

T O D A Y

# algomau

SPRING/SUMMER 2011

ALGOMA UNIVERSITY ALUMNI MAGAZINE

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campus**



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alumni, faculty and students, and on significant issues  
and developments within the university community.



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### ALUMNI COUNCIL CHAIR'S MESSAGE

By: **Brian Leahy**, Chair, Algoma University Alumni Council

"Hello", "Aanii", "Bonjour", "Konnichiwa", "Hola". These are just a few of the greetings one might hear while walking the hallways of Algoma University during the Spring of 2011, and is just one indicator of the growing diversity on our campus. The face of Algoma U has changed dramatically since I graduated approximately 15 years ago. At that time, the school had only a handful of international students, fewer out-of-town students, and there was a less diverse local population. Over the recent past, an increasing number of students from countries such as Bangladesh, Japan, India, Mexico and Saudi Arabia, among others, have helped create a vibrant learning environment for students, faculty and staff that extends well beyond the classroom.

Under the leadership of newly appointed President Dr. Richard Myers, the concept of "internationalization" is becoming entrenched into all aspects of the university community. In his inaugural address, Dr. Myers highlighted the importance of continuing our efforts to increase the number of international students studying on our campus while at the same time developing opportunities for Canadian students to gain international exposure through avenues such as "study abroad". Although the university will always maintain its regional focus, exposure to different cultures and international opportunities enhances the experience for everyone. Our interview with Dr. Myers in this issue will introduce you to our new leader and his vision for Algoma U.

The impact that "internationalization" has on the lives of our students is significant. One

of our alumni featured within this issue is Algoma's first WUSC (World University Services of Canada) graduate, Jean Marie Uwizeyimana. His story is an inspiration for all of our students, and highlights the importance of education in people's lives.

Our international students have not only helped us learn more about the world in which we live, they also help enhance the student experience through the organizing of events such as the Eid Feast, J Night or Black History Month activities. The efforts of the Algoma University Multicultural Association (AMSA) enhance the lives of all students and, in many cases, the greater community of Sault Ste. Marie.

This edition also highlights the diversity of our faculty. We continue to attract esteemed faculty from around the world – in our last issue we highlighted the work of Dr. Pedro Antunes, and this time we talk to our newest Research Chair, Dr. Nicola Shaw of the Health Informatics Institute, who comes to us from Calgary, but was born and raised in the UK.

Algoma University congratulates the Class of 2011, which will include a greater number of international students than ever before. Our alumni base continues to expand in size and reach, as local students spread their wings in foreign locales, and international students take their experiences back home to their native lands. We can all be proud to be part of an ever growing Algoma U community that will have a positive economic and social impact on our region and beyond.



# A NEW DAWN

On September 18th, 2010, *Dr. Richard Myers* officially became the 9th President in the history of the institution, and the first to be installed as President of an independent Algoma University. One year after becoming President of Algoma University, effective July 1, 2010, Dr. Richard Myers shared some thoughts and observations on his new post.



**Dr. Richard Myers, his partner Dr. Michelle Atkin, and their infant daughter Elizabeth moved to Sault Ste. Marie – which he enthusiastically describes as a “great fit” – from Fredericton. Before coming to Algoma University, Dr. Myers had held both teaching and senior administrative positions during more than two decades of service at St. Thomas University in New Brunswick’s capital.**

### **What about leading Algoma University appealed most to you?**

There are two things. One is that almost from the day I ended up at St. Thomas University in Fredericton, I became a very ardent believer in the value of small undergraduate universities. It’s the kind of place that I enjoy the most and it’s the kind of place I believe is best for 19 students out of 20.

The other thing – it seemed there was more openness to innovation at this institution than you would find at most. I’m an innovator. I’m a creative kind of person. I’m an ideas kind of person. I’m a builder.

What was most attractive here was it’s the right kind of institution and it’s the right situation. It’s new as an independent university and it needs to grow.

### **Why is growth so critical?**

It’s hard to carry all of our programs with a full-time student base of 1,000. To have the kind of faculty complement you need to run these programs well, you need to be twice the size that we are.

The challenge for us is: How do you get more students to come here when we’re so far from where they are, it’s a relatively small city that is unknown to them, and it’s a pretty small university that’s unknown to them?

For us to succeed, we have to be better. We have to be different from the universities in the south and we have to be different in a way for a lot of students to say: “That place is better. I want to go there.”

The beauty of a place like this is – and I like to say this over and over again to students, to parents, and to anybody who will listen to me – at Algoma U, providing a good-quality undergraduate education is the *only* thing we care about.

### **What is your top year one priority?**

There was agreement [with the presidential selection committee] right from the start: “Yes, we’re open to change. We see that we need to be innovative.”

I proposed the block plan for the way we deliver courses, not only because I think that actually provides a better quality of education, but because it also opens so many doors for international education, for better recruitment of students, for field work, and for all sorts of things.

We agreed my priority in my first year here – in addition to getting to know people and coming to understand how things operate here – was to roll the idea out and see if people wanted to buy into it.

### **Do you think the block plan will be adopted?**

I’m a political scientist and I’ve been involved in university politics for a long time. I understood right away that I’m the new guy from away and I’m proposing a fairly radical step and universities are typically very resistant to change.

It won’t be my decision. In the end, the Senate will decide. After there’s been sufficient consultation with all possible stakeholders, they’ll have to decide what to do.

There are lots of people who think this is the greatest thing they’ve ever heard and there are lots of people who think: “No, no, no! This is too radical and it’s not consistent with what we’ve traditionally done.” Hopefully both sides will be heard and a decision can be made based on their input.

### **How would you describe your leadership style?**

I think leadership in an academic context is two things.

If you’ve got some kind of project in mind, number one, you have to prepare the terrain for people to think about it with an open mind. And then, number two, you have to paint the big picture and inspire them. Then you have to leave it up to them because the one thing that really doesn’t work in a university is somebody at the top saying, “This is what we’re going to do.”

The first time I came to campus, I met with the faculty. I talked about the need for us to develop an innovative and distinctive identity. And they said, “And what exactly would that be?”

And I said: “Well, the one thing I do know is that it will be up to you to decide that. I’m not going to bring it in. I’ll float some ideas for you and I’ll try to provide the resources and context and so on to have the discussion go forward.”

### **And international education, you believe, is key in building a distinctive identity?**

There’s one thing I should clarify. There would be some people who would say, “We’re not comfortable with that because we think it should be a regional institution; it should serve the people of Sault Ste. Marie.”

And I agree with that. That really is the ultimate mandate. I think the question is: How do you serve the students of Sault Ste. Marie?

This is the 21st century, in which people become much more interconnected. We’ll be shortchanging our students if they don’t have meaningful experiences with the rest of the world.

And precisely because we are in a geographically isolated, small Northern city, it’s more important for the students from this region to have that kind of contact with international students and the opportunity to go abroad themselves.

### **How might international education evolve at Algoma University?**

One of the things that I liked about the block plan is I think it would be the only way that a Canadian university would be able to have significant numbers of its students having the opportunity to study abroad, to do a course in another country.

What I see in the block plan is, if you’re doing your courses one at a time and they’re only three weeks long, it will be very easy, with the right incentives, to have the faculty organize their courses so that they will have those opportunities.

It’s not just a question of bringing international students here. What I *really, really, really* want to see is our students seeing the rest of the world and then coming back to Sault Ste. Marie.

*(continued on Page 6)*



(continued from Page 5)

I'd like to see an Algoma University where, in 10 years, every student has a foreign study experience. That's the sense in which we would become a truly international university.

#### **What most concerns you?**

Funding. I think it probably keeps most university presidents awake at night.

We're in a very privileged position. The current government not only gave us a charter to make us an independent university but has also provided us with transitional funding that is extremely generous. It's recognition that to get up and running you will need some extra resources and we are incredibly grateful for that. But if that were to disappear overnight we would have major challenges. It's guaranteed for this year and next year, but the question is, What happens after that?

Part of what you need to do is get yourself ready so if the worst happens, you're prepared for it. One of the challenges is to increase our enrolment.

#### **What are your hopes for eventual downtown development?**

I do think one of the key projects for us is to develop a vibrant presence downtown. We've now got students living in the former Windsor Park. We're hoping to find money to renovate the concourse space so we'll have a Music and Fine Arts Centre there.

In the long term, I would like to see us offering four or five programs down there, with maybe 700 to 1,000 students whose regular classes are downtown as opposed to here [main campus].

I think that would really rejuvenate the eastern part of downtown. I'd like to get to the point where there's a section of Queen Street that is sort of seen as a student neighbourhood, with lots of coffee shops, pubs, and people there day and night. That would be good for the city and good for us.

#### **Why are you teaching at Algoma U?**

I arranged for myself to teach Political Science. Presidents generally don't teach, but I do think if you're at a university that defines itself as teaching-first and undergraduate-centred, people at the top should be on board

with the program. I want all of our [senior administrative] people in the classroom.

#### **Is it true that early-risers can catch you in the gym shooting hoops?**

Almost every morning. Sometimes the baby interferes with that or there'll be an early-morning meeting.

I still play basketball at a pretty competitive level. I like to play and hope to be involved in a group that plays off-campus.

#### **Do you have a message for Algoma U's alumni?**

I appreciate that we've got a lot of people over the 40 years that this school has been in operation who have had an excellent experience and have developed a sense of attachment to this institution.

Our objective in the coming years is going to be to develop, now that we are an independent institution, an Algoma University that people will be increasingly proud of.

## 2011 JOHN R. RHODES SCHOLARSHIP DINNER

honouring

*Dr. Lou and  
Mrs. Mae Lukenda*

Friday, November 4, 2011

The Pavilion at Algoma's Water Tower Inn

Reception at 6:00, Dinner at 7:00

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## CREATIVITY FLOURISHES IN QATAR FOR ALGOMA U ALUMNUS ALEXANDER WOOD

By: Melanie Nolan

Education can expand your knowledge and your horizons. Just ask **Alexander Wood**, a 2009 Algoma University graduate, who has lived in Doha, Qatar for the past 18 months.

After obtaining an Honours Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature, Alexander decided to sell all of his worldly possessions—except for a collection of travel typewriters, vinyl records and books—and travel to another country where he could apply his creative talents and experience a different culture.

*“The Middle East seemed like an interesting place, thus I set off with a typewriter under one arm and books under the other,”* explains Alexander. *“Doha is originally the pearl-diving capital of the region and has recently turned into an international business community. Qatar is an inspiring Muslim nation that provides continual opportunities for new cultural experiences.”*

Some of Alexander’s sense of adventure and desire to learn new things is rooted in his years spent at Algoma U.

*“What defined my time at Algoma U was the ability to actualize myself, enter into new realms of discussion and engage in academic, artistic and personal exploration,”* says Alexander. *“Dissolving the barrier between students and professors enabled me to ask questions, meet faculty after class and find my own point of entrance into the larger academic institution.”*

Alexander chose Algoma U for its smaller class sizes which he says promote a sense of belonging and foster inventive thinking. He recalls his smallest class consisted of seven students while his largest only had 30.

*“The idea of being perceived as a number at a larger institution, didn’t match my individual style of learning; one which allows me to engage with my professors and collaborate to create new ideas,”* says Alexander. *“Algoma U to me was an environment where you could define your own thinking, lay the foundations for a greater exploration of the self, rather than be subjected to a rigid framework that restricted creativity.”*

Alexander was also drawn to Algoma University for its history as a former residential school. He feels this has contributed to his current interest in First Nations’ culture and spirituality.



*“In many respects, it’s a school unlike any other. You get inspired by the building’s history, the students and the unique way of learning that is cultivated at Algoma U,”* he says.

While at Algoma University, Alexander was part of the editorial team for Algoma INK, an annual literary magazine featuring poetry, prose and art from both established and emerging artists. The publication is co-sponsored by the Department of English, Music and Fine Arts.

In this role, Alexander helped host several poetry readings for the English and Fine Arts Society. He cites performing original works with his fellow poets and winning the coveted WORM-Slam Poetry Award as the highlight of his INK involvement.

Alexander explains the appeal of participating in these types of activities, *“Clubs and organizations allow you to explore things you’re passionate about and discover other cultures, perspectives and ideas that otherwise might have remained unknown to you.”*

Classes at Algoma U also helped pique Alexander’s interest in media, photography and contemporary film, all of which he continues to explore while working for Qatar Project Management, a Qatari organization with multibillion-dollar mega projects in seven countries.

Alexander works in the marketing department writing creative copy such as news releases, website content, corporate brochures, advertisement copy, and speeches for the CEO. He also develops internal communications strategies, campaigns and content. Alexander is pleased he has the opportunity to create videos and practice his photography occasionally.

Alexander credits Algoma U for equipping him with the tools needed to pursue his career.

*“My ability to collaborate with others and operate within a demanding environment are the most important skills I learned while at Algoma U,”* he says.

As for the future, Alexander hopes to start his own business in Doha, providing creative written and visual communication solutions to organizations by using graphic designers, writers and photographers to form a *“creative think tank”*.

He also plans on obtaining a Masters degree, writing a novel and publishing more poetry.

With his passion for life-long learning, it seems fitting that Alexander would relocate to Doha which is home to Education City, an area devoted to research and education.

For Alexander, a world of possibilities awaits on the other side of the globe!





# Algoma University News

## Algoma University and 49th Regiment to Partner to Preserve Local Military History

Algoma University and the “Lest We Forget” Remembrance and Military Library (LWFRML) have signed an agreement that will see increased collaboration and opportunities to share expertise and resources in the field of historical research and education. The agreement, signed by Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Clyde Healey of the 49th (SSM) Field Regiment RCA and Dr. Richard Myers, President of Algoma University, will see both parties working together to strengthen regional research, education and information resource networks.

The LWFRML possesses specialized resources in Canadian Military History and the history of 49th Field Regiment (Sault Ste. Marie) and its predecessor regiments in Northern Ontario dating back to the 19th Century. Algoma University will lend its considerable experience and knowledge in information systems, digitization, and archiving to develop a resource base that effectively preserves an important part of Northern Ontario’s history.



Dr. Richard Myers (left) and Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Clyde Healey sign a collaboration agreement.

## Librarian Earns Provincial Recognition

The Conifer Systems Team, featuring Algoma U Assistant Librarian Robin Isard, won the Ontario Council of University Libraries’ 2010 OCUL Outstanding Contribution Award this past November.

Made up of librarians from Algoma University, Laurentian University, and the University of Windsor, the Conifer Systems Team was recognized for their efforts in making the Evergreen Integrated Library System (Project CONIFER) an enterprise-class, online infrastructure for running academic libraries. Project CONIFER services over two dozen academic locations and tens of thousands of users. The system handles millions of transactions and has been configured to work with external services such as Google Books, LDAP, Syndetics, and Library of Congress Tables of Contents, among other services to enhance the end-user experience.

## Dr. Celia Ross honoured at John R. Rhodes Scholarship Dinner

The 2010 John R. Rhodes Scholarship Dinner raised more than \$40,000 in funds for the John R. Rhodes Scholarship Fund at Algoma University. A sold out crowd of more than 300 turned out to honour former Algoma University President Dr. Celia Ross.

The John R. Rhodes Scholarship Fund was established in 1979 through the generous support of friends and family of the late John Rhodes. The Fund yields an award that is given annually to a student entering his or her first year of study at Algoma U and who has demonstrated academic achievement and community leadership while involved in political, social or academic activities. The recipients for 2010-2011 were Michael Maniacco of Sault Ste. Marie, Jordan Patterson of Richards Landing, and Jessica Wilson from Goulais River.



Dr. Celia Ross

2010 marked the 10th running of the dinner. Past honourees are: Bud Wildman, George and Cathy Shunock, Paul Dalseg Sr., Gerald Nori, Ron Irwin, Morley Torgov, Dr. Roberta Bondar, Ted Nolan, and Judge James Greco.

## University Medical Clinic Opens

Algoma University has opened a new medical clinic at the Algoma University Downtown Student Centre. The clinic services all Algoma U students, staff, and faculty, and their families. In addition, access to the clinic is being offered to key partners of the university, including the Ontario Forestry Research Institute (OFRI), the Great Lakes Forestry Centre (GLFC), Algoma Games for Health, and the Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre (SSMIC). The clinic aims to serve 2,000 patients.

Algoma University is pleased to introduce Dr. Brynlea Barbeau as resident physician. The benefits of an onsite doctor are manifold for the University community. It will provide the Algoma U community with full-time access to a doctor, open clinics (e.g. drop in and flu shots), educational platforms, presentations, and orientation events. There will also be opportunity for preventative care and health promotion.

The clinic is open Monday to Thursday, from 8:00am-4:00pm, and Fridays from 8:00am-12:00pm.

## Students Finish 5th at Programming Contest

Computer programming teams from Algoma University and top collegiate programmers from regional schools competed at Lake Superior State University in November in an all-out “Battle of the Brains.”

The 35th annual Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) International Collegiate Programming Contest, the most prestigious computer programming competition of its kind, challenges teams of three university students to use their programming skills and rely on their mental endurance to solve complex, real world problems under a grueling five-hour deadline.

A total of eight Algoma University teams competed, finishing 5th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 17th, 19th, and 20th out of the 26 teams competing.

## Algoma University Offers Social Work Degree

Algoma University received Ministerial consent to offer its first professional program, the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW), starting in September 2011. This approval is the culmination of years of development work, much of it in conjunction with faculty of Sault College and Northern College, and with social service agencies in both Sault Ste. Marie and Timmins. The program will be delivered on the Sault Ste. Marie campus of Algoma University, and offered via distance learning to students in Timmins.

This announcement is a major milestone in the fulfillment of the special mission Algoma University was given when it became Ontario’s 19th university two years ago – to have a particular focus on the needs of northern Ontario and to cultivate cross-cultural learning.

The BSW degree responds to a growing need for social workers with baccalaureate-level education in Northern Ontario, and in particular, for social workers with the skills to work in rural areas and First Nation communities. A vibrant and diverse new faculty will contribute to the many collaborative research and community initiatives already underway at Algoma U, creating a hub that will build capacity and resilience for the north.

The BSW program has already been granted candidacy status with the Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE).



## Japanese students arrive at Algoma University

Nineteen students from Kyoto Sangyo University in Japan arrived in a snowy Sault Ste Marie in late February to begin a three-week integrative language program at Algoma University. Prearranged activities included volunteering in various social sectors in the community and sharing their culture with area school children.

The KSU students, hailing from the Department of International Relations, lived with local Sault families as part of Algoma University's homestay program. For more than half of the students, this trip to Sault Ste Marie marked their first time traveling outside of Japan, and only one had previously been in North America.

This program marks Algoma University's third year to host students from KSU. Particular to the program structure has been the integration of the Japanese students into Sault community life, which would otherwise be more complex in a larger urban centre.

Over their three week stay the Kyoto Sangyo students participated in a variety of activities on campus and in the community, and produced a collective report of their experiences.

## Algoma University Hosts Gathering at the Rapids Pow Wow

Algoma University, along with the Shingwauk Anishinaabe Students' Association hosted a community competition Pow Wow at the George Leach Centre on March 5th and 6th, to celebrate life-long learning.

The three-day long Gathering at the Rapids Pow Wow was a celebration highlighting Anishinaabe culture through a variety of traditional and contemporary events, including several grand entries of dancers, drumming, and a variety of Anishinaabe craft and traditional food vendors. Host drum duties were handled by the White Tail Cree Drum from North Bay, with invited drums the recently Grammy-nominated Bear Creek Singers, as well as the Elk Spirit Singers.

Algoma U would like to thank Pow Wow committee members representing Shingwauk Kinooaage Gamig, Sault College, the Métis Nation of Ontario, the Indian Friendship Centre and the Algoma District and Huron-Superior Catholic District School Boards.

## Algoma University Partners With Chinese University

Algoma University has signed a five-year partnership agreement with the University of Jinan in the Province of Shandong, China. The agreement will promote the cooperation and exchange of teachers, researchers, and students, as well as the exchange of academic materials, publications, and information.

Following from the general agreement between the two universities, Algoma University Registrar Dave Marasco and the School of Management at the University of Jinan signed a second agreement that will provide a foundation for promoting international and intercultural understanding and exchange between the two institutions.

## Algoma University Hosts Diversity Symposium

Algoma University hosted a Diversity Symposium on February 16th, to explore the challenges and opportunities that diversity presents to the greater community of Sault Ste. Marie.

The event was organized by Algoma University's Diversity Advisory Committee, a committee that provides advice to the University President on creating, promoting, and maintaining an environment that is supportive and equitable to all members of the university community. The Diversity Advisory Committee includes students, staff, faculty, and administration.

Those in attendance at the Symposium included representatives from Algoma University, Sault College, Sault Ste. Marie Police Services, Algoma District School Board, Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board, the City of Sault Ste. Marie, Garden River First Nation, OFRI, New To The Sault, and other community organizations.

## Generous Donation Will Benefit Student-Athletes

Mr. Brian Curran, volunteer Chair of the Essential Elements Campaign, was at Algoma University in March to accept a generous donation from the Dr. Lou and Mae Lukenda Charitable Foundation.

*"Algoma University is key to the future of Sault Ste. Marie and community members are acknowledging that fact with their support of the Essential Elements Campaign", said Mr. Curran. "This donation to the Algoma University endowment will provide thousands of dollars a year in financial aid to deserving students."*

The donation, to establish the Dr. Lou and Mae Lukenda Awards, is intended to support student-athletes who may need assistance to complete their degree studies. When fully matched by the provincial government through the Ontario Trust for Student Support, the donation will endow \$200,000 for bursary awards.

*"Athletics programs provide great lessons in leadership, teamwork, and personal discipline," said Dr. Lukenda. "Mae and I are very happy to know that student athletes at Algoma University will benefit from this gift as long as the university exists."*

The Essential Elements Campaign will raise \$6 million to increase the Algoma U Foundation's endowment and support the construction of the Biosciences and Technology Convergence Centre and the Fine Arts and Music Education Centre.



Mr. Brian Curran (left) and Dr. Richard Myers (right) accept a donation from Dr. Lou Lukenda.

## FIND US ON facebook!

**Algoma University Alumni** have an official page on **Facebook**. We've added graduation pictures and dozens of other photos from days gone by at Algoma U, and we continue to add photos from the archives. We also update the page with Alumni news and events, and keep alumni informed about current news from Algoma U. Visit the page, become a fan and connect with old friends!

Go to: [www.facebook.com/algomau.alumni](http://www.facebook.com/algomau.alumni)

Or visit: [www.algomau.ca/alumni](http://www.algomau.ca/alumni) and follow the Facebook link.





## LANCE NEE-KLU ADJETEY: PAST PRESIDENT OF THE ALGOMA UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION (AUSU)

By: Nadine Robinson

When Lance Nee-Klu Adjetej arrived in the Sault from the GTA, he wanted to keep his head down and barrel through his second undergrad degree in order to speed him on to law school and a career as a Criminal Youth Lawyer. His plan was derailed almost immediately; Adjetej is simply not a head-down kind of guy.

Within months, Adjetej was nominated to become the President of the Algoma Multicultural Society Association (AMSA) and then he went on to change the face of the student union executive. Running for both positions alongside two international students from Ghana that had befriended him on his first day in residence, Adjetej became AUSU's first black student president.

A natural leader, Adjetej humbly won't take credit for the accomplishments of AUSU this past year, not even for the student life committee that was his baby. "I'm just

*proud that I helped get the ball rolling with increased diversity on AUSU" he said.*

*"Hopefully, my legacy will be that every student will feel that they can become president, or make a difference at the University. People need to feel like they can make a difference."*

Adjetej, who is working towards a double major in Sociology and Law & Justice, has aspirations to continue to affect change. He hopes to make a dent in the systemic African Canadian youth crime problem in the GTA.

*"As I look for a law school, I doubt I'll be able to replicate my experience at Algoma U; it's almost unreal the way the profs nurture you here – it's like they measure their success through their students' -- it's such a warm atmosphere."*

Adjetej is adamant that he will avoid the impersonal nature and long lines he was used to in Toronto. "I hadn't met, nor did I even know the name of the President of York U, and I certainly couldn't have walked into his office for a quick chat or for advice like I can with President Myers. Algoma U is a really tight community, and a really chill atmosphere."

## LAUREN WOZNY: ON EXCHANGE IN PERTH, AUSTRALIA

By: Nadine Robinson

She's known as Woz in the Sault, but on the other side of the world Lauren Wozny got used to being called 'Canada', 'Maple' or 'Moose' during ten months on an international exchange at Murdoch University, in Perth, Australia.

Born and raised in Sault Ste. Marie, Lauren's parents 'kindly pointed out' that Algoma University had an international exchange program. She'd set her sights on studying in Australia in high school, and it became a major reason for choosing Algoma University: "It's a lot easier to be chosen for an exchange program when you're one of seven applying for the program, instead of one of a hundred."

The Bachelor of Arts student is studying towards a double major in Law & Justice and Political Science. "Australia seemed like a good destination since it's a commonwealth country with a similar political system," said Wozny, "and the fact that it was halfway around the world didn't hurt either."

Graduating in June 2011, she's applied to Law School at both the University of Ottawa and University of Windsor, though she's considering returning for an honours degree at Algoma.

For students interested in the program, she recommends taking a lot of the planning into their own hands: "make sure you know what you are getting into, and that your credits will transfer in advance," said Wozny. "I took a lot of my electives over there to keep on track academically."

Lauren raves about her international experience and recommends the program highly. "Seeing the Indian Ocean was

*amazing," commented Wozny, "and my jaw dropped when I realized - I'm actually at the Sydney opera house!" Other memorable "firsts" for her included seeing kangaroos, koalas, and wombats, learning to surf and playing Australian Rules Football. She also picked up some of the local lingo, like 'I reckon' and summed up her experience with an enthusiastic: "It was heaps good!"*





*Algoma U extends congratulations to all student-athletes and coaches for their outstanding efforts during the 2010-2011 school year.*



### Men's Basketball

The **Men's Basketball team** made their fourth straight appearance at the OCAA Championships after avenging last year's tournament loss to St. Lawrence College in the crossover qualifying game. In the tournament, they lost a close quarter-final game to the eventual Silver Medallist Sheridan Bruins. The men had their first ever National ranking earlier in the season after beating the eventual OCAA champion Humber Hawks and Sheridan at home in January. Dele Oworu was a West Region First Team All-Star and Patrick Murray was named a Second-Team All-Star.

### Women's Basketball

Starting the year with only 7 players, the **Women's Basketball team**, under the guidance of new Head Coach Ryan Vetrie, made it to the post-season for the 5th straight year. **Carolyn Fragale** was voted a First Team West Region All-Star, finishing 4th in League scoring, with an average of 16.6 points per game. Tannis Olson was voted to the All-Rookie Team in her first season with the Thunderbirds.



### Curling

For the 3rd straight year the **Mixed Curling team** made up of **Kelsey Janveau, Brendan Hodgson, Jamie Sammon, and Clint Cudmore**, won a Provincial medal—this year a Bronze to go with their Gold (2008/2009) and Silver (2009/2010). This was the 2nd year back for the Women's team, who improved upon last year's performance.



### Indoor Soccer

The **Women's Indoor Soccer Program** had a strong showing, improving on their performance in both league play and the regional tournament. The **Men's team** represented the university well, and featured players from 7 different countries, including Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Angola, Turkey, Japan, India, Canada.

### Awards

**Varsity Student - Athlete of the Year (Female)**  
**Carolyn Fragale**  
*(Women's Basketball, Curling and Indoor Soccer)*

**Varsity Student - Athlete of the Year (Male)**  
**Patrick Murray** *(Men's Basketball)*

**Dr. Lou Lukenda Service Award**  
**Quazance Boissoneau**

**Thunderbird Wall of Fame Induction**  
**George M. Leach** (post-homous)  
*Accepting the award is grandson, Dale Ratelle.*



**Thunderbird Award Winners**  
**Andy Haidar** *(Basketball)*  
**Patrick Murray** *(Basketball)*  
**Quazance Boissoneau** *(Basketball)*  
**Kelsey Janveau** *(Curling, Indoor Soccer)*



### Athlete Profile: Patrick Murray

It's a good thing **Patrick Murray** is graduating with an accounting degree: he'll need it to keep track of all the accolades he's racked up in his 5 seasons with the Thunderbirds Men's Basketball team. Murray wrapped up his outstanding career as a Thunderbird this year, and at the end-of-year celebration, an emotional Coach Cory described what Murray has meant to him, and to the Thunderbirds Basketball program. "There's only one word to describe Pat Murray," said Coach Cory. "Character." Patrick graduated from the BBA program this Spring, and has begun his career with BDO in Sault Ste. Marie.

#### Pat's Stats

OCAA Men's Basketball Provincial Silver Medalist 2007-08  
 OCAA First Team All-Star (2009- 10) OCAA Second Team All-Star (2008-09, 2010-11)  
 GP - 85, FGM - 428, 3FGM - 66, FTM - 266, FT% - 64, PTS - 1180, PPG - 14



↑ Jill Morris: Her Worship Justice of the Peace.

## JILL MORRIS: HER WORSHIP JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

By: Nadine Robinson

On March 23, **Jill Morris'** friends and family looked out at her from the jury box in Courtroom one. Happily, they weren't there to judge her, but to celebrate her accomplishments at her swearing-in ceremony as Justice of the Peace.

The Order-in-Council was read, Morris swore her Oaths and was draped in a new robe and green sash, then was introduced to the room as "Her Worship." Applause echoed from both jury boxes from her family, friends, and judicial colleagues, and also from the courtroom benches where more friends and colleagues sat, including those from the Victim Witness Assistance Program.

Leaving the Ministry of the Attorney General (VWAP) and a teaching position for Grand Valley State University, Her Worship

will now preside over bail hearings, provincial offenses court, and intake court. Serving the North East region, Morris will, in addition, issue arrest warrants, search warrants, and subpoenas. When judges are not available, she may also preside over criminal remand court.

Honoured by a number of speeches from her colleagues, Morris' educational, volunteer, and professional accomplishments were enumerated, including her 24 years of work in a variety of capacities in Education, Social and Government Services.

Holding a diploma in Developmental Services from Sault College, Morris 'wanted more,' so she pursued a degree in Psychology part-time at Algoma U as a mature student, while caring for a young son.

*"Brett thought I was such a strange creature as the more education I attained, the more I seemed to need."* Morris said in her speech. She added with a laugh: *"It could not have been easy to have a mother who had such a love for education when he did not share the same passion."*

In her speech, Morris also credited her husband Gary Vipond for his love and patience, and she smiled that there was a reason he wouldn't get to speak at the ceremony because: *"he would likely tell you about the first time I came home from Algoma University many years ago ready to quit because I was going to have to do a presentation in class."* She admits that she was painfully shy.

After the ceremony, Morris said: *"Algoma U was four years of growth for me. When I conquered statistics, with the help of Professor Linda Sorensen, I finally believed that I could do whatever I put my mind to. I finally believed that I was intelligent enough to be there."* Graduating Summa Cum Laude in 2003, it seems hard to believe she would ever think otherwise.

Speaking of finding her way, Morris said: *"I took Professor Linda Savory-Gordon's social welfare class as an elective, and it was a turning point for me. I was drawn in by Linda's passion and kindness and I remember thinking 'what have I been doing with my time until now?'"* Morris continued to take as many social work and social welfare courses as she could, and decided she would follow with a Masters in Social Work from Grand Valley State University. She graduated with a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

Jill later returned to Algoma U, this time as a sessional instructor, now no longer afraid to speak in front of a class. *"My husband liked to tease me when I was going to teach, and even sometimes now as I've chosen a life that puts me front and centre public speaking. He thinks it's ironic that I almost walked away from my dream because of the thought of having to do one class presentation."*

*"It wasn't easy for me to see back then, but I did a lot of growing at Algoma U."* Morris said. *"It was at the university that the 'I can't' seemed to stop."*

Morris is clearly passionate about education, having spent most of her life as a student or a teacher. Speaking of her new position, she said: *"I believe I've met my match... there is always something to learn in this role: procedures including rules of evidence, and taking bail court training, not to mention new case law."*

When asked what learning means to her, Morris said: *"I equate learning to growing. It wasn't just about acquiring knowledge but about figuring out who I am and how to become a better person."*

Hailing from Southern Ontario, but having worked summers on Manitoulin Island, Morris loved Northern Ontario and wanted to study here. She'd never been to Sault Ste. Marie before arriving to begin her post-secondary studies, but never looked back: Her Worship Justice of the Peace Morris has called the Sault home ever since.





# COMMUNITY REPORT



ALGOMA UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada

2009-2010

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



**Andrew Ross**

It is an exciting time for Algoma University, and this is no less true for the **Algoma University Foundation**. With our growing campus, the increase in student enrolment, the development of important community partnerships, and announcement of new academic programs, we have much to celebrate at Ontario's newest northern university.

But there is much work still to do to ensure the continued success of this important and beloved institution.

The Algoma University Foundation raises funds for scholarships and bursaries, capital projects, and special projects at Algoma University. Recently we've launched the *Essential Elements: The Campaign for Algoma University*, with a goal to raise \$6 million for three exciting projects – the Biosciences and Technology Convergence Centre, the Fine Arts and Music Education Centre, and student scholarships and bursaries. These three initiatives will further develop our campus, enhance our academic offerings, and build a strong Algoma University that will attract students, faculty, and economic development to Sault Ste. Marie.

The Essential Elements campaign, chaired by PUC President and CEO, Brian Curran, P. Eng, is well on its way. Our campaign team, supporters, and volunteers have raised over \$2.2 million so far. We have seen support from all sectors of our city and beyond, and are extremely grateful for it. We encourage those of you who have not yet had the opportunity to demonstrate your support for Algoma University to do so. Know that when you support the Essential Elements Campaign you are contributing to the success of an institution that is a key component to the economic and social prosperity of Sault Ste. Marie, and the envy of many cities across this province.

We want to thank everyone who has worked so tirelessly on our behalf, and the community for your continued support. It is an honour and a privilege to serve you, and I look forward to meeting with you as we continue to work towards our goal.

**Andrew Ross**

*Chair, Algoma University Foundation*

## VOLUNTEERS (May 1, 2009 - April 30, 2010)

We are proud to list the following volunteers who have so kindly given of their time and talents. Their dedication and enthusiasm are a vital part of the engine of change and growth that is Algoma University and its Foundation. We thank them for their commitment and support.

### ALGOMA UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

<i>Chair:</i> Brady Irwin	Jamie Caicco	Les Dunbar	Don Mitchell	Christine Sayers
Lisa Bell-Murray	Claudette Chevrier-Cachage	Prof. Dave Galotta	Aideen Nabigon	C. J. Bud Wildman
Lance Adjetej	Dr. Mike de Gagne	Tim Lavoie	Dr. Cheryl Reed-Elder	<i>Ex-Officio</i> - Dr. Celia Ross
Mike Barker	Ray DeRosario	Brian Leahy		

### ALGOMA UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<i>Chair:</i> Andrew Ross	Les Dunbar	Lori Naccarato-Sarlo	Brenda Stenta	<i>Ex-Officio</i> - Vanessa Gastaldo	- Deborah Loosemore
<i>Vice-Chair:</i> Josh Pringle	Nancy Komsa	Greg Peres*	Michael Tulloch*	- Brady Irwin	- Dr. Celia Ross
<i>Treasurer:</i> Anthony Rossi	Mark Lajambe*	Anthony Pucci		- Brian Leahy	- Bud Wildman*
Rob Coleman	Cathy McLelland*	Sheila Purvis-Garson			
Brian Curran*					

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<i>Vice-Chair:</i> Josh Pringle	Chris Coccimiglio	Bruce Lenton*	Joel Tarantini	- Jennifer Perron
<i>Past Chair:</i> Andrew Ross	Les Dunbar	Jennifer Muio	Gannon Vaughan	- Cheryl Suggashie
Sharil Acquin*	Jessica Ferlaino	Cheryl Rancourt*		<i>Ex-Officio</i> - Bev Teller

### ALGOMA U FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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*Vice-Chair:* Andrew Ross  
*Treasurer:* Anthony Rossi  
*Ex-Officio* - Deborah Loosemore  
 - Dr. Celia Ross

### ALGOMA U FOUNDATION FINANCE COMMITTEE

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 Anthony Pucci  
 Gary Wegener  
*Ex-Officio* - Mark Lajambe  
 - Deborah Loosemore  
 - Dr. Celia Ross

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 Andrew Ross  
 Mark Hebert  
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### ALGOMA U FOUNDATION GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

*Chair:* Cathy McLelland\*  
 Rob Coleman  
 Nancy Komsa  
 Andrew Ross  
*Ex-Officio* - Mark Lajambe  
 - Deborah Loosemore

### ALGOMA U FOUNDATION JOHN R. RHODES SCHOLARSHIP DINNER COMMITTEE

<i>Chair:</i> Les Dunbar	Vincent Greco	Rob Wildman
Danny Alessandrini	Joe Krmpotich	Anthony Zappacosta
Rob Cohen	Dave Saunders	<i>Ex-Officio</i> - Deborah Loosemore
Joy Cohen	Michael Tulloch	
Tom Dodds		

\*Resigned or completed term





# ALGOMA UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

## ...Supporting Algoma U Students

[www.algomau.ca](http://www.algomau.ca)

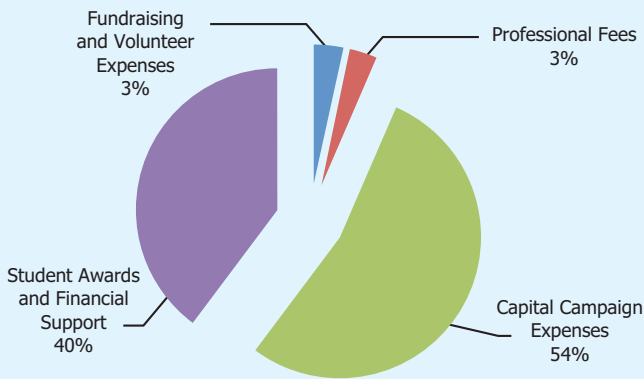
The **Algoma University Foundation**, led by a volunteer Board of Directors, was created in 1981. The role of the Algoma U Foundation is to raise funds to provide scholarships and bursaries to Algoma University students, raise funds for capital improvements to the campus, and fund other special projects.

The Algoma U Foundation exists to support our student's success by raising funds through our annual fund campaign, special events, and gifts to the endowment. Funds raised provide financial awards through our Scholarships & Bursaries program.

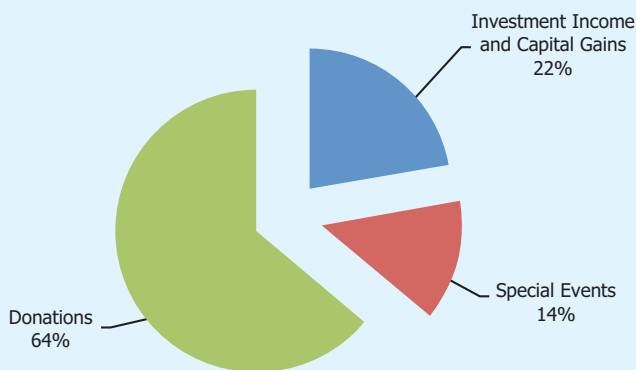
- Scholarships to attract the best and brightest students, recognizing their academic excellence; and
- Bursaries to meet identified needs and ensure that post-secondary education is accessible to students.

The Algoma University Foundation launched a major philanthropic campaign, *ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS: The Campaign for Algoma University*. The goal of the campaign is to build significant support for campus development and growth, research projects, artistic programs and financial support for students.

### Algoma U Foundation 2009-10 Expenses



### Algoma U Foundation 2009-10 Revenue



Led by Brian Curran, P.Eng. and a team of dedicated campaign volunteers, *ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS: The Campaign for Algoma University* will enhance resources and will support the institutional mission.

The *ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS: The Campaign for Algoma University* will raise money to help build two new campus expansion projects, and to establish new scholarship and bursary awards.

These new building projects, one on campus (Biosciences and Technology Convergence Centre - BTCC) and one in the downtown core (Fine Arts and Music Education Centre - FAME), will mean Algoma U students will have the highest quality science, studio and classroom facilities.

Algoma University's scholarship program recognizes academic excellence in new and returning students, improving the learning environment for all students. As Algoma University continues to grow, the endowment must be increased to allow for a generous scholarship and bursary program. Donations to establish endowed scholarships guarantee that awards will be available for students in perpetuity.

The most ambitious development effort in our history, the campaign's priorities respond to the determined vision for what Algoma University will be for future generations. This elemental campaign will help us define our place as a university of international distinction enriching generations of diverse cultures and communities.



**JOHN ROWSWELL, M.Eng, P.Eng, P.E. BURSARY AWARD**



On September 1st, 2010 a sold-out tribute dinner for Mayor John Rowswell celebrating his almost ten years in office raised more than \$65,000 for post-secondary scholarships and bursaries in Sault Ste. Marie. Organizers had hoped that Mayor John himself would attend, but unfortunately Rowswell lost his fight with the cancer that he had battled valiantly for so many years only two days earlier.

Some might say that it was a shame that he missed the theme of the evening, which compared him to another community-builder and visionary, Francis H. Clergue. Others perhaps lamented that he couldn't hear the standing ovations in his honour echoing throughout the Comfort Suites and Conference Centre ballroom that night. Still others may have wished he'd seen the stunning video clips of his community singing his praises, speaking to the enormous positive impact he had on the city; and that his successors would have big shoes to fill. Then, there was his family and close friends, who were quite confident that he hadn't missed a thing. *"He was there – in spirit – there is no question about that,"* said Ted Brooks, one of the 'Cronies' who organized the tribute dinner. *"Frankly, it's like he's still checking in on us – to make sure we follow through on his vision."*

The 'Cronies', a group consisting of Jo-Anne Brideaux Brooks, Ted Brooks, Damon Godfrey, Jim McAuley, Don Mitchell, Wayne Prouse, and Randy Tallon, still meet several times a month to discuss the economic betterment of the Sault. The group got their name from J.J. (Jim) Hilsinger, who was also involved (along with Donna Hilsinger) in organizing the event and directing the nearly 40 minute-long video tribute to the vision of Mayor John.

The 'Cronies' became close friends with Mayor John, back before he was Mayor, when he was 'just' John Rowswell, professional engineer. Fittingly, as an engineer, Rowswell built bridges, and other strong structures that would withstand the test of time.

*"He was bigger than life."* Mitchell said. *"His legacy will always be felt in the dramatic economic diversification of this community, in the multitude of infrastructure projects he brought to fruition, and he'll always be remembered for his untraditional approach, his passion for family, healthcare, and education."* Brooks added *"And now, his legacy will also be in terms of the scholarships for post-secondary education here – he would have liked*

*that. In fact, there was no hesitation about where the proceeds of the tribute dinner would go: they would be split between Sault College and Algoma University."*

With the generous donation-matching programs of the provincial government, the tribute dinner raised more than \$65,000 for Algoma University. With the funds, the university has established the **John Rowswell, M.Eng, P.Eng, P.E. Bursary Award**, providing a \$1,000 award for a second, third or fourth year student(s) studying in a Science related program who graduated from a school in the Algoma District. The Bursary comes at an opportune time, coinciding with the first intake of students for a 4-year Biology program and the opening of the new Biosciences and Technology Converge Centre on campus.

At one convocation ceremony Mayor John told the graduates *"I wish I was your age and graduating with you. You have such a chance at a great future."* Now, Big John Rowswell will be graduating in spirit with a number of students every year through the generous endowment set up by the 'Cronies', made possible by this community's support.



## ALGOMA UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION ENDOWED FUNDS

*Our sincerest appreciation to the thoughtful and generous donors who have established the following endowed bursary funds.*

Alexander M. Ross Bursary	John Rowsell, M.Eng, P.Eng, P.E. Bursary Award
Algoma U Student Humanitarian Award, in memory of Dr. G. E. Mohamed	Judge John Hay McDonald & Mrs. Vera McDonald Memorial Scholarship
Askin Family Bursary	Judge M.G. Gould Student Award
Brookfield Power First Nations Environmental Science Student Award	Katherine Jean Dunster Student Award
Carl J. Sanders Scholarship	Kenneth and Colleen Moodie Scholarship
Dr. Edwin Giesbrecht Mathematics Award	Living Learning Student Assistance Fund
Dr. Jong You Student Award	Métis Nation of Ontario Award
Dr. Ken McLarty Research Award	Paul & Bricken Dalseg, Pioneers of Lake-of-the-Woods Student Award
Dr. Robert Ewing Geography Award	Peggy & Willmont MacDonnell Scholarship
Dr. Robert V. d'Amato Student Award, established by Theatre Algoma	Sar-Gin Developments (Sault) Ltd. Student Award
Edward & Frank McGrath Award	Sault Recreation Hockey Association Fun through Recreation Award
Edward & Frank McGrath Award of Excellence	Scotiabank International Merit Scholarship
Elsie Savoie Fine Arts Award	Scotiabank Student Assistance Fund
Essar Student Award	Shingwauk Anishinaabe Student Association Scholarships
Evan D. Young Memorial Award	Shingwauk Anishinaabe Student Association Student Award
Gerald E. Nori, Q.C. Student Assistance Fund	The Bud & Anne Wildman Scholarship
Gloria Jean Grossett Student Award	The Gloria Cote Memorial Bursary
Great-West Life Student Assistance Fund	The Hogg Family Endowment for the Carolyn Harrington Award
Great-West Life Student Assistance Fund for Indigenous Students	The Peter McGregor Memorial Award
Indigenous Students Assistance Fund	The Very Reverend Meletios Christoforou Scholarship
Johanna Bischoping Award	The William M. Hogg Scholarship
John Deakin Buckley Walton Scholarship	Tulloch Engineering Student Award
John Hayes Jenkinson, B.E.M., Memorial Scholarships in History	USW Local 2251 Student Award, Established by John Kallio
John R. Rhodes Scholarship Fund	Walter Yurechuk Memorial Scholarship

## ALGOMA UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION ENDOWED DONORS

*Our sincerest appreciation to the following individuals who have generously donated to the following endowed bursary funds.*

### *Alexander M. Ross Bursary*

Krista Pearson  
 Alexander M. Ross  
 Sandra Wallenius

### *Algoma U Student Humanitarian Award, in memory of Dr. G. E. Mohamed*

Joyce Mohamed

### *Askin Family Bursary*

Muriel Askin

### *Gerald E. Nori, Q.C. Student Assistance Fund*

Mark Lajambe

### *Katherine Jean Dunster Student Award*

Estate of Katherine Jean Dunster

### *Kenneth and Colleen Moodie Scholarship*

Colleen C. Moodie

### *Living Learning Student Assistance Fund*

Rita & the late Paul Adams

### *The Bud and Anne Wildman Scholarship*

James Agnew  
 Algoma Central Properties Inc.  
 Roland Beauregard  
 Stephen Butland  
 Mickey Contini  
 Corporation of the Township of Laird  
 David de Launay  
 Ray DeRosario  
 Dr. Lou and Mae Lukenda Charitable Foundation  
 Marty Donkervoort  
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 Dr. Robert Ewing  
 Larry French  
 Sharon Graham  
 Carol Hughes  
 Stephanie Levesque  
 Tony & Anna Martin  
 Doug McChesney  
 Dr. Ken McLarty  
 Ann McCutcheon  
 Carol Neave  
 Emily Noble  
 Anne O'Connor  
 Ontario Federation of Labour (CLC)  
 OSSTF - District 2 Algoma  
 Dr. Eric T. Piscopo  
 USW District 6 Political Action Education Fund  
 USW Revolving Fund  
 Grant Wedge  
 C. J. Bud & Anne Wildman

### *The Peter McGregor Memorial Award*

Nancy Butler  
 Malcolm McGregor  
 Matthew McGregor  
 Tessa M. McGregor  
 Teresa G. McGregor  
 Tom J. McGregor  
 Emily Peri  
 Darrell Powell

## 2009 - 2010 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

We take this opportunity to thank the individuals, corporations, businesses, organizations and foundations who donated to the Algoma U Foundation's Annual Campaign in the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

### ALGOMA U FUND

The Algoma U Fund provides funding to Algoma University where it is most needed.

#### President's Circle

*(Donations of \$2,500 - \$4,999)*

Dr. Celia Ross

#### Dean's Circle

*(Donations of \$1,000 - \$2,499)*

Brookfield Renewable Power - Sault Hydro Operations

Mark Lajambe

Deborah Loosemore

Joseph Lucchetti

Peter Nixon

Rotary Club of Sault Ste Marie

Fredrick J. Skeggs

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*(Donations of \$500 - \$999)*

Compass Group Canada

Dr. William Osei

Cheryl Rancourt

The Office Supply House (Sault) Ltd.

Virginia Zinser

Anonymous (2)

#### Builder's Club

*(Donations of \$250 - \$499)*

Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board

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Don B. Mitchell

Krista Pearson

Dr. Harry & Mrs. Frances Sowards

Dr. Tony Sharman

#### Future's Club

*(Donations of \$100 - \$249)*

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James Dalglish

Dr. Fred Griffith

Anna Hamilton

Prof. Jean E. Havel

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Mallory Kent

Elizabeth King

Brent Krmpotich

Dave Marasco

Donald A. McGorman

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Lee S. McMenemy

Dan O'Connor

Kristin O'Shea

Lorie Pitt

Ella Jean Richter

Andrew C. Ross

Michael Young

Anonymous (2)

#### Supporter's Club *(Donations of \$1 - \$99)*

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Algoma University Staff

Karen Barsanti

Terence Bos

Lanie Cerasuolo

Pamela D. Cooper

Sheila Craig-Ricard

Anne Dunn

Cindi Elgie

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Sergio Saccucci

Carmelina R. Spry

Maxene G. Tarchuk

Nancy Watkins

Anne Wildman

Wendy Wilson

Angela Zambusi

Marlene Zuccato

Anonymous (6)

### ARTHUR A. WISHART LIBRARY

Donations to the Arthur A. Wishart Library are used to secure research materials for Algoma U students.

#### Founder's Circle

*(Donations of \$10,000+)*

City of Sault Ste. Marie

#### Friend's Club

*(Donations of \$500 - \$999)*

Nancy & Jim Tibbles

Prof. Deborah Woodman

#### Builder's Club

*(Donations of \$250 - \$499)*

John Willinsky

#### Future's Club

*(Donations of \$100 - \$249)*

Joy Archer

Ken Hernden

Dr. Warren Johnston

Gizella Keppel-Jones

Janice Perry

Carmelina R. Spry

Anonymous (2)

#### Supporter's Club

*(Donations of \$1 - \$99)*

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Sandy Fulcher

Barbara A. McLean

Joyce E. Mertes

Sharon-Rose Mooney

Helen Pereira

Elsie Tyler

Penny Tyrrel

Joan M. Walimaki

Anonymous (3)



### SCHOLARSHIPS & BURSARIES FUND

Donations to the Scholarships & Bursaries fund provides entrance and continuing scholarships, and other financial awards, to Algoma U students.

#### Dean's Circle

*(Donations of \$1,000 - \$2,499)*  
 Michael G. Gekas  
 Kiwanis Club of Sault Ste. Marie

#### Friend's Club

*(Donations of \$500 - \$999)*  
 Karen Doyle  
 Nancy & Jim Tibbles  
 Prof. Deborah Woodman

#### Builder's Club

*(Donations of \$250 - \$499)*  
 Michael Cachagee  
 Ed Hudson  
 Barb Muio  
 Anonymous (1)

#### Future's Club

*(Donations of \$100 - \$249)*  
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 Dr. Nairne Cameron  
 Donna C. Coulter  
 Dr. Joan E. Foley  
 Sue Harnden  
 Prof. Jean E. Havel  
 Bruce A. Holtom  
 Joanne E. Jenney  
 Dr. Warren Johnston  
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 Paul Paquette  
 Krista Pearson  
 Dr. Arthur Perlino  
 Raija Pulkkinen  
 Prof. Terry Ross  
 Navin Shah  
 Penny Tyrrel  
 Emilia Vernelli

#### Supporter's Club *(Donations of \$1 - \$99)*

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 Ivana B. Bruni  
 John M. Burke  
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 Pamela D. Cooper  
 Anna Da Costa  
 John Downs  
 Samuel Fera  
 Anne Ferris  
 Sandy Fulcher  
 Julie Hazelton  
 Muriel Hornby  
 Melba Hyyrylainen  
 Lise Jamieson  
 Judith E. Kearns  
 Shirley A. Kent  
 Craig Kohler  
 Dr. Judi V. Kokis  
 Raquel Lehto  
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 Donna Woldanski  
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 Angela Zambusi  
 Anonymous (4)

### ALGOMA U THUNDERBIRD VARSITY SPORTS PROGRAM

Gifts to the Varsity Sports Program provide uniforms, equipment and travel support to Algoma U's student athletes.

#### T-Bird Team Champion

*(Donations of \$1,000+)*  
 Dr. Celia Ross

#### T-Bird Champion

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 Brian Leahy  
 Anonymous (1)

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### ANNUAL CAMPAIGN NAMED STUDENT AWARDS

We are pleased to recognize the following donors who have provided non-endowed annual scholarship or bursary awards to Algoma U students.

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*(Donations of \$10,000+)*  
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#### Dean's Circle

*(Donations of \$1,000 - \$2,499)*  
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*(Donations of \$500 - \$999)*  
 Jeffery D. Broadbent  
 Business and Professional Women's Club  
 Sault Ste. Marie Zonta Foundation  
 Soo Mill Buildall

### IN MEMORIAM DONATIONS

Donations were made to the Algoma U Foundation to honour the memory of:

Brian Christian    Anna Fratesi    Mary McIntyre    Alexander M. Ross

### GRAD CLASS CAMPAIGN - Class of 2010

Congratulations and thank you to the following members of the Class of 2010 who have chosen to commemorate their graduation from Algoma U with a donation to the Class of 2010 Grad Gift.

Perry Bebamash	Carlo Cerilli	Roy Jourdin	Karen C. Marinich	Jake Reid	Paul L. Sawchyn
Brenda E. Bookman	Laura Didier	Patrick Kent	Francis J. Mishibinijima	Kasey Rosko	Amanda Vernelli
Isaiah Bressan	Jill Driver	Kyna Lannigan	Justin Montanini	MD Abdus Samad	Liam White
Ashley Burgoyne					

**ALGOMA UNIVERSITY CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT ~ June 8, 2009**

Thank you to all of the sponsors, golfers and volunteers who made the 2009 Algoma University Classic Golf Tournament a huge success. Over \$32,500 was raised to support *Algoma University's Scholarships & Bursaries Program*. These funds provide financial awards to qualifying students. The success of the 8th annual Algoma University Classic Golf Tournament has raised \$186,500 to assist post-secondary students with their educational goals. THANK YOU!!!

**Thank You to Our Sponsors**



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*This report acknowledges donations to the Algoma U Foundation for the period of May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010. Donors' names have been listed with their permission. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this report, errors and omissions may occur. Please accept our apologies and bring any errors to the attention of the Advancement and External Relations Department by calling 705-949-2301, ext 4125, so we may correct our records.*





## JEAN MARIE UWIZEYIMANA: A LESSON IN SUCCESS

By: Nadine Robinson

In Dutchess County New York, the acronym WUSC stands for the Wappinger United Soccer Club. For Algoma University grad **Jean Marie Uwizeyimana**, it represents hope and possibility. World University Service of Canada's mission is *"to foster human development and global understanding through education and training."*

WUSC, when paired with a sponsoring university like Algoma University, offers a chance at a better life for refugees fleeing war or persecution. Through WUSC, Algoma U sponsored Jean Marie to study at the University for one year, after which he continued his studies until graduation, and received permanent residency in Canada.

After graduation from the BBA program in 2010, the Finance and Economics grad was accepted in to the Masters in Financial Economics program at the University of Ottawa. Before embarking on his studies, he was offered a federal internship for newcomers. He is currently working at Citizenship and Immigration Canada's Foreign Credentials Referral Office as a Program Officer, and is interested in taking the ten remaining courses he requires to become a Certified General Accountant. *"Those mentoring me have a background in accounting: I've become more interested in pursuing a CGA alongside of work."*

Born in Rwanda, Jean Marie left during the genocide, when he was 15. His family scattered; and he travelled by bus to Kenya where he lived as a refugee for 12 years. *"I wasn't sure if my family was alive or dead."* One camp, where he lived and worked while preparing to come to Canada, housed approximately 95,000 people from many

different countries: *"It was very hard to live there,"* he said of the experience. *"It was just so hot all the time, and living conditions were very difficult."*

After moving to Nairobi, the capital city of Kenya, Jean Marie attended school only when he could afford to, which meant that he didn't graduate from high school until he was 25. It was in Nairobi that Jean Marie started looking into scholarship programs for universities abroad. One NGO told him that he had already missed the sponsorship deadline for most programs, but told him about the WUSC program. *"I'm a lucky person... I was selected as one of five students from 200 in Nairobi... I was sad, but excited to leave Africa because I lived so many years without a hope of success... the day I got my visa was the beginning of success."*

He arrived in Sault Ste. Marie in early September 2006: *"It took me some time to adjust to life in Canada - I only had a brief orientation about Canada and I knew nothing about the Sault. After only three days in the country I started classes, but I didn't complain - at least I didn't arrive in winter."*

When WUSC and Algoma University agreed to sponsor him for one year, he saw it as a stepping stone towards success, and felt indebted. Jean Marie said: *"I had to work so hard when I landed in Canada."* And work hard he did; on graduation he was presented the award of excellence in Finance and Economics, and he received a number of scholarships over his four years of study at the university. When not studying in a quiet corner of the library, he founded the Algoma University African Student Association, was elected as finance commissioner of the Students' Union, and worked on the WUSC awareness committee, including fundraising for them.

Jean Marie was Algoma University's first WUSC student to graduate, and the university continues to sponsor a WUSC student each year. *"I was very happy with the referendum that asked I and was accepted by the students to pay \$5 per year to support the WUSC program - it really changes a person's life."*

From living and working at a refugee camp in Kenya, to working for Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) in Ottawa, Jean Marie Uwizeyimana has definitely altered his life completely in a few short years, and he credits his upbringing, WUSC and Algoma University. *"Africa prepared me to be patient... and to work for success."* Jean Marie said. *"No matter how difficult life may be in Canada, I remind myself that I have had worse days. I know that success doesn't come easy, but whatever I have achieved in Canada and whatever I will achieve, I give thanks to the staff at Algoma U, to WUSC, and to CIC for the federal internship program for newcomers."*

Jean Marie became a Canadian Citizen on May 4th, 2011.

# ALGOMA U HOSTS OCAA TOURNAMENT AT THE ESSAR CENTRE

By: Rick McGee



## belairdirect. OCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

MARCH 2-5, 2011  
ALGOMA UNIVERSITY  
SAULT STE. MARIE

Breakthrough events for emerging institutions like Algoma U sometimes arrive unexpectedly. Such was the case in early March when the university and Sault Ste. Marie hosted the OCAA (Ontario Colleges Athletics Association) men's basketball championship at the Essar Centre.

A compelling scenario unfolded during the tournament opener between Algoma's Thunderbirds and the Sheridan Bruins. Some 4,000 exuberant children filled the arena and rallied behind the home team with super-charged fervour. In the process, they created an electric atmosphere that many people will remember more than the game itself. Repeated chants of "Al-go-ma, Al-go-ma" and a steady rumble of thundersticks cascaded down to the court throughout the two-hour hour contest.

Although Sheridan ultimately prevailed (83-77), the occasion's high-energy buzz sent a message that reached far beyond that particular place and time. It seemed as though the youngsters had instantly reset the university's relationship with its community. Their cheers appeared to proclaim: "This is our university. We're proud of Algoma U and we're here to show it!"

Probably no one appreciated the impact more than Bruno Barban, Algoma's longtime Director of University Services. He had led Algoma U into the OCAA a decade earlier when his responsibilities included Athletics. "The place was full and it was loud," Bruno said proudly when recalling the special ambiance. "It was pretty heart-warming. The kids who came were so enthusiastic. They weren't cheering for their school or the city, per se. They were cheering for their local university."

A onetime member of Mount Allison University's football Mounties, Bruno easily understood the game's significance for the teams involved. "When I was in university, there were really only a couple of games that you played in that were momentous games that just happen once in a lifetime. And that's the way I felt for those players. They'll remember that forever. That was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

Although disappointed that his team's season ended sooner than hoped, graduating Thunderbird Patrick Murray valued what the circumstances offered.

"It was a good way to go out, I guess," he said thoughtfully. "It was a pretty exciting time. It made it a lot more fun. There was a lot of noise. It was nice to see all those little kids having a good time. A lot of them came up to me after and said how much fun they had in the stands and stuff. It's nice to see it from that perspective, too."

"I would rather have had the game go the other way, but it means a little bit when a kid comes up says how much fun they had. It makes you feel good to hear that from them."

A veteran teammate shared similar views. "It was good for the city, good for the kids and good for Algoma U," said Dele Oworu, noting the game probably drew the Sault's largest-ever turnout for basketball. "The kids gave us an advantage at the start. It took me a few minutes to get used to the crowd and the building."

Two first-year Thunderbirds also described their responses to the game's amped-up vibes. "We played off the fans," said David Oduro. "The kids gave us a lot of energy. It was a bigger atmosphere than usual." While acknowledging some nervousness, Andrew Gini added: "I think the crowd helped us. I had never played in front of that many people before."

Also vying for OCAA honours and a trip to Canada's national tournament were the Algonquin Thunder, Durham Lords, Fanshawe Falcons, Humber Hawks, Niagara Knights, Seneca Sting and Sheridan Bruins. Even before venturing north, Sheridan Head Coach (and Athletic Director) Jim Flack had anticipated playing as visitors in a challenging environment. "All week long, I kept telling the guys: 'Even if we lose, we can't lose,'" he noted after the victory. "[Given] the OCAA and basketball in Canada, they don't get to play in these environments. Even if you lose, you're going to look back and say, 'Yeah, that was a great experience.' They'll never forget this. The fact that you won it, you know, it's not irrelevant. But really, the fact that you won probably won't be what they talk about in 5, 10 or 15 years. They'll talk about how huge it was to play in an arena and the fact that they won is just a bonus. It was a great experience for them. Everything was perfect - A-plus."

As things turned out, the tournament lid-lifter had launched a highly successful three-day showcase carefully planned and staged under the leadership of Algoma University Athletic Director Mark Kontulainen. Players, coaches and officials from far and near unanimously commended all concerned for delivering a top-notch event.





"Mark Kontulainen and his hosting team have done an excellent job," said Blair Webster, the OCAA's Executive Director before the title game. "The set-up and the venue have been first-class. From an athlete's standpoint, you couldn't ask for a better venue to play in. The first game was just a great atmosphere all around."

"From the OCAA's perspective, I think it's been a fantastic week. It's been a great experience for the student-athlete. We'd like to thank Mark and his hosting committee for doing a wonderful job from the opening banquet [at the Marconi Club] right through to the closing games. It's been just a great experience for everybody."

Even after a tough loss, three Algonquin players enthusiastically echoed those sentiments. "The venue is amazing," said Abdul Kosar, playing in his third provincial championship. "It's [the tournament] very well organized and probably the best I've been to. We knew this was a hockey city, but I've really been impressed by the basketball support. We're really impressed. It's a beautiful city."

Teammate Chris Mooney commented: "It's a great atmosphere to play in. It's a great experience for me - I've never played in an arena like this. The hotel [Delta] is great, being near everything and right beside the mall. It's been a fun experience and I'm glad I'm here." Jesse Duoda added: "The city is great. I've never been to Sault Ste. Marie before. Everywhere we went people were friendly."

Michael Acheampong, a Humber veteran from Toronto who was ultimately named the tournament's most valuable player, felt the same way. "We love the facilities and the venue," he said after advancing to the semi-finals. "We love staying at the Delta and the community has been very welcoming to us, especially when we're going through the malls and stuff. There are really nice people here."

The setting and format drew more praise from Durham's Head Coach, Desmond Rowley. "They [committee members] did a very good job organizing it. It's a really nice venue. It's a good opportunity for the kids to play in an environment that's kind of NCAA-like [the National Collegiate Athletic Association governs sports at many American institutions]. They did a number one job up here. I just wish we would have played better."

Right after Humber topped Sheridan 66-59 in the title game, Thomas Cory, Head Coach of the Thunderbirds, highlighted benefits extending in many directions. "It was a great weekend of basketball for our league and for our community to be a part of. I think the kids had a great time here. Our first game was very exciting. The kids will take away an experience that will last a lifetime. Even though we didn't get the result we wanted, we competed and we left with our heads held high. It just shows how good the calibre of basketball is in our league."

Following the presentation of tournament medals and awards, Tom Mauro, Algoma's Director of Ancillary Sales & Operations, recalled the time 18 months earlier when Mark and Thomas first presented their vision of bringing the tournament to the Essar Centre.

"Mark put together a very hard-working organizing committee whose members had strengths in various areas," Mauro said. "They put the energy and work behind it, and the next thing you know we've got 4,000 screaming kids in this facility. That made things a lot more fun for everyone. Mark and Thomas deserve a lot of credit, as do dozens of volunteers. It was their idea and they pulled it off."

For his part, the event's happy head organizer looked both back and ahead after the final buzzer had sounded. "We sincerely appreciate the efforts of our volunteers and those who supported the tournament in other ways," Mark said. "With this success behind us, we will be preparing a bid to host the national tournament at some point in the near future."





# ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS: *The Campaign for Algoma University*

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
\$2 MILLION

Supporting and creating opportunities for education, research and development in the fields of science and technology

## ALGOMA'S NEW BUILDING GREENEST THERE IS

By: Rick McGee



Becoming the home of Sault Ste. Marie's greenest building accentuates Algoma University's twin commitments to environmental stewardship and community development.

The new \$21.4 million Biosciences and Technology Convergence Centre blends expanded science programming with research and commercialization activities. Anchored by the Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre, the structure also houses Algoma Games for Health, the Health Informatics Institute and the Invasive Species Research Institute.

Algoma students will gain from opportunities to participate in related academic research and the commercialization of new technologies.

Described as a "symbol of change," the project was designed to achieve Gold certification under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building rating system. It promotes the global adoption of sustainable building and development practices to ensure high-performance green buildings. LEED emphasizes sustainable site development, water and energy efficiency, material selection and indoor environmental quality.

Impressive LEED-related results emerged during the construction. Bruno Barban, Algoma's Director of University Services, described one example of effective materials use and recycling. "During the first 18 months, there were no garbage bins sent to the municipal landfill. That's a huge accomplishment. There's (normally) a lot of waste at construction sites."

Prudent site selection encourages eco-friendly transportation choices. Building occupants enjoy easy access to municipal transit service, pedestrian walkways and the city's 24-km Hub Trail system, which prohibits motorized vehicles. Other cyclist-friendly amenities include covered bike storage and change rooms with showers.

Drivers of electric vehicles will receive free charging and reduced parking rates. Incentives for carpooling are to be offered, too.

Other sustainability-focused building features include an HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) system operating at 96 per cent efficiency and extensive natural lighting that combines with low-draw fluorescent bulbs. Widespread use of natural floor coverings, wood and glass also contributes significantly.

Perhaps most impressive, though, is the project's management of storm and ground water. Contaminated runoff from the new building's roof, surrounding areas and roadways isn't channeled into the municipal sewer system for conveyance to the nearby St. Marys River. Instead, the dirty water goes into holding ponds where it is gradually filtered for natural rehydration back into the aquifer. This approach supports Great Lakes remediation while also providing recycled water for campus irrigation.

Barban says the impetus for going green originated at the top. "It was a requirement that the Board of Governors gave us. They felt as a university we should be setting the standard for the community."

Former Board Chair Brady Irwin added: "Green energy and a university education are two of the best bets for our future. It seems like an excellent next step for Algoma University to go green. Algoma University fully supports efforts of our city, province and country to be world leaders in green energy. As AU has grown, we have added new programs, including exciting new offerings in the sciences. Our new Biosciences building is a healthy reminder that we are not the same university that we were 20 or even 10 years ago -- Algoma University has never been more ready to meet the needs of our students and the communities we serve."

In conjunction with the Biosciences and Technology Convergence Centre's completion this spring, Algoma U is installing alternative energy solar panels on the roof of the George Leach Centre. The clean energy produced will be sold back to the grid to offset the university's electrical costs and provide environmentally friendly energy to the community.



# ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS:

## *The Campaign for Algoma University*

Supporting fine arts and music education, centered in the new Fine Arts and Music Education Centre.

ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL  
ENDEAVOURS  
\$1.5 MILLION

### MARGUERITE GRIFFITH

By: Rick McGee

A talented singing teacher whose gifts benefited both students and the larger community will be honoured in Algoma University's new Fine Arts and Music Education (FAME) Centre.

The Marguerite Griffith Wing will remember a vibrant human being who exuded "joie de vivre" at every turn. The Marguerite Griffith Fund (see insert) supports the initiative and a formal naming ceremony is being planned.

Marguerite grew up singing in New Brunswick. She and a sibling gained widespread attention across eastern North America as the LeBlanc Sisters. Their exceptional voices carried them all the way to performances on CBC radio's national network.

Marguerite pursued music studies at l'École Vincent-d'Indy in Montreal. Following graduation, she taught at Collège Notre Dame d'Acadie in Moncton and later in Montréal, where she met her future husband, Fred Griffith.

By 1959 the Griffiths had moved into a new Shannon Road home where Marguerite began providing music lessons. In 1972 she joined the recently established Algoma Conservatory of Music. During the 24 years she taught, Marguerite's pupils won the Kiwanis Music Festival Shield a record 12 times.

Marguerite helped to found The Musical Comedy Guild and was involved in the Sault Opera Society, the Sault Symphony Orchestra, the Algoma Fall

Festival and many on-campus productions at the university.

In 1996 she received the City's Medal of Merit for contributions to the arts.

Fred believes his late wife would have been excited about the FAME Centre, located in the former Windsor Park Retirement Residence.

"She would have been in the centre of things, not for anything personal but because the community needed it. When she was teaching in the portables, there wasn't even running water. If you wanted anything in the wintertime, you had to put on a hat and coat and go over to the main building. There was no soundproofing and the heat was iffy. To go from that sort of thing into a specifically designed facility . . . well, she would have been working her heart out for it."



Besides FAME's immediate benefits to students, Fred emphasizes the importance of adding "to the fabric of this community if we want to attract and hold all sorts of professional people. That's not to say it's only the professionals who can enjoy the facility by any means."

He also noted the pluses of being in the downtown core near cultural amenities such as the Art Gallery of Algoma and private galleries, while also providing an economic boost for the area.



## CLASS OF 2007



## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

**Adam Carpenter** BBA 2007 (Accounting) and Amanda Morrar were married in August 2010. Adam Carpenter, CMA, an Accountant with Algoma Central Properties in Sault Ste. Marie achieved his Certified Management Accountant designation in August 2009. Adam serves as a member of the Algoma University Alumni Council and is an active member of the Ontario Association of Basketball Officials, officiating in the highschool basketball league.



Adam &amp; Amanda Carpenter

**Nicole (Leed) Muskaluk**, BBA (Economics/Marketing) 2007 didn't leave the halls of Algoma U for very long. After completing a four month contract at Great Lakes Forestry Centre working as a Communications Assistant, Nicole accepted the first of many contracts working at her alma mater and is currently working as the Manager of Financial Aid & Awards. In her spare time, Nicole is busy completing a certificate in Human Resource Management, working on home renovation projects with her husband Joel and raising their new puppy.

**Franca Pace**, BBA 2007 (Accounting) successfully achieved her C.A. (Certified Accountant) designation in 2008. Franca is an Audit Specialist in the Internal Audit Department of Ontario Lottery & Gaming. Franca and her fiancée, Frank Gallo, will be married in October 2011.

**Scott Seabrook**, BA 2007 (Accounting) began working at Great Lakes Power Transmission as a co-op student, while a student at Algoma U. After graduating he was hired full-time by GLP and in the spring of 2009 was promoted to the position of Controller. Scott enrolled in the Certified Management Accountants program, successfully completing the program and earning his CMA designation in 2010. A long time curling enthusiast, Scott and his Northern Ontario teammates, Brad Jacobs, E.J. Harnden and Ryan Harnden, made us all proud in their showing at the 2011 Tim Horton's Brier.

**Jennifer Muio**, BBA, 2007 (Marketing) has a cool job. As the Marketing & Events Assistant at the Essar Centre in Sault Ste. Marie, Jennifer has the enviable job of being part of a team involved in bringing entertainment, major conventions and sporting events to Sault Ste. Marie. She also manages and schedules ice time for all Community Centres and acts as the secretary on the Hockey Hall of Fame Selection Committee. Jennifer stays connected to her alma mater as a member of the Algoma U Alumni Council and was an active member on the 2011 OCAA (Ontario College Athletic Association) Men's Basketball Tournament Committee, hosted by Algoma University.

**Jesse Plaunte**, BBA 2007 (Information Technology) After graduating from Algoma U, Jesse worked as an IT Intern for Ontario Lottery & Gaming, a position he held for 2 years. He later accepted a position with Northern Credit Union, as an Internal Auditor and works in their newly built head office located in Sault Ste Marie.

**Jamie Coccimiglio**, BBA (Marketing) 2007 and Laura D'Ulisse were married on February 19, 2011. The couple recently purchased their first home and are enjoying their busy lives. Jamie is a Real Estate Agent with EXIT Realty in Sault Ste. Marie. He credits Algoma University with providing him with a strong marketing background, skills that he uses everyday in his profession.

**Brent Krmpotich**, BA 2007 (Economics) enjoyed his time at Algoma U so much as a student that he jumped at the opportunity to become a member of the Recruitment Team, promoting Algoma University to other university bound students. His involvement with student recruitment has taken him around the province, and around the world promoting the benefits and experience of studying at Algoma University. Brent, the newly appointed Director of Student Recruitment, says that he enjoys working at Algoma University as much as he enjoyed being a student here. An active cyclist and skier, Brent also serves as a member of the Searchmont Resort and Sault Cycling Club Board of Directors.

**Justin Tetreault**, BA 2007 (Law & Justice/Political Science) continued his studies, graduating in the spring of 2010 with a Juris Doctor (J.D.) from the University of Toronto. Following the first year of law school, Justin spent the summer at the National Hockey League Players' Association working on salary arbitration cases. Justin articulated with Shields O'Donnell MacKillop LLP and was called to the bar in June 2011.

**Laura (Saari) Caswell**, BA 2007 (Fine Arts Studies) married Jason Caswell. After graduating from Algoma U, Laura went on to Nippissing University where she graduated with a B.Ed in 2008. She began teaching french language and fine arts in September 2008 at Huron Superior Catholic District School Board in Sault Ste. Marie.

**Let us know where life has taken you since you graduated from Algoma U.**

**Please contact:** Bev Teller, CFRE, Alumni & Development Officer at [bev.teller@algomau.ca](mailto:bev.teller@algomau.ca) or by telephone at: 705-949-2301, ext. 4125  
*You could be part of the next "Class of..." update.*



## KEEPING IN TOUCH - A MESSAGE FROM THE ALUMNI OFFICE



**Bev Teller, CFRE,**  
*Alumni & Development Officer*

As we welcome another class of graduates into the alumni family it is a fitting time to acknowledge the important and rewarding role that alumni have in the future of Algoma University. For people who were actively involved on campus during their time as students, the opportunity to continue to be involved as alumni is a natural transition. For others who have been away for a period of time, the opportunity to reconnect with their alma mater and the people who played such an important role in their life is both appealing and a satisfying experience.

I have enjoyed the unique pleasure of meeting and working with people who have such a passion for Algoma U and want to see the university prosper and grow. Whether your interest is in serving on the Alumni Council, representing the interests of all alumni, participating on a committee, or using your time and talent to help out with events throughout the year, there is a place for you.

Ultimately the greatest satisfaction in life is being able to help others. As alumni, you help to shape the future of Algoma University and contribute the success of our students today and well into the future. Contact me and I would be happy to explore opportunities for you to become involved.

For more information, contact **Bev Teller, CFRE, Alumni & Development Officer** at 705-949-2301, ext. 4125 or by e-mail at: [bev.teller@algomau.ca](mailto:bev.teller@algomau.ca)



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For information on how you can leave your legacy, and possibly receive considerable tax benefits, please complete the following form and return it to:

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Alumni & Development Officer  
Algoma University  
1520 Queen St, E,  
Sault Ste Marie, ON P6A 2G4  
Ph: (705) 949-2301, Ext. 4125

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- A residual bequest allows you to direct all or a percentage of the remaining estate to Algoma University, after debts and other bequests have been paid.
- You may choose to make a specific bequest to Algoma University. Bequests can also be made in the form of stocks.
- A contingent bequest is a gift that is left to a secondary beneficiary. If the

Your will is an important legal document that allows you to continue to care for the people, causes and interests that have mattered most to you during your lifetime. A bequest to Algoma University will provide acknowledgement of the importance you have placed on post-secondary education. Your memory will live on in perpetuity through your gift and will help students in years to come.

Please provide me with information on making a planned gift to Algoma University through:

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- I have already included Algoma University in my estate planning and/or will.

*Algoma University encourages you to explore the options that best suit your personal philanthropic goals. The information provided will outline the benefits of making a planned gift to Algoma University. We strongly recommend that you consult with your financial and/or legal advisor prior to making your gift to determine specific tax advantages and requirements.*

**ALGOMA**  
university



## DR. NICOLA SHAW: BRINGING HEALTH RESEARCH TO THE PEOPLE

By: Algoma U Staff

Standing just shy of six feet, **Dr. Nicola Shaw** has research aspirations as lofty as she is tall, and Algoma University couldn't be happier. On July 1, 2010, Shaw was appointed as the Health Informatics Research Chair and Scientific Director for the Health Informatics Institute at the university.

The Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation, ESRI Canada and Algoma University funded the position for five years, allowing Shaw to facilitate significant local, national and international research and collaboration in health informatics.

*"Health Informatics, for me, has the goal of affecting healthcare and health outcomes, doing real things for real people at both the policy and practical level."* Shaw said. *"The Sault is small enough to do both at the same time."*

Hailing from the iCare at the University of Alberta, where she was named the first Research Chair of Health Informatics in Western Canada, Shaw's fundamental research interest is in the use of informatics to improve patient care and clinical effectiveness.

*"The Sault is a unique place, a bit of a researcher's dream really, with defined geographic boundaries,"* commented Shaw. *"The research we do here will help us to learn what is really going on, without confounding influences... allowing us to potentially become a model for affecting change in other communities as well."*

Shaw was looking for an opportunity to 'actually change things' having been used to big cities, big universities, and big bureaucracy. She also wanted her daughter, Shanaz, to have a similar upbringing to her own, within a smaller, tight knit community, but never dreamed she would be able to find challenging work in that context, until she found Algoma U.

*"Sault Ste. Marie has been extremely welcoming, and this is fast becoming home for us."* Shaw said, noting that their household has grown since arriving, with the addition of a golden retriever puppy, a cat and a fish. Soon, Shaw's mother will also be moving in, coming from England to study Anishinaabemowin at Algoma University.



Dr. Shaw originally became interested in Health Informatics as she's been in and out of the healthcare system all of her life. She has a rare condition called Oestrogenesis Imperfecta which makes her bones extremely brittle. *"Patients want better care, and many of us want more control over our own care and health information."* Shaw said.

Her daughter, facing a different medical condition, is also in a position where Health Informatics could help her quality of care. *"As an adopted child, we didn't have her medical history... I hope that the kind of research we are doing here will help her get the right care at the right time and allow her to be an active partner in the discussion about her health."*

Shaw brought a number of research projects with her, including a portion of the BETTER project, a longitudinal project covering Alberta and Ontario, studying the use of electronic medical records to prevent chronic disease. *"Electronic medical records could pick up repeated incidents and patterns - high blood pressure, increasing weight - things that if you saw the same doctor they would have been able to identify."* Shaw said. *"We don't have the perfect scenario of enough doctors, so EMR could make a big difference to patients and their well-being."*

Another program, currently under funding review, looks at childhood obesity issues from a community perspective. *"If we are successful, we could actually change the trajectory of the future of a few thousand children... and that would be exciting,"* Shaw said. *"This type of work attracted me here... getting communities involved in changing things for themselves, and using health informatics as a way of supporting positive change is nirvana!"*

Dr. Shaw holds a number of certifications, including the Registrant Level 3 (Highest) of the UK Council for Health Informatics Professionals (UKCHIP). She is an Expert Advisor to Canada's Health Infoway and her published work includes two books on technology in primary care. Dr. Shaw received her Post-Graduate Certification in Health Research Methods at the University of Central Lancashire, UK 2001 and a PhD Health Informatics (University of Central Lancashire in collaboration with Oxford University Postgraduate Medical Education & Training, UK) in 1997. She currently holds over \$11 million in research funding.

For more information on the Health Informatics Institute go to: [www.hiiau.ca](http://www.hiiau.ca)



# ALGOMA U MULTICULTURAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES DIVERSITY

By: Melanie Nolan

Members of the **Algoma Multicultural Student Association (AMSA)** may come from diverse backgrounds, but they all have a common goal in mind—to promote awareness of multiple cultures and religions on campus through a variety of cultural and religious events.

AMSA president Jessica Jang says the club provides students with a great opportunity to meet people from all over the globe and learn about their culture, religion and society.

*“It gives you a greater perspective on what is going on in the world from a smaller city like Sault Ste. Marie.”*

The group’s seven-person executive and members, represent a variety of countries including India, Italy, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Japan, Egypt, China, Nigeria, Ghana, and Palestine.

The club enables students to learn first-hand about other cultures and their traditions, food, cultural garments and languages.

*“Students get opportunities to try different foods that are not available in this community,”* says Jessica. *“All of our food is authentic, made from family recipes. The club also gives students a chance to learn a few words in another language.”*

This year, the group decided to launch an annual AMSA Night Dinner. The event’s goal was to include foods from all of the cultures represented at Algoma University.

*“Usually, depending on the event, we have one culture represented at a time,”* explains Jessica. *“For AMSA Night, we had the Japanese students cooking sushi while the Indian students cooked yellow rice. It was great to see us all working together at the same time.”*

Jessica, who was born and raised in Toronto and whose background is South Korean, started at Algoma U in September 2009. She chose Algoma U because it is a smaller school, offering many opportunities for involvement.

*“Attending a smaller school allows you to receive one-on-one help from professors and there are more chances to participate in school activities,”* says Jessica. *“When I decided to come to Algoma U, I knew that I was going to be involved, but to be a Residence Advisor and a part of the Algoma University newspaper, the finance committee, the Powder Puff football team, and AMSA in just the first two years of university was more than I expected.”*

Jessica first became interested in AMSA when she attended the Diwali Dinner in celebration of the Festival of Lights in 2010. She started attending other AMSA events and decided to get more involved in the club as she learned more about it.

*“Coming from a multicultural city like Toronto, I felt like different ethnic cultures and religions were not very well represented at the school,”* says Jessica. *“After attending many of the AMSA events, not only did I feel like it was an educational experience, but also a necessary one.”*

Jessica wanted to contribute to help make AMSA events bigger and better. She began her term as AMSA president in May 2010. She enjoys the fact that AMSA is not a closed club—any student can be a member. The group encourages all students to get involved and attend events. AMSA has also partnered with the other cultural associations in the school, such as the African Association and the Muslim Association.

Jessica is working towards a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics and plans to graduate in 2013. She says she would definitely recommend Algoma University to others.

*“After living in residence and being around campus, I feel like I have met many friends that I can keep for a lifetime. Because the school is smaller, you really get to know people here on a more personal level instead of just being acquaintances.”*

All alumni are invited to attend AMSA’s events throughout the year to celebrate how culturally diverse Algoma University has become!







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