

WINDOW

WOODSWORTH COLLEGE NEWS FALL 2019

SPRING CONVOCATION



Attendees enjoying the convocation reception in the Peter F. Bronfman Courtyard



Celebrating on King's College Circle



Graduand Atefeh Mohammadi with Woodsworth student Martta Hepomaki

WOODSWORTH COLLEGE had two convocation ceremonies on June 12th. With our large graduating classes of close to 900 students, two ceremonies ensured that more tickets were available for family and friends to attend Convocation Hall. The College was honoured to have Ms. Lynda Hamilton, Woodsworth College friend, donor, and volunteer, as the speaker at the morning convocation. And the Honorable Kirsty Duncan, Minister of Science and Sport, was the convocation

speaker for the afternoon ceremony. Minister Duncan was a student of principal Joe Desloges, having studied geography at U of T.

Students, family and friends spilled out onto the grounds of King's College Circle to take photos, many of them with Joe Desloges, who was celebrating his last convocation prior to stepping down as principal of the College. The beautiful weather was a feature at the reception held in honour of the graduating class in the Peter F. Bronfman Courtyard. ■

NEVER TOO LATE!



Amongst our graduating students was Gholamreza Rezvani Ghadimi. His is a unique story and pathway to becoming a Woodsworth grad:

"I was born into a family of scribes, authors, and publishers in Iran and grew up in print shops and amongst thousands of books. At 17, I was imprisoned for political activities, and in the span of 22 years I spent thirteen of these in the prisons of the Shah and Khomeini, including three years on death row before my sentence was commuted to six years. Unable to complete my formal education I taught myself languages and many other subjects. I ran a prominent publishing house and several newspapers, wrote and translated poetry and socio-political literature. Upon fleeing to Turkey in 1990, I worked as a translator and refugee relief worker for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Ankara. I came to Canada in 1991 and became a social worker in advocacy agencies as well as working as an accredited translator for the Ministry of the Attorney General. I write and translate books and articles for readers inside and outside Iran. In 2002, at the age of 51 I decided to climb the ivory towers of academia to fulfill a long delayed dream. It took me seventeen years, two cancers, and many family and financial difficulties to climb atop the turret, culminating in my graduation with an Honours Bachelor of Arts in June 2019."



Joe Desloges with College staff, students and friends.

JOE DESLOGES COMPLETES TERM

JOE DESLOGES' TWO TERMS as Principal concluded on June 30th. A review of his accomplishments was featured in the spring edition of the Window on Woodsworth. Prof. Desloges served with distinction and led the College to new strengths in providing access and support to a diverse body of students and overall enhancing the quality of undergraduate education and student life.

On June 27th the Woodsworth community bid Joe au revoir with a lovely reception in the Peter F. Bronfman Courtyard. U of T Vice-President and Provost Cheryl Regehr; David Cameron, former Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science; Innis College Principal, Charlie Keil; and Rose Patten, Chancellor, University of Toronto, all shared with

great enthusiasm their thoughts about Joe as a leader, colleague and university citizen. Remarks were also given by Harlan Tufford, president, Woodsworth College Alumni Association, representing the alumni of the College as well as Valerie Dos Santos and Simran Sawhney, respectively the former and current presidents of the Woodsworth College Students' Association, who highlighted Joe's passion for the students, his joy with their successes and his supportive engagement with them.

Joe Desloges rounded out the event by thanking everyone who helped make his eleven year tenure so rewarding. It was a wonderful send off and his legacy will be long remembered at the College with great appreciation and respect. ■

SUMMER ABROAD

An update from Sarah Witol, Director of Professional and International Programs

This summer, over 1,000 students participated in Summer Abroad programs, earning a full-year credit in three to six weeks by pairing classroom study with hands-on engagement in activities ranging from conservation study in Sydney, Australia to comparing perspectives on international politics with Fudan University students in Shanghai.

Woodsworth student Jiaqi Wu, participated in a program in Hong Kong. Studies of business management from an international and cross-cultural perspective are complemented by classroom discussions, guest lecturers and visits to local businesses.

Jiaqi reflects on her time in Hong Kong: "The real-life examples in class helped us better understand the



Jiaqi Wu with course instructor Sam Chiu

course content. I also enjoyed the fact that my group members for the presentations all became good friends. Even though some of us are from different campuses, I believe that we

will continue to get together after we return to Toronto. I will remember everything that happened during these four weeks for the rest of my life. This program brought me lots of treasures: friendship, experience and happiness, not just a course credit."

This year more than 100 students received bursary funding that enabled them to participate in Summer Abroad.



Domo, the Summer Abroad mascot in Seville, Spain.

MENTORSHIP AT WOODSWORTH



Mentor Barry McCartan with his mentee Mohamed Ibrahim

The Alumni/Student Mentorship program is gearing up for another year. Bringing together our alumni and upper year students has proven to be an excellent experience for all involved. Alumni mentors share their personal career stories and help foster the professional growth and development of their mentees. They provide invaluable information on career paths and the skills needed for a particular profession.

The program will run from October to February. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please contact Martta Hepomaki, program co-ordinator, by emailing alumni.woodsworth@utoronto.ca

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL CAROL CHIN

I AM DELIGHTED to be writing my first message as principal of Woodsworth College. I had the privilege of serving as acting principal in 2015–2016, while Joe Desloges was on sabbatical, and I fell in love with the College, its mission, and its students, faculty, and staff. Now as I begin a five-year term, I am deeply grateful to Joe for all that he accomplished in the last 11 years and all the new initiatives that he has put in place.

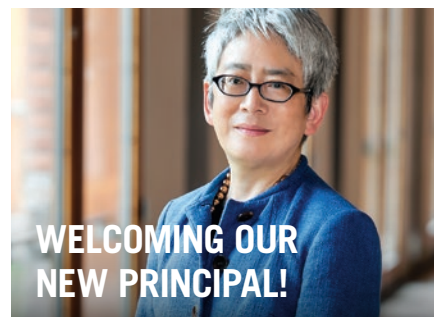
- The **Morneau McCain Scholarships**, established by a generous gift from Nancy McCain and Bill Morneau, supports young women from the Morneau Shepell High School for Girls in the Kakuma Refugee Camp in Kenya to pursue post-secondary education in Canada. Woodsworth is proud to provide academic, financial, and social supports throughout their four years here, and we are looking forward to welcoming our second cohort of Morneau McCain scholars this fall.
- A new partnership between the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) and the university, **SEE U of T (Support, Engage Experience U of T)** brings under-represented students from two Toronto high schools to experience university (by enrolling in Woodsworth One for credit). Given that the College's tagline is "You belong here," Woodsworth is the perfect place

for these students to be able to "see" themselves at U of T.

- Our academic initiatives are also flourishing: **Digital Humanities**, under the direction of **Prof. Alexandra Bolintineanu**, is expanding to meet student demand in this new and exciting field, and **Prof. Jon Johnson's** First Story project works to integrate **Indigenous knowledge and storytelling** into the Arts and Science curriculum.
- Planning is well underway for the **new academic building**, which will reconfigure the Kruger Hall site with the addition of a five story building which will provide more student space, classrooms, and event space, and will integrate Criminology and Sociolegal Studies and the Centre for Industrial Relations and Human Resources into the Woodsworth precinct. Stay tuned for updates!

In-depth information about all of these initiatives is available here: wdw.utoronto.ca/news

All in all, I'm well aware that Joe Desloges left very big shoes to fill. But together with the superb Woodsworth faculty and staff, and with the support of our loyal alumni and donors, I'm looking forward to many exciting challenges and opportunities in the years ahead. ■



WELCOMING OUR NEW PRINCIPAL!

Professor Chin is an accomplished researcher and teacher, and brings exceptional experience and governance at the University of Toronto to her responsibilities as the Principal. Since joining the University in 2008, she has amassed a notable record of service. In terms of academic leadership experience, she served as the Acting Principal of Woodsworth College from 2015 to 2016; Acting Chair, Department of History (July–December 2018), and Associate Chair Undergraduate, Department of History (2010–15).

Professor Chin holds degrees from Harvard University (B.A. 1977), and Ohio State University (M.A. 1996; Ph.D. 2001) and is an associate professor in the Department of History. Her research and teaching interests are in late nineteenth-through twentieth-century American foreign relations, specializing in U.S.-East Asian relations. **Welcome Carol!**

CELEBRATING ALL THINGS WOODSWORTH!

UPDATE FROM CHERYL SHOOK, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL AND REGISTRAR

THIS WILL BE a year of innovation as we develop and implement two new access pathways.

Woodsworth College is known for opening doors to post-secondary education, especially through the Academic Bridging Program (AB). Traditionally, AB has prepared students to succeed in the humanities and the social sciences. However, in recent years we have seen an increase in enquiries from individuals who wish to pursue other areas of study. With a grant from the Access Programs University Fund, Woodsworth

is developing and piloting a full-time AB option to prepare students for programs in the maths and sciences. We hope to welcome the first cohort of the pilot in September 2020.

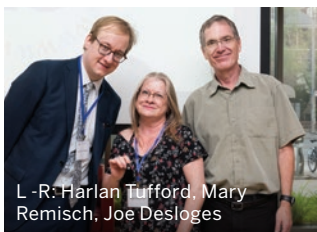
Woodsworth will also be hosting a new program called SEE U of T this fall developed in partnership with the TDSB. Selected students from Downsview Secondary School and Runnymede Collegiate Institute will be enrolled in the WDW One Program, choosing either *Order and Disorder* or *Popular Culture Today*. Students will earn a high school

credit and a half credit in the Faculty of Arts and Science. Participants will also have the opportunity to earn co-op credits with a placement on campus. The aim of the program is to encourage students who come from communities historically underrepresented at U of T and other post-secondary institutions to view university as a viable education destination. A mentorship program is being developed to ensure that these young people will have peer support and a welcoming community as members of Woodsworth College! ■

NEWS IN BRIEF



Woodsworth alumni enjoying a moment at the AGM



L-R: Harlan Tufford, Mary Remisch, Joe Desloges

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AGM & ALUMNI REUNION

On May 30th, a very well attended Annual General Meeting was held as part of the College's Alumni Reunion activities. The meeting was led by Harlan Tufford, president. The business of the evening included reports on activities during the past year and a tribute to outgoing principal Joe Desloges. Sean Kieffe, past president and chair of the nominating committee, who had led a rigorous recruitment process leading up to the meeting, presented the new slate of officers.

Graduates of the College from this year's honoured years (years ending in 4 and 9) who celebrated their 25th and 50th anniversaries, were given commemorative pins to mark the occasion. They included: Sandra Ko, Pascal Miano,



The College's 45th anniversary was celebrated with a cake

Mary Remisch, Mary Rusbridge, Trevor Jones and John Perigoe.

A reception followed which due to the lovely evening was held in the residence courtyard.

For more information about the alumni association 2019–2020 board of directors please visit: wdw.utoronto.ca/community/alumni-donors/alumni-association

LEGACY LUNCH

The annual Legacy Lunch was held on Tuesday, June 18th. This is always a wonderful opportunity for the College to thank and celebrate donors who have committed to supporting



Woodsworth Legacy Society Members Joan and Ian McCausland with student Simran Sawhney

Woodsworth through legacy giving. This past year saw our Legacy Society grow by three new members.

Dr. Alex Waugh, chair of the Society, and former Principal Joe Desloges, both thanked everyone for their support to the college and its students. Michelle Osborne, Executive Director, Gift Planning, University of Toronto, also gave remarks in which she thanked Joe for his personal commitment to the program.

For more information about how you can make a future gift, please contact Barbara Track, Executive Director: Advancement, Alumni & Communications at barbara.track@utoronto.ca or 416-978-4197.

IN MEMORIAM

A good friend to Woodsworth, Jan Monaghan, passed away on July 16th. Jan began her connection to Woodsworth as a member of College Council back in 1974 while teaching part-time in the Faculty of Nursing. On her retirement in 1996, the Jan Monaghan Award was established to support students, with preference given to sole support parents. Jan supported the award personally throughout the years as did her daughters for special occasions. On Jan's passing her family requested donations to her award. She will be missed by the Woodsworth family.



UPCOMING EVENTS

INSTALLATION OF PRINCIPAL

Join the Woodsworth Community for the installation of Prof. Carol Chin as the 8th Principal of Woodsworth College Wednesday, October 16, 2019 2:00 p.m. Kruger Hall Commons, Woodsworth College

ANNUAL SAUL GOLDSTEIN MEMORIAL LECTURE

Prof. Anna Shternshis, Al and Malka Green Professor of Yiddish Studies, Centre for Jewish Studies, U of T

Topic: TBA, please check wdw.utoronto.ca/events

Wednesday, November 20, 2019 5:00 p.m. Kruger Hall Commons, Woodsworth College

ANNUAL MORLEY GUNDERSON LECTURE IN LABOUR ECONOMICS

Speaker and topic TBA. Updates will be posted to wdw.utoronto.ca/events

ALUMNI CAFÉ

Information about our upcoming schedule of Alumni Cafés will be available here: wdw.utoronto.ca/events

To register for the above events

Online: woodsworth-college.eventbrite.ca

Or: events.woodsworth@utoronto.ca, 416-978-5301