



# Window on Woodsworth



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*The Newsletter for  
alumni and friends of  
Woodsworth College -  
University of Toronto*

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## Planned Giving at its Finest

**B**arbara Warren established the John and Florence Warren Scholarship in honour of her parents. It recognizes their achievements and leaves a legacy for Woodworth students.

It was after reading an article about the Millie Rotman Shime Academic Bridging Program in an issue of *Window on Woodsworth* that Barbara knew that students in this program were exactly the type of students she wanted to support. Having graduated with a certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages from Woodsworth in 2000, Barbara already knew about the College and the tenets upon which it had been founded. She liked the fact that non-traditional and part-time students were a focus of the College.

After hearing her parents' stories about going to school, Barbara realized how easily her education came to her. Her mother, Florence, had always wanted to go to school but family circumstances were such that she had to go to work as a teenager, and was not able to complete high school. But, being determined, Florence went to school at night to get her high school equivalency, while working during the day as a house-maid. Barbara remembers her mother telling her how she would get up at 5 in the morning to work, go to school at night, and then fall asleep over her books studying when she got home. Florence received her B.A. at age 73, after several years of part-time studies. Barbara found her mother's story inspiring, and thought that she would not have had the determination to accomplish what her mother did.

Barbara's father, John, had his education interrupted by the Second World War, during which he served in the Canadian Army. When the war ended, John was able to take advantage of a program established for veterans, and attended the Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Toronto. He graduated in 1947. Had it not been for this special opportunity, John would not have been able to attend university.

After deciding to recognize her parents' efforts to gain an education by establishing a scholarship in their names, Barbara contacted the Faculty of Pharmacy, but the fit wasn't right. She then contacted the Advancement Office at Woodsworth. She met with Barbara Track and Cheryl Shook, Registrar of Woodsworth. Many different options were discussed. It was suggested that she establish and endow the award now, so that her mother could have the opportunity to meet some of the recipients. Barbara thought that was a great idea.

A meeting was set up with a member of the Gift Planning office, Sophia Dunkley. Over a period of a few months, they determined how Barbara could do what she wanted to do and benefit from a tax perspective. The bulk of the funds for the endowment will come through a bequest. However, Barbara donated stocks to establish the award now and received a 100% tax benefit.

Barbara works as a senior manager, Indirect Tax at KPMG LLP. The firm has a matching program where they will match up to \$1,000 per year. Barbara contributes annually to the award, and the matching funds from KPMG go directly to the student. It is a win-win situation.

Barbara feels very gratified by her decision to recognize and honour her parents in this very meaningful way. If you would like more information on how you could do the same, please contact Barbara Track, Executive Director: Advancement, Alumni & Communications 416-978-4197 or [barbara.track@utoronto.ca](mailto:barbara.track@utoronto.ca) or Michelle Osborne, Director, Gift Planning 416-978-3811 or [michelle.osborne@utoronto.ca](mailto:michelle.osborne@utoronto.ca).



# Installation Address of Joe

Woodsworth College affirms its common purpose with the other six colleges on the St. George campus, while celebrating its distinctive place within the University of Toronto. It was the collective voice of many part-time UofT students, who had no college to call home, that led to the creation of Woodsworth College in 1974. In the 35 years since its inception, the College mission and the nature of our student body has evolved significantly. Since 1978, our population of full-time students has grown from 300 to 4000 with overall enrolment today in excess of 6500. We are no longer the part-time college. The majority of students admitted to Woodsworth are direct entry students, and with careful counselling by our very dedicated staff, all our students can choose either full or part-time pathways.

The college, however, is still deeply committed to fostering accessibility. Our Millie Rotman Shime Academic Bridging Program provides an opportunity for more than 700 non-traditional students each year to pursue post-secondary studies. The program excels in helping these students develop the academic skills and interests they will need to enter degree programs.

Our academic mission is also centred on sponsoring high quality academic programs - Criminology and Employment Relations are two examples. We are proud of our joint partnership with top teaching and research faculty in these fields and value greatly the strong academic experience provided to the many high quality students these programs attract. Each summer our Study Abroad Program sends over 800 students around the world - from Sydney to Hong Kong, from Nairobi to Berlin, and several places in between. Students report their academic experiences abroad as very good to excellent and in some cases as life-transforming.

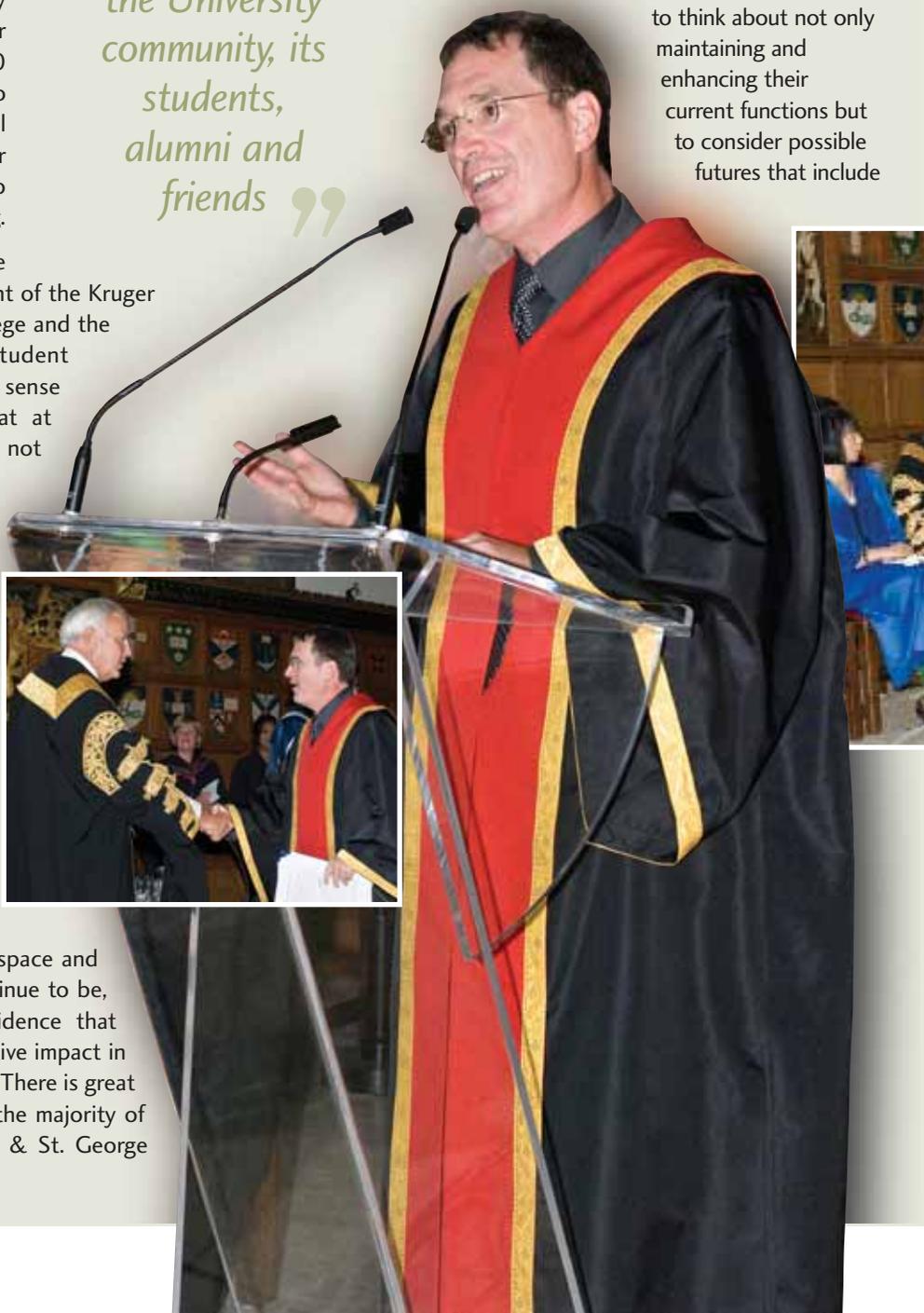
In partnership with Rotman Commerce, we are very excited about the upcoming development of the Kruger Hall Student Commons at Woodsworth College and the impact that will have on our entire student population. Our commitment to developing a sense of place is embedded in our tag line that at Woodsworth College "you belong here." It is not meant to be merely a catchy phrase, but to emphasize how staff, student leaders and alumni truly feel about the college mission. College staff and I really appreciate our partnerships in this mission with the Woodsworth College Student Association and the Alumni Association of Woodsworth College. Both have a long and dedicated history in helping the College to be a place where students can feel welcome, can grow both academically and personally and reach their full potential.

In my discipline of Geography we often refer to the idea that communities are defined through a common strong sense of purpose that revolves around defining both space and place. Our challenge has been, and will continue to be, improving these at Woodsworth. The Residence that opened in 2004 has had a tremendous positive impact in this regard but there is still much to be done. There is great demand on our space, particularly because the majority of students who come to Woodsworth's Bloor & St. George location are commuters from the GTA.

Since starting on July 1st, I have had the opportunity to meet with almost all of the college staff. It has been a pleasure to hear what they had to say about what they find rewarding in achieving the important college mission. Two strong themes emerged: student success and diversity in their jobs. Developing an environment where students can be successful in their academic pursuits and seeing the outcome of those successes is considered a terrific reward by staff. It does not matter where this occurs - whether in the classroom, in one-on-one counselling or writing sessions, or at graduation - it is a pride shared by all. On diversity, staff mention the broad and interesting range of job responsibilities, the large diversity of issues that present themselves, as well as the range of students' backgrounds to take into consideration. Staff challenge themselves to counsel, help and support Woodsworth students in every way possible.

*“ I am very grateful for all of the support Woodsworth has received and continues to receive from the University community, its students, alumni and friends ”*

Currently the university is undergoing a comprehensive visioning exercise titled "Towards 2030." Under the leadership of President Naylor, the University of Toronto is planning for the future and is developing a number of options of how we should position ourselves over the next two decades. In the "2030" report, colleges are not only noted for their important admissions, registrarial and student services roles, but also as "incubators for student-centred innovations as well as new multi-disciplinary programming and related academic units." The report challenges colleges to think about not only maintaining and enhancing their current functions but to consider possible futures that include



# Desloges

even wider engagement with other first-entry faculties as well as with graduate student and research enterprises. One of my tasks as Principal of Woodworth College, along with my fellow principals, will be to participate actively in fleshing out these ideas. We are keen to see strong and internationally competitive academic program offerings as well as opportunities to build on their interdisciplinary nature.

For the past several years, improving the student experience has been a focus in planning and programming at the University. For Woodworth staff the student experience has always been a core priority. The goal of continuous improvement in this area is challenged not only by an increase in the number of students but more importantly by the increasing complexity of student needs. Our objective will be to examine how we can further improve, and find innovation in, the provision of guidance and advice. We know from experience that a strong learning community spirit, enhanced through initiatives such as mentorship, first-year learning communities and freedom from day-to-day financial stress, are important factors. Our intention is to examine new and different options for creating opportunities to improve academic success for our entire student population.

Woodworth remains committed to being a leader in accessibility for non-traditional students. However, the demographic of those considering later entry into post-secondary education is getting younger and more diverse so we need to anticipate what best meets these changing needs to ensure successful outcomes for these students. Beyond the Kruger Hall student commons, there is still substantial unmet need for space. Here we will have to be creative with existing real space both within the college and with our neighbours on the north campus. However, there are also options for virtual space that can foster community development and our goal is to seek out the best ideas that will have the most impact.



Let me close by mentioning that I am very grateful for all of the support Woodworth has received and continues to receive from the University community, its students, alumni and friends. I very much look forward to working with all these groups and the wonderful Woodworth College staff and faculty. I want to thank many of them who have been strong defenders of the principles upon which Woodworth stands. Thank you also to my predecessors as Principals of the college whose legacy is embodied in the College motto: *Propositi tenax*: tenacity of purpose.

*Thank you!*

## Calendar of Events

### February

#### Annual Awards Dinner

This year's dinner will take place on February 5th at the Great Hall, Hart. *By invitation only.*

#### Alumni Association Seminar

##### Robert's Rules of Order: How To Run A Meeting

**When:** February 23, and March 2, 2009, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

**Where:** Principals' Seminar Room, Woodworth College, 119 St. George Street

**Cost:** \$15

Are you confused about meeting procedures and do you want to know more about "Robert's Rules Of Order" and how to use these rules? This seminar is for everyone from the chief executive down to the members at large of any organization, big or small.

*Please note that this seminar runs over two evenings. The registration fee covers the cost of the required text Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, In Brief.*

To register, call 416-978-5301 or email [events.woodsworth@utoronto.ca](mailto:events.woodsworth@utoronto.ca)

### March

#### Speed Networking Event with Colleen Clarke

Sponsored by the Alumni Association of Woodworth College

**When:** Monday, March 17, 2009, 5:00 p.m.

**Where:** William Waters Lounge, Woodworth College Residence, 321 Bloor Street West

**Cost:** Free (Registration Required)

Want to improve your networking skills and self confidence? Are you looking to expand your career options? Join us for this fun and interactive session where you will learn how to reach out and make the connections that count.

Colleen Clarke is a career specialist, corporate trainer and renowned public speaker and the author of *Networking - How to Build Relationships that Count and Work in Progress*, a popular e-book.

To register, call 416-978-5301 or email [events.woodsworth@utoronto.ca](mailto:events.woodsworth@utoronto.ca)

### April

#### International Etiquette Seminar

With Adeodata Czink, Founder of The Business of Manners

Sponsored by the Alumni Association of Woodworth College

**When:** April 21, 2009, 6:00 p.m.

**Where:** William Waters Lounge, Woodworth College Residence, 321 Bloor Street West

**Cost:** Free (Registration Required)

A Seminar on etiquette practices from around the world. Learn how to relate to people and to show respect for their traditions and culture.

To register, call 416-978-5301 or email [events.woodsworth@utoronto.ca](mailto:events.woodsworth@utoronto.ca)

For additional event information please call the alumni office at 416-978-5301, or email: [events.woodsworth@utoronto.ca](mailto:events.woodsworth@utoronto.ca) Event information is also posted on the Woodworth College web site: [www.wdw.utoronto.ca](http://www.wdw.utoronto.ca)

### New organization created to support Mature Students

The Mature Students Association (MatSA) is a new association at the University of Toronto, created in the summer of 2008 by Christine Mitchell and Debbie Molnar. These two mature undergraduate students saw a need for an association that acknowledges the diversity behind the label "mature student," while also allowing its members to develop a connection based on their shared experiences as mature students.

MatSA's three main goals are to provide a positive, inclusive environment that will allow its members to network with their peers, to help mature students find their voice to discuss issues relevant to mature undergraduate students at the U of T, and to raise funds for the purpose of providing academic awards to mature students.

MatSA recognizes that mature students come from all walks of life: they attend university part time or full time, they often work, they may be single, married or divorced, some are mothers or fathers, they range in ages from 25 to 100, and they have varying ethnic and religious backgrounds. MatSA aims to support all mature undergraduate students as they endeavour to complete their university degrees regardless of their background.

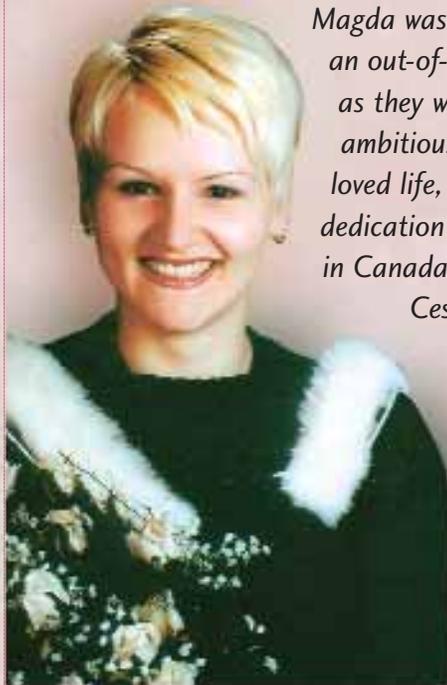
To get involved, contact [uoftmaturestudentsassociation@gmail.com](mailto:uoftmaturestudentsassociation@gmail.com), join the "U of T Mature Students Association" Facebook group, or visit MatSA's blog at <http://uoftmaturestudentsassociation.wordpress.com/>

## New Award to benefit Criminology students

The family of Criminology Program graduate, Madga Gryc, is honouring her memory with the establishment of The Magdalena Gryc Award on the occasion of what would have been her 30th birthday.

The following is excerpted from a piece written by her brother, Wojciech Gryc at the time of her death.

*“Magda moved to Canada at thirteen years of age, overcoming a difficult transition with ease and vigour. Always ambitious, she was an honour student at St. Joseph’s Morrow Park High school and continued her studies at the University of Toronto, finishing an Honours BA in Criminology with distinction. She began to prepare for her career through research at the university and a job at Victory Verbatim. She enjoyed the challenges that a legal career presented and had aspirations to be a criminal lawyer. She wrote her law school entrance exams a week before her death.*



*Magda was killed October 12th, 2002 after an out-of-control SUV struck her and her boyfriend as they walked in downtown Toronto. Magda was ambitious and always strived for the best. She loved life, and gave hope to those around her. In a dedication to Magda in “Responding to Youth Crime in Canada” Professor Anthony N. Doob and Carla Cesaroni wrote, ‘[a]s with everything that she did, she showed enormous care and intelligence combined with a quiet and wonderful sense of humour.’”*

The College is very grateful that Magda’s family has chosen to honour her memory with this gift.

## Briefly

### Inaugural Saul Goldstein Memorial Lecture



The Honourable Frank Iacobucci was the speaker at the Inaugural Saul Goldstein Memorial Lecture. His topic, “The Story Leading to Prime Minister Harper’s Apology on Indian Residential Schools,” was well received by the capacity crowd in the Waters Lounge. A reception followed.

### Fall Convocation

On November 12th, many of the 240 students who were eligible to graduate this November took to the stage in Convocation Hall to receive their degrees. There was a reception in the Waters Lounge for the graduands and their families and friends.

### Seniors’ Reception

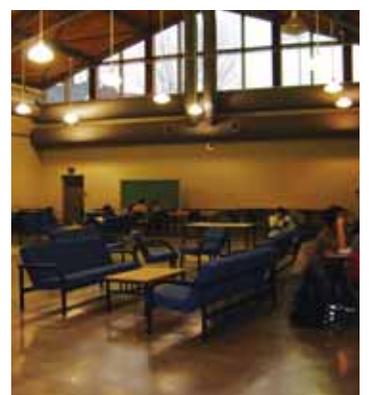
Principal Joe Desloges and June Straker, Academic Counselor, welcomed over 30 students who are seniors to a reception in their honour on October 22nd. The event celebrated students who have completed five or ten courses and those who have graduated. One of the highlights of this year’s event came as three of the attendees talked about their summer in Tours, France as participants in the Summer Abroad Program. The group was very



animated as they spoke about their wonderful experiences in France.

### Kruger Hall Update

Kruger Hall officially became a student commons for Woodsworth and Rotman Commerce students in September. Students are using the space for individual studying, group work and relaxing. There are a number of couches, chairs and tables at which to work.



The Kruger Hall Planning Committee is meeting on a regular basis in anticipation of renovations, to begin next summer, which will create a more permanent and user-friendly space.



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