

Faculty, Staff & Student Awards & Honours Governing Council Meeting June 23

Faculty & Staff Awards

Professor Robert Andrews of civil engineering is the recipient of the 2009 George Warren Fuller Award, the Ontario Water Works Association's highest honour. Established in 1937, the award is given for distinguished service to the water supply field and in commemoration of the sound engineering skill, brilliant diplomatic talent and constructive leadership that characterized the life of George Warren Fuller. Andrews received the award during the association's annual conference May 3 to 6 in Toronto.

Professor Nancy Dengler of ecology and evolutionary biology is this year's winner of the Canadian Botanical Association's Lawson Medal in recognition of her lifetime contributions to Canadian botany. First awarded at the 1969 annual meeting, the Lawson Medal is the most prestigious award of the CBA and was established "to provide a collective, formal expression of the admiration and respect of botanists in Canada for excellence in the contribution of an individual to Canadian botany." A pioneer among female botanists in Canada, Dengler received the award during the association's annual meeting May 18 to 21 at Acadia University.

Professor Levente Diosady of chemical engineering and applied chemistry has been elected a fellow of the Canadian Institute of Food Science and Technology. Only one fellow is elected annually by the institute, founded in 1951 for food industry professionals. The institute boasts more than 1,200 scientists and technologists in industry, government and academia who are committed to advancing food science and technology. Diosady was recognized for his career spanning more than 30 years in which he has established himself as one of Canada's leading food engineers. He was honoured May 7 at the institute's national symposium in Montreal.

Professor Yolanda Iglesias of Spanish and Portuguese has been selected from a large national applicant pool to attend one of several summer study opportunities supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The endowment is a U.S. federal agency that supports seminars and institutes at colleges and universities each summer so teachers can work in collaboration and study with experts in humanities disciplines. Iglesias will participate in a five-week seminar entitled *Celestina* and the Threshold of Modernity, held at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

Professor Wendy Levinson, chair of the Department of Medicine, is the winner of the Society of General Internal Medicine's highest honour, the Robert J. Glaser Award. The award is given for outstanding contributions to research, education or both in generalism in medicine. The society was founded in 1978 by a national group of academic general internists committed to promoting research and education aimed at improving health care

for the whole patient. Levinson received the award during the society's annual meeting May 13 to 15 in Miami, Fla.

Professor Susan McCahan of mechanical and industrial engineering is the winner of the 2009 Engineers Canada Medal of Distinction in Engineering Education for her exemplary contributions to the teaching of engineering at a Canadian university. The objective of the award is to encourage excellence in the current teaching of engineering and is weighted heavily towards personal teaching effectiveness. McCahan was honoured along with other award winners at the Engineers Canada awards gala May 21 in Montreal.

Professor Linda McGillis Hall, associate dean (research and external relations) and an alumna of the Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, is the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award for Outstanding Achievement for her world-class leadership in nursing health services and systems research. McGillis Hall's scholarly work on nurse staffing has improved our understanding of the role of administrative decision-making in patient safety and work environments and has resulted in an edited book, *Quality Work Environments for Nurse and Patient Safety*.

Professor John Peever of cell and systems biology is the recipient of a New Investigator Award from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, which will support his research for a period of five years. Sponsored by CIHR's Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health, Peever's research investigates mechanisms of respiratory motor suppression in sleep and their relevance to obstructive sleep apnea.

Wes Robertson, director of administrative computing, Discovery Commons, is the winner of the 2009 David Keeling Award for Administrative Excellence. Robertson was recognized for his transformative contribution to the Faculty of Medicine. Cited for having streamlined processes and developed state-of-the-art solutions and tools for faculty, staff and students, his innovations have been an example for other U of T IT providers who have collaborated with him to develop their own tools and processes. He received the award at the annual Education Achievement Celebration May 19 at the 89 Chestnut Residence.

Professors Lisa Steele and **Kim Tomczak** of art received honorary degrees from UBC Okanagan June 5, considered to be the University of British Columbia's highest honour. The two were recognized for their artistic achievements and commitment to art education. Cited as two of Canada's most important new media artists, Steele and Tomczak have had a profound influence on artistic practice and arts education in Canada. In 1980 they founded Vtape, an artist-run distribution centre for video art, to promote the growth of the video medium as a recognized art form.

Professor Emeritus Paul Walfish of medicine has been selected to receive the 2009 John B. Stanbury Thyroid Pathophysiology Medal of the American Thyroid Association. The award recognizes outstanding research contributions, either conceptual or technical, to the understanding of thyroid physiology or the pathophysiology of thyroid disease as evidenced by having a major impact on research or clinical practice related to thyroid

disease. Walfish will receive the award during the association's annual meeting Sept. 23 to 27 in Palm Beach, Fla.

Awards of Excellence (faculty and staff)

Sharon Gradison, manager of human resources for ancillary services, and **Barbara McCann**, registrar at the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering, are winners of the Chancellor's Award for outstanding contributions by administrative staff members.

Professor Bryan Karney received the Northrop Frye Award (individual), an award recognizing distinguished achievements in linking teach and research. **Elaine Khoo** of U of T Scarborough is the winner the Joan E. Foley Quality of Student Experience Award, given for a significant contribution to improving the quality of academic or extracurricular student life on campus. **Professor Arnold Noyek**, founder of the Canada International Scientific Exchange Program, received the Ludwik and Estelle Jus Memorial Human Rights Prize, recognizing positive and lasting contributions to education and action in the fight against discrimination, while **Professor Doug Reeve** of chemical engineering and applied chemistry won the Carolyn Tuohy Impact on Public Policy Award, recognizing excellence in teaching, research and the impact of scholarship on public policy. **Professor Emeritus Ron Venter** of mechanical engineering received the Vivek Goel Faculty Citizenship Award, given to a faculty member who has served the university with distinction in multiple leadership capacities, and **Professor David Zingg** of aerospace studies is the winner of the Faculty Award, given in recognition of excellence in teaching, research and professional endeavours. The Department of Philosophy's **Socrates Project** won the Northop Frye Award (division), given to a department or division in recognition of distinguished achievements in linking teaching and research.

Student Awards

Martine August, a PhD student in planning, is one of 15 Canadian students chosen as a 2009 Trudeau Scholar by the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation. The foundation funds researchers who make meaningful contributions to the issues of the day. Scholars are expected to become leading national and international authorities on issues that affect our local and global societies, such as affordable housing, gambling addiction, water supply management, assistance to refugees and health worker migration. The foundation's bursaries provide each scholar with \$60,000 annually for three years, with potential for a fourth year. In addition to receiving financial support, Trudeau Scholars benefit from the expertise and knowledge of Trudeau Fellows and mentors. August's research focuses on gentrification, affordable shelter and other implications of recent approaches to replace public housing in Toronto.

Bahar Memarian, a second-year electrical engineering student, is one of two 2009 recipients of the \$2,500 IBM Canada Undergraduate Scholarship, sponsored by the Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation. Canadian women applying must be leaders, volunteers, involved in numerous community activities and willing to go out of their way to inspire others. Memarian believes in the positive impact women in engineering can have and said she has learned "much creativity and diversity is added to a project when

the group includes both male and female members.” Recipients also receive a summer job opportunity with an IBM Canada facility. Memarian received the award during the annual general meeting of Engineers Canada May 22 in Montreal.

NSERC Doctoral Prize

Mark Braverman and **Greg Welch** are two of up to four students completing their doctoral degrees at Canadian Universities to receive the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council’s Doctoral Prize. With interests in complexity theory, the theory of real computation, machine learning, algorithms and game theory, Braverman received his PhD in 2008 under the supervision of University Professor Steven Cook of computer science. Welch, a former PhD student in Professor Stephan’s group in the Department of Chemistry, is now an NSERC Post-Doctoral Fellow at the University of California at Santa Barbara. Welch’s thesis was the first to develop the notion of Frustrated Lewis pairs.

Awards of Excellence (students)

James Auron, who just finished his final year at U of T pursuing a double major in history and religious studies, **Raha Bahreini**, now studying for a law degree at Osgoode Hall, **Colum Grove-White**, graduating with a joint specialist degree in international relations and peace and conflict studies, **Sheryl Johnson**, a candidate for ministry in the United Church of Canada, and **Ada Le**, completing a BSc specializing in psychology, are winners of the Moss Scholarship, recognizing academic achievement and extracurricular involvement. Phd students **Jordan Poppenk**, **William Clifton Vanderlinden** and **Lydell Wiebe** are the winners of Adel S. Sedra Distinguished Graduate Awards, fellowships for doctoral candidates recognizing academic achievement, extracurricular leadership and involvement in the life of the university.