

U of W Meets Its Future

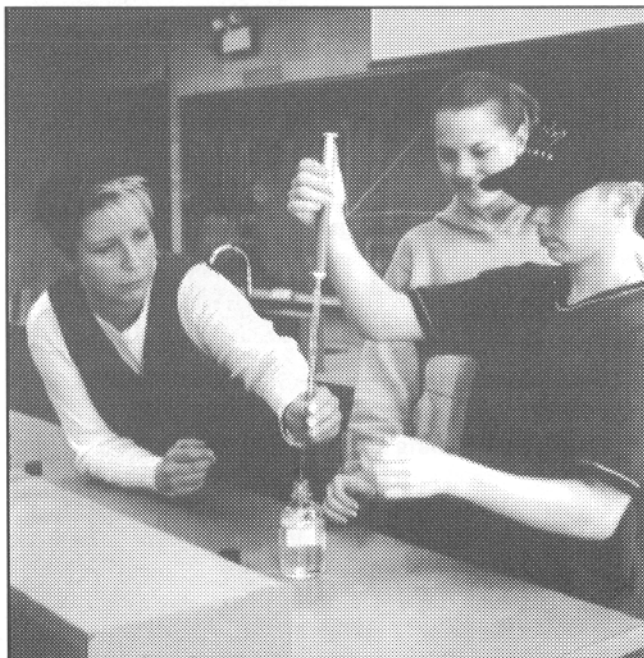
The following article is the third in a series that is dedicated to University of Winnipeg professors who are introducing elementary and high school students to university life. Their efforts are also giving university students hands-on experience in the classroom.

Exercising Good Judgement

As science fair judges, University of Winnipeg biology students are showing they know their stuff. "Elementary schools need people who know something about science," explains biology professor Donna Young. "With such extensive knowledge of science, university students are amply qualified to judge science fairs at this level."

For three years now, Young has rounded up volunteers from her third and fourth-year biology classes to officiate at science fairs. "They're eager to do it because it's a lot of fun," Young says. "And we've had nothing but positive feedback from the schools. They're thrilled to have bright, enthusiastic judges." Volunteer judges have participated at Maples Collegiate and Sisler High School. "The Seven Oaks School Division has been extensively involved with our program. They have a wonderful interest in working with the U of W to get their students thinking about the future."

Educators are changing their approach to science. "High school teachers call us all the time looking for advice on how to make their classes come alive," notes Young. "We have innovative methods and that's what teachers today are expected to adopt. They don't just stand in front of their classes and dictate. Interactive lessons and hands-on experiments are more popular than ever before."



Grade 5 classes have even been known to gather in Young's lab to watch the dissection of a fish or a beef-heart. "Their faces light up; this is what they want to see in a science classroom. If a teacher requests this kind of mini-course in biology, I do whatever I can to provide it," she says. "I also suggest experiments and activities that limited budgets can accommodate."

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Donna Young introducing two CUB students to cell biology.



Spring is in the Air!

Eaton's Grill Room is the place to be on Wed., April 14. From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Women's Auxiliary will hold a Spring luncheon to be followed by a bakesale and a treasure table. Treat yourself or someone special to a little indulgence! Admission is only \$5, and the proceeds go toward the many scholarships offered by the Women's Auxiliary. Come out and support University of Winnipeg students!

Eaton's Grill Room is on the 5th floor, Eaton's downtown.

Wrap it up... for a Good Cause!

Starting May 3, alumni volunteers will be at St. Vital Centre in Winnipeg to wrap up your Mother's Day gifts. Proceeds from this service will go towards the purchase of new adaptive equipment for visually-impaired students at The University of Winnipeg. So wrap it up nicely for Mom... and support a good cause!

Bravo Collegiate, Bravo!

There are angels among us, and they reside in Wesley Hall. Soon to be featured in "The Rhythm of Angels" on *Bravo!*, Royal Winnipeg Ballet students are bringing their lifelong dreams alive, dancing six days a week while earning their high school diplomas at The Collegiate. They might resemble angels when they move gracefully on stage, but these angels are made of tough stuff. Gruelling daily routines leave every muscle in the young dancers' bodies aching, and hectic schedules leave very little time for anything other than school work. But they do it for the love of dance.

"It's the most amazing experience, the way I feel when I'm on stage in front of an audience. I can't describe it," says fourth-year student Elizabeth Jessee. "When I was a little girl, I would dance in my basement, just for myself. Sometimes when I'm on stage, it feels the same way—as though I'm all alone, dancing for myself." Jessee left her home in Calgary four years ago to study at the RWB School. Next year she will enrol in the Aspirant Program, which will allow her to dance for a year while auditioning across the country. "I don't have any particular company in mind, but dance is my whole life and I'm willing to do whatever it takes."

Jessee began her dance career at the tender age of three. "My mother put me in a 'creative movement' class when I was really young, and I knew I would be a dancer. I remember seeing a ballet for the first time when I was about six; I cried the entire time because I thought it was so beautiful. Since then, it's been such a big part of my life; it's really shaped me into the person I am."

Between ballet class and rehearsal, the girls spend most of their waking hours together. "It's a hectic pace, but we've become such good friends," Jessee says. "The close friendships are what I remember most about my earlier years in ballet too." Beyond fond memories and friendships, Jessee says she has acquired a strong sense of discipline and an acute sense of herself. "You really get in tune with your body. You learn not to take your body for granted when you rely on it as heavily as we do."

Shannon McNamee, a second-year Collegiate student, says that dance is her destiny. "All of the work only makes me stronger inside," she says. "I'm patient because this is what I am meant to do." Her dance career also began at the age of three, and she has loved it ever since. "I moved from my home in Wisconsin to study here, and I know I made the right decision. My family has given me all the support I could ask for, which makes it easier to be away from home."

At 6:30 a.m., the girls arrive at the RWB. Ballet class and

rehearsal runs until 12:15 p.m., and afternoon classes at The Collegiate last from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Then it's back to the RWB until as late as 8 p.m. "They couldn't do it if they weren't so well organized and disciplined. It's a very intensive program with a tremendous amount of work to be completed outside the classroom," explains Collegiate Dean, Michael Fox. "We know they have a tight schedule, so we respond to that schedule." Fox adds that computer terminals are set up at the RWB, offering the ballet students Internet access to their teachers. Tutors are also available to go to the RWB. "Non-traditional programming is one of our greatest strengths, and in the case of the RWB students, it allows them to attend classes while studying ballet," Fox says. "It also gives them a comfortable environment. The Collegiate has a diverse student population. They are open to differences and no one receives special treatment."

Fox remembers one ballet student who compared studying dance with climbing a rope. "This girl said that she never really thought about what was at the end of the rope, she just kept climbing and pulling herself up," he recalls. "She said that for her, the prize at the end wasn't as important as the strength she acquired from the climb."

*Don't miss "The Rhythm of Angels" on BRAVO!,
Mon., May 10 at 8 p.m.*

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UW Meets Its Future

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CUB Students Scout University

The College and University Bound (CUB) program gives grade 8 through 12 students a glimpse of academic life after high school. Now in its eleventh year, this unique partnership between The University of Winnipeg, Red River College and the Seven Oaks School Division has exposed students from seven different schools to the kind of lectures and hands-on activities they can expect if they go on to post-secondary school. "Since the program was created in 1988 by Nolan Reilly, it has grown continuously," says Danny Blair, a member of the CUB steering committee. The program organizers now facilitate two annual visits to the University, coupled with ongoing support from faculty. Fourth-year students are also on hand to help CUB students conduct experiments. "Students who are interested in teaching act as assistant teachers. Some volunteer just because they enjoy it," Blair says.

The program raises awareness early and then offers support right through until a degree or college diploma is attained, explains Blair. "We work together with the schools to tailor the programs to their students' needs. As mentor representative for the University, I meet with school reps to discuss what has worked in the past and what needs to be modified."

With financial backing provided by the Royal Bank, CUB continues to flourish. "We have plans to create an opportunity for parents to be more involved," Blair says. "The cost of post-secondary education is often an overwhelming obstacle, so we would like to provide financial guidance by giving parents access to information on all of the scholarships available."

CUB students from West Kildonan Collegiate recently spent a day at the University, touring the campus and checking out some of the classes. Each of the four groups received a condensed version of a biology, psychology, archaeology, city planning, or geography class. The grade 11 and 12 group toured the National Research Council Institute for Biodiagnostics. "It was priceless to see the looks on their faces when they got to hold brains in their hands," recalls Blair. "Our goal is to show them, in an interesting and fun way, what we have to offer."

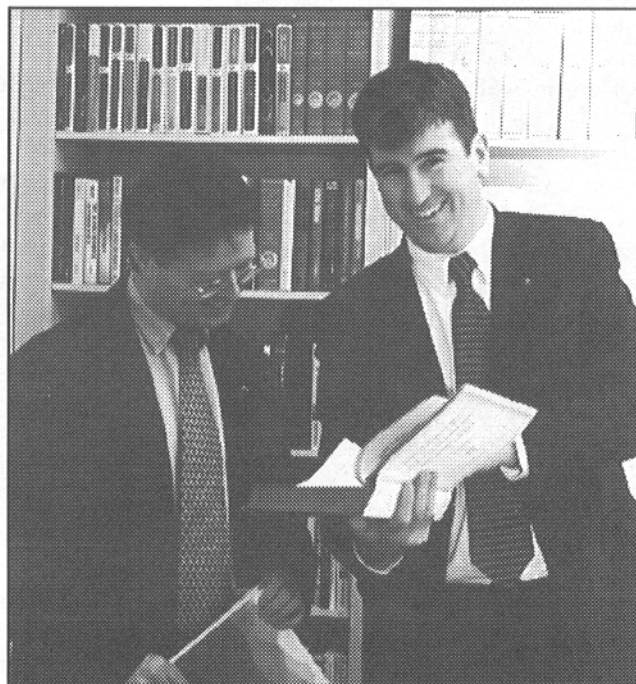
More than just introducing participants to post-secondary education, CUB generates knowledgeable consumers. "If and when they do choose their courses, they'll make informed decisions based on their own experiences," says Hilda Zubrycki, resource teacher from West Kildonan Collegiate. "Their fears are dispelled after they've had a sample of university or college life. If they're exposed to the atmosphere and the classes as early as grade 8 or 9, they'll feel more confident when they apply years later."

The first CUB visit to The University of Winnipeg begins with an exploratory treasure hunt to familiarize them with the campus layout. "We get an idea about what university is going to be like," says Randi Epps, a grade 9 student from West Kildonan Collegiate. "Before this I thought it would just be

lectures, but we do a lot of hands-on stuff. It's a lot of work, but it's also fun." Epps plans to become a pediatrician.

With repeat visits, CUB students begin to feel at home in university classrooms. "Most of the professors keep the language pretty close to the level they would use in class, and I'm always amazed at their (CUB students) ability to keep up at such a high level of discourse," Zubrycki notes.

The ultimate goal is to peak the interest of students who come from homes where parents haven't been to university or college. "It's a window for them to see new possibilities and to consider options that otherwise might not seem within their reach," Zubrycki notes. Cultural, racial, economic or physical barriers might prevent many students from doing anything other than wishing they could receive post-secondary education. With ample support throughout their entire education, CUB students are seeing their wishes come true. Adds Zubrycki, "By grade 12, some of the students don't want to come anymore because they don't want to lose a day of school. They have already made their choices and they're extremely focused."



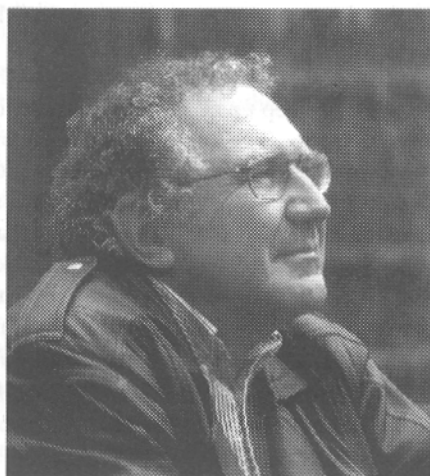
Mayor Glenn Murray (right) took time out of his busy schedule on March 25 to visit the Continuing Education Division. He met with CE staff to discuss the educational initiatives in the downtown area. He is seen here with CE Dean, Curtis Nordman.

COMING EVENTS

"Coming Events" is compiled by University Relations. Planning a campus event? Please let us know. Send **written** information to Paula Denbow (paula.morphy@uwinnipeg.ca), University Relations, 10 working days in advance of the event. Basic details are required: what, when, where, sponsor, price of admission (if any) and the name of a contact person.

FRI., APRIL 9

• Interfaith Marriage and Family Institute's Family Tales Series—Author **Rupert Ross** will be speaking on *Aboriginal Teaching: Implications for Healing and Justice*. Ross is an Assistant Crown Attorney for the District of Kenora, Ontario. He works closely with Ojibway and Cree people to make the court system more responsive to the needs of their communities. The Family Tales Series begins at 7:30 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall.



SAT., APRIL 10

• Mondetta Stage Performance—**Keystone Bluegrass Quartet** promises to be a fun concert full of toe-tapping tunes to get the blood flowing and the hands clapping. They perform in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall at 8 p.m. Ticket prices for this concert have been discounted to \$12 for adults, with students at \$5, making this presentation a bargain for the savvy concert-goer.

SAT., APRIL 24

• Virtuosi Concert—Pianist **Dmitri Ratser** will play works by Mozart, Chopin, Schumann, Liszt, Scriabin, and Rachmaninoff. Reminiscent for many of Vladimir Horowitz, "Ratser's performance took one's breath away with its mesmerizing single-mindedness, its inexorable force, its stunning virtuosity" (*Los Angeles Times*).

Sonatenblast!

Mondetta Stage Performances — Canadian pianist Robert Silverman will perform Beethoven's complete cycle of 32 piano sonatas in a series of eight concerts with two free lectures.

Beethoven's 32 piano sonatas are music's steepest pinnacle and embody the core of the piano repertoire. According to Silverman, "their immense range and richness of expression make the music sound as fresh and revolutionary today as it did the moment the ink on Beethoven's manuscript was dry." Silverman continues, "Beethoven's music speaks immutable universals about the human spirit. Every facet of genius is reflected in the piano sonatas."

One of Canada's most distinguished pianists, Silverman has graced the stages of concert halls throughout North America, Europe, the Far East and Australia. Frequently heard on CBC, Silverman has recorded close to 20 albums. His recording of Liszt's piano music won a Grand Prix du Disque from the Liszt Society of Budapest, while his recording of the Michael Baker Piano Concerto (written for and dedicated to Silverman) won a JUNO Award. On July 8, 1998, Silverman was presented with The Paul de Hueck and Norman Walford Career Achievement Award for Keyboard Artistry and a cheque for \$10,000.

Sonatenblast Schedule:

- April 28: Free Lecture/Demo
- April 29: Sonatas 20, 1, 2, 19, 3
- April 30: Sonatas 4, 5, 6, 7
- May 1: Sonatas 8, 9, 10, 11
- May 2: Sonatas 12, 13, 14, 15
- May 4: Free Lecture/Demo
- May 5: Sonatas 16, 17, 18, 21
- May 6: Sonatas 22, 23, 24, 25, 26
- May 7: Sonatas 27, 28, 29
- May 8: Sonatas 30, 31, 32

All concerts begin at 8 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall. Both lectures are free, however, seating is limited. Advance reservations for all events are strongly recommended. Concert ticket prices are \$21, \$19 for seniors and students, and \$10 for children. A Beethoven Pass is \$64, and \$32 for students. Please call 786-9000 for tickets.

Music 'N Mavens

Lectures are at 2 p.m. at The Rose and Max Rady Jewish Community Centre. Lectures are free. The RJCC is located at 123 Doncaster St.



The Skywalk Concerts and Lectures are free and happen on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 12:15–12:45 p.m. at the Winnipeg Centennial Library's 2nd Floor Auditorium.