



“Happy 40th anniversary to the U of C and the Alumni Association! It is truly amazing where the university has gone over the past 40 years — there is an incredible momentum.”

— Tamara McCarron



Tamara L. McCarron, President
U of C Alumni Association

THE UoC • THIS IS NOW

our message

Happy 40th anniversary to the U of C and the Alumni Association! As I take a moment to reflect on where the university has gone over the past 40 years, it is truly amazing. There is incredible momentum around the new initiatives at the University of Calgary and we see that same momentum echoed in the accomplishments of our alumni. We have all contributed to the success of the university and their achievements are a result of the excellent work that we, as alumni, do every day. I know firsthand the pride that we as alumni feel towards the success of the university and this past year has truly raised the bar.

This year we kicked off our 40th anniversary celebrations by honouring 40 of our top alumni. From astronauts to international peacekeepers and CEOs to political leaders, there are more than 120,000 graduates in the U of C alumni family. It was a difficult task to choose just 40. The chosen nominees, we believe, have attained outstanding achievements professionally and personally — alumni who have raised the profile of the University of Calgary and are committed to the university's vision and success.

As a gift to our students, the Alumni Association gave a significant gift to the university to support the "Take Your Place" project that is part of the University of Calgary's 40th anniversary celebrations. To mark this milestone, spaces on campus used by students will be upgraded and renovated to be made more comfortable, functional and appealing. Spaces will include a wide variety of meeting areas, social gathering spaces, residence lounges and study areas.

Our **Arch Awards** winners just keep getting better! This year Mary-Wynne Ashford received our Distinguished Alumni Award while Curtis Myden received our Graduate of the Last Decade Award. Mary-Wynne's accomplishments are nothing short of inspiring – a passionate advocate for nuclear disarmament, key note speaker and author, she is a spectacular choice for the Distinguished Alumni Award. Curtis' performance on Canada's swim team earned him three Olympic medals and this past May, he graduated with his medical degree and began his orthopedic residency.

Our scholarship and bursary dinner was another huge success. This past year we awarded 37 scholarships and bursaries to a number of students from different faculties. To celebrate the 40th anniversary of the University we hope to increase the number of annual bursaries we award and plan to work with the development office to increase our annual fund.

In addition, the Association is working with the University on the **Urban Campus** and **Digital Library** projects. These are both exciting and we are happy to be involved. The upcoming year proves to be just as exciting as the past. On behalf of the board of directors, I wish you and your families a wonderful year and I look forward to connecting with you at some of our anniversary celebrations.

Tamara L. McCarron, BSc, MBA
President, U of C Alumni Association

our work

Outreach Committee

Supporting current students in their educational pursuits and helping to ensure students have fulfilling university experiences.

- Provided \$5,900 in funding to student clubs for their events including: the Hidden Insanity Theatre for their "Prisoner's Dilemma" production, Women in Science and Engineering for their 15th Anniversary video production, Indian Students Association for their Celebration of India Day, Trumpet Students Society for their annual guest artist performance, Calgary Chinese Students Scholars Association for their Spring Festival Gala, Speech and Debate Club for their annual High School Debate tournament and the U of C Medical Students for their annual Med Show.

- Sponsored a \$2,500 prize during U of C 101, which had students using the knowledge they had just learned about U of C and racing around campus on a scavenger hunt, followed by a BBQ at the Dino's game that afternoon.
- Supported leadership development for our Undergraduate students through the Student Life office by supporting a number of leadership program, including the inaugural Project Serve Canada project that rehabilitated a day care for families in need during reading week.
- Supported our graduate students during their new student orientation days
- Worked to support our students and volunteers during convocation by acting as guides and by providing food and beverages during the ceremony.
- Celebrated our students during exam week by offering "A Perk You Deserve" which supplies complimentary coffee and beverages in the new wireless café in MacEwan Hall.
- Participated in a number of campus and public events by suiting in our Dino costumes.



Chapters and Branches Committee

Working to strengthen the relationship between the Alumni Association and the faculties.

- We continued to contact faculties and met with a number of them to promote the benefits of forming a faculty or department-specific Chapter or Branch of the Alumni Association. The Faculties of Education and Computer Science formed new Chapters. Schulich School of Engineering established a new Chapter in Hong Kong.
- We provided over \$22,000 in funding for a number of alumni functions that were targeted to encourage the formation of new Chapters and Branches or to increase the membership and profile of existing Chapters and Branches. Faculties supported included: Schulich School of Engineering, Nursing, Computer Science, Kinesiology, Haskayne School of Business, Education, Humanities and Fine Arts. We also supported the 40th Annual Colour Night for the Student Union and their past Executive members.
- The Committee continued to develop tools to assist our Chapters and Branches such as the Chapter Manual and the Event Planning Guide.

Strategy Committee

Working to align the Alumni Association with the university and to strengthen our relationships with our constituents internally and externally.

- Members of the Strategy committee have played a key role in the development of the organizational design of the Alumni Association. This process is still continuing.
- Recent agreements between the Association and the university administration have clarified our working relationship. Discussions held in Strategy meetings have centered around our funding activities for current projects, like Take Your Place, Urban Campus, and the Campus Calgary Digital Library (CCDL). The development of physical space in the Urban Campus, as well as a presence in the CCDL, we believe, will serve the needs of our alumni close to campus, as well as our alumni in the downtown core.
- Work has been done by Strategy committee members to ensure that financial aid to students is meaningful. Research has shown us new areas of possible investment, including additional graduate student awards. In addition, at least \$150,000 will be added to our current endowments in the next year. This will hopefully be the beginning of what will become regular contributions in an effort to increase our award amounts to levels that are more meaningful for today's students.

Leadership Committee

Managing the recruiting, orientation, mentoring, and inventory of alumni volunteers.

- Working in conjunction with other committee chairs, we found and placed volunteers for alumni sponsored events, such as U of C 101 and Campus Fair.
- We began to catalogue our alumni volunteers to better track their involvement and to ensure they are given the opportunity to volunteer in the many rewarding things we do.
- We helped to fill positions within the Alumni Association's board of directors and other university committees, including senior administration review and/or search committees, the Senate, and the Board of Governors.

As a gift to our students, the Alumni Association gave a significant gift to the university to support the "Take Your Place" project that is part of the University of Calgary's 40th anniversary celebrations.

Also, to celebrate the 40th birthday of the University, we hope to increase the number of annual bursaries we award and plan to work with the development office to increase our annual fund.



our alumni

The Alumni Association was also busy recognizing alumni and students. On June 5, we honoured two more outstanding alumni through the **Arch Awards**. The Distinguished Alumni Award went to Mary-Wynne Ashford, a physician and president of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War. Curtis Myden was the recipient of the Graduate of the Last Decade (GOLD) Award this year. Curtis is a three-time Olympic bronze-medalist in swimming, and has just completed his medical degree this spring, specializing in orthopedics.

For the second time, we hosted our **AGM** during last year's **Campus Fair**, which brings more than 7,000 people (more than half of them alumni) to campus. We again participated in the **Husky Dino Cup**, offering a great package of prizes to an alumnus watching the tournament. The Alumni Association was also a proud sponsor of the CIS National Women's Volleyball Championship in April.

In conjunction with the **University's 40th Anniversary**, we honoured our **'Top 40 Alumni'** at a reception prior to the event. Twenty-seven of these honourees attended, some from as far away as Switzerland. As well, the Alumni Association supported the first and largest of the spaces of the **'Take Your Place'** renovation program for student-chosen areas around campus. The new hallway in the Social Sciences Tower is something to see!

our ways to give back

- More than \$701,000 was received over the course of the year from 5,463 alumni donors. This amount also includes matching gifts from employers. Those dollars will be going to support Alumni Association scholarships and bursaries, the graduate scholarship endowment, the library endowment, and specific faculty-based campaigns for Schulich School of Engineering, Haskayne School of Business, kinesiology, law, medicine, nursing, science/ Gallagher Library, education, humanities, environmental science, and social sciences.
- It was the Alumni Fund's fourth record-breaking year in a row; an additional \$4,452,911 was approximately raised from alumni outside of the Alumni Fund program.
- We celebrated student scholarship/bursary recipients and donors at the annual recognition dinner in February 2006. Nearly \$107,000 was given to current students, and over this next year the endowment from which these awards are given will grow to more than \$2 million. A special video was shown that showed the impact these awards make in the lives of students.

The Alumni Association is the voice of more than 115,000 alumni, and we're looking for another exciting year full of change, challenges, and rewards. To keep up to date or learn more about alumni activities and the association's services, please visit our Web site. www.alumni.ucalgary.ca

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In Memoriam

Helen Lonvik was a long-time dedicated member of the Alumni Association Board, who passed away January, 2006 from a battle with cancer. Her commitment and dedication will be missed by all who knew her.

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