bring family, children, girlfriends or boyfriends – and even pets, to the class. The result was that I was never really clear who was in the class and who wasn't (except for the pets) – and in one instance, I had to ask a couple particularly actively enamoured of each other at the back of the room if they were married or just on a date in the class.

The results of that initial teaching experience were happy, however, in that it established an ongoing relationship between BUAP and York University that has resulted in a soon-to-be finalized exchange agreement, with an initial focus on language (broadly speaking), language teaching and learning and language teacher training. Several graduate students from BUAP have already spent time at York (and Winters College) doing research, and it is hoped that once the agreement is finalized, we will be able to send York students to BUAP for short or long-term stays, depending on what best suits their interests.

The exchange is for both faculty and students, and various sources of funding are available. Anyone interested in further information can contact me at nelson@yorku.ca



Two views of BUAP buildings



Contact Us!

Fellows:

We want to hear from you!

What have you been up to since leaving Winters College and York?

We want to know!

Send accomplishments, updates and pictures to

wcmaster@yorku.ca

416-650-8199

121 Winters College

4700 Keele Street

Toronto, ON

M3J 1P3

Welcome to New Winters Fellows!

We would love to give a warm welcome to new fellows and not-so-new fellows who have not yet had the chance to be properly welcomed into the Winters Fellowship! Welcome!

Fellows

Brigette Kleer

Patrick Legris

Michael Zryd

We would like to announce that our annual Spring Masters Dinner will be taking place on April, 11th, 2016 in the Winters Dining Hall

Hope to see you all there!

The College Banner, with its bold angles of ruby, scarlet, green, blue and white, is displayed in the Master's Office and at college events and ceremonies. It was designed in 1968 by Kenneth Lochhead, a noted Canadian painter who was most recognized for his experimentation with abstract expressionism. The hard-edged colour-field design of the Winters College Banner was influenced by Lochhead's attendance at a summer workshop with Clement Greenburg in 1962. Lochhead received the Governor General's Award in visual and media art forms from Governor General Michaëlle Jean in 2006.

Kenneth Campbell Lochhead died under the care of his loving family in his Ottawa home on July 15, 2006 at the age of 80. He left us whispering, "I've gotta go. Enjoy every second."



YORK
UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY
redefine THE POSSIBLE

Comments? Opinions? We want to hear from you! We welcome thoughts and opinions from all Fellows and Alumni.

Please send your comments to: wcmaster@yorku.ca