

Faculty, Staff & Student Awards & Honours
Governing Council Meeting April 7, 2011

Faculty Awards

Keith Ambachtsheer, an adjunct professor of finance and director of the International Centre for Pension Management, is the winner of the CFA (chartered financial analyst) Institute's Award for Professional Excellence, presented by the institute to a member of the investment profession whose exemplary achievement, excellence of practice and true leadership have inspired and reflected honour on the investment profession. A respected strategic analyst on pensions and investments, Ambachtsheer's articles have appeared in many profession journals. The award was announced Feb. 22 by the institute.

Professor Cristina Amon, dean of the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering, has been named one of the 2011 YWCA Women of Distinction Award winners. The YWCA Women of Distinction awards recognize the contributions of women who have improved the lives of girls and women. Amon, who is being recognized in the category of science and engineering, and six other women will receive the awards at the 31st Annual YWCA Women of Distinction Awards dinner May 18. Amon was recognized for breaking glass ceilings and gender barriers in science and engineering. Throughout her career, Amon has been a tireless advocate for increasing diversity in the engineering profession.

Professor Sylvia Asa of laboratory medicine and pathobiology is the winner of the 2011 F.K. Mostofi Distinguished Service Award, given to a member of the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) who has performed outstanding service to the International Academy of Pathology (IAP) and its U.S.-Canadian division. Asa received the award during the 100th annual meeting of USCAP Feb 26 to March 4 in San Antonio, Tex. USCAP/IAP has been the global leader in the transmission of knowledge in the field of pathology for more than 100 years and attracts to its ranks the leaders in key areas of pathology.

Saimah Baig and Drs. **Kymm Feldman, Rebecca Malik, Howard Shiffman, Karen Weyman** and **Dave Wheler** of family and community medicine are the winners of the Helen P. Batty Award for Excellence and Achievement in Faculty Development from the Centre for Faculty Development. They received the award in the program development and design category for their work on the undergraduate education faculty development workshop committee. The centre established the awards in 2005 to recognize excellence in faculty development programming and teaching in the Faculty of Medicine .

Professor Ahmed Bayoumi of health policy, management and evaluation has been named vice-present-elect of the Society for Medical Decision Making. The society is a professional academic organization of more than 900 members, founded to promote scientific methodological rigour in decision science applications to health care. Its mission is to improve health outcomes through the advancement of proactive systematic approaches to clinical decision-making and policy formation in health care by providing a scholarly forum that connects and educates researchers, providers, policy-makers and the public.

Professors Aimy Bazylak, Markus Bussmann, Javad Mostaghimi, James Wallace, Lidan You and Jean Zu of mechanical and industrial engineering are the winners of all six of the 2011 Canadian Society for Mechanical Engineering (CSME) awards. Bazylak has been selected to receive the I.W. Smith Award for outstanding achievement in creative mechanical engineering within 10 years of graduation. Bussmann was elected a fellow of the society, honouring excellence in mechanical engineering and significant contributions to the profession and to society. Mostaghimi was awarded the Jules Stachiewicz Medal for outstanding contributions to heat transfer in Canada, while Wallace was selected to receive the Robert W. Angus Medal for outstanding contributions to the management and practice of mechanical engineering. You is this year's recipient of the G.H. Duggan Medal, awarded annually for the best paper dealing with the use of advanced materials for structural or mechanical purposes. Zu garnered the C.N. Downing Award for distinguished service to the society over many years. The six will be honoured at the CSME awards ceremony June 6 in Vancouver.

Professors Mark Braverman of computer science and mathematics and **Sabine Stanley** of physics are among the 118 scholars awarded the prestigious Sloan Research Fellowships for 2011. The \$50,000 awards are given to early-career scholars in recognition of their achievements and their potential to contribute substantially to their fields. Winners in the fields of chemistry, computer science, economics, mathematics, evolutionary and computational molecular biology, neuroscience and physics are nominated by their peers and selected by an independent panel of senior scholars. Braverman is interested in complexity theory, the theory of real computation, machine learning, algorithms, game theory and applications of computer science in health care and medicine. Stanley investigates planetary magnetic fields and dynamo theory.

Professor Linda Dresser of the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, co-ordinator of the infectious diseases pharmacotherapy courses in both the full-time and part-time doctor of pharmacy programs, has been named a fellow of the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists. Fellow status is conferred on CSHP members who have demonstrated noteworthy, sustained service and excellence in the practice of pharmacy in an organized healthcare setting. Dresser was recognized for her outstanding contributions to the study and teaching of diseases .

Professor Konrad Eisenbichler of Victoria College's Renaissance studies program has been appointed Commendatore, Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italia. The Order of Merit of the Italian Republic is the highest of the orders of the Italian Republic and is awarded for contributions in the fields of literature, the arts, economics, public service and social, philanthropic and humanitarian activities. The order is bestowed by decree of the president of the Italian Republic, as head of the orders of knighthood. The knighthood was officially conferred upon Eisenbichler Dec.2 in a ceremony in Toronto.

Professor Richard Ellen of the Matrix Dynamics Group is the recipient of the Canadian Dental Association's Distinguished Service Award, given in recognition of either an outstanding contribution in a given year or outstanding service over a number of years to the association and the dental profession. A special ceremony honouring award recipients will be held in conjunction with the association's annual general meeting April 15 in Ottawa

Professor Perle Feldman of family and community medicine, post-graduate program director at North York General Hospital is the recipient of the 2011 Enid Johnson MacLeod Award,

presented annually by the Federation of Medical Women of Canada to recognize a full member seen to contribute the most to women's health. The award was established to honour MacLeod, a longtime member of the federation from Nova Scotia known for her research into the use of curare for anesthesia. Feldman will be honoured at the federation's annual general meeting in the fall.

University Professor Geoffrey Hinton, considered one of the world's foremost researchers in the fields of machine learning and artificial intelligence, has been awarded the 2010 Gerhard Herzberg Canada Gold Medal for Science and Engineering. The medal is awarded annually by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) to an individual who has made outstanding and sustained contributions to Canadian research in the natural sciences and engineering. The prize provides the researcher with \$1 million over five years to further his or her research. As a result of Hinton's research, computers are now better able to find complicated patterns in scientific, medical, economic and other data.

Professors John Hull and Alan White's paper, *An Improved Implied Copula Model and Its Application to the Valuation of Bespoke CDO Tranches*, was one of two selected for a Special Distinction Award. The paper was a finalist for the first-ever Harry M. Markowitz Award for research and innovation in practical investment, established by the *Journal of Investment Management* and New Frontier Advisors, a Boston-based institution research and investment advisory firm specializing in the development and application of state-of-the-art investment technology. Candidates were selected from among papers published in the *Journal of Investment Management* in 2010.

Professor Thomas Hurka of philosophy is a winner of one of eight 2011 Killam Research Fellowships, announced March 1 by the Canada Council for the Arts. Hurka teaches and researches in the area of moral and political philosophy, especially normative ethical theory. The fellowship will provide Hurka a release from teaching and administrative duties for two years. The prestigious Killam Fellowships are awarded to full professors at Canadian universities and research institutes who have outstanding reputations in their areas of research.

Professor Gretchen Kerr, associate dean (undergraduate education), has been named to the Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women in Sport and Physical Activity's Most Influential Women of the Year List for 2010 as a member of the editorial board of the *Canadian Journal for Women and Coaching*. The honour celebrates the impact she's had on advancing sport and physical activity for women and girls. Published by the Coaching Association of Canada, the journal is made up of provocative and insightful articles outlining the values women bring to the profession.

Professor Gary Levy of medicine, director of the U of T Transplantation Institute, was inducted as a fellow of the American Gastroenterological Association (AGA) Feb. 1. Through the fellowship program, the association honours superior professional achievement in clinical private or academic practice and in basic or clinical research. Fellowships are awarded to association members whose accomplishments and contributions demonstrate personal commitment to the field of gastroenterology. AGA's mission is to promote the science and practice of gastroenterology through the support of research, education, advocacy and practice.

Professor Nick Mount of English was selected as one of 3M's National Teaching Fellows for 2011, an award given in conjunction with the Society of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. The awards were created in 1986 to honour exceptional contributions to teaching and learning at Canadian universities. No more than 10 fellows are selected annually. As a 3M fellow, Mount will be a lifetime member of the Council of 3M National Teaching Fellows and will also be invited to attend a four-day scholarly retreat especially for fellows. The 2011 fellows were formally recognized in a March by *The Globe and Mail*, one of the partners in the awards.

Professor Charlie Rackoff of mathematical and computational sciences at U of T Mississauga is the recipient of the prestigious 2011 RSA Conference Award for Excellence in the Field of Mathematics in recognition of his innovation and ongoing contribution to the field of cryptography. Named after a cryptography algorithm used worldwide to secure Internet banking and credit card transactions, the RSA Conference, held Feb. 14 to 18 this year, is regarded as one of the world's leading information security-related conventions. It is held annually in the San Francisco Bay Area where it started in 1991 as a forum for cryptographers to share the latest in Internet security .

Professor Brian Schwartz of family and community medicine is the winner of the 2011 Keith Neely Outstanding Contribution to EMS (emergency medical services) Award, given by the national Association of EMS Physicians in recognition of his outstanding contribution to EMS on the international stage. Schwartz is the first Canadian to have served on the association's board of directors and has led the way for Canadian EMS leaders to participate as part of this important and influential association. His leadership in EMS has been well known in Canada for many years and with this award he has received international recognition. Schwartz received the award at the annual conference Jan. 13 to 15 in Bonita Springs, Fla.

Professor Ted Shepherd of physics has been elected a fellow of the American Geophysical Union (AGU) for his outstanding contributions to geophysical fluid dynamics and middle-atmosphere research. Election to fellowship is considered a special tribute for those who have made exceptional scientific contributions and nominated fellows must have attained acknowledged eminence in Earth and space sciences. The honour is conferred on no more than 0.1 per cent of all AGU members. The purpose of the American Geophysical Union is to promote discovery in Earth and space science for the benefit of humanity.

Painter Shirley Wiitasalo, a faculty member in the Department of Art, is one of the winners of the 2011 Governor General's Award in Visual and Media Arts. The awards, announced for 2011 in Toronto Feb. 22, are Canada's foremost distinctions for excellence in visual and media arts. The awards recognize an individual's significant contributions to both the historical development and contemporary practice of the visual and media arts. Winners receive a prize of \$25,000 and their work is exhibited at the National Gallery of Canada. In its citation of her work, the Canada Council for the Arts noted, "Shirley Wiitasalo's highly celebrated talent as a contemporary painter has received critical and public attention throughout her career."

Inventor of the Year

U of T honoured nine faculty members with awards in the first-ever Inventor of the Year competition March 7 at a ceremony at the MaRS Centre. The event capped a competition that drew 21 entrants from across the university.

“The purpose of the Inventor of the Year program is to recognize the superb contributions U of T scientists make to global society through their inventions,” said Professor **Paul Young**, vice-president (research). “We have a great story to tell at U of T when it comes to inventions. This event marks the beginning of a new emphasis on telling that story.”

They are: biomedical and life sciences: **Scott Tanner**, chemistry; **Shana Kelley**, pharmacy; and **Andrei Yudin**, chemistry. Engineering and physical sciences: **Yu Sun**, mechanical and industrial engineering; **Constantin Christopoulos**, civil engineering; **Geoffrey Ozin**, chemistry. Information and computer technology/ social sciences and humanities: **Nick Koudas**, computer science; co-inventor Nilesh Bansal; **Ronald Baecker**, computer science; co-inventors: Alexander Levy, Aakash Sahney and Kevin Tonon; and **Kumar Murty**, mathematics and research associate Nikolai Volkovs.

Student Awards

John Calarco, a PhD candidate in molecular genetics, is one of 12 graduate students from institutes throughout North America who have been chosen to receive the 2011 Harold M. Weintraub Graduate Student Award, sponsored by the basic sciences division of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, Wash. Nominations were solicited internationally; the winners were selected on the basis of the quality, originality and significance of their work. The recipients, all advanced students at or near the completion of their studies in biological sciences, will participate in a scientific symposium May 6 at the Hutchinson Center with scientific presentations by the awardees. Calarco is also the recipient of the 2010 Lap-Chee Tsui Publication Award and will be receiving a Bauer Fellowship at Harvard University.

Lindsay LeBlanc, a recent physics graduate, was awarded the DMPH Thesis Prize of the Canadian Association of Physicists (CAP). Awarded by the Division of Atomic, Molecular and Optical Physics, the prize is given every two years for the thesis judged the most outstanding in the field of atomic, molecular and optical physics. LeBlanc will receive a certificate, a cash award of \$500 and is invited to deliver a talk at the 2011 CAP congress, to be held June 13 to 17 at Memorial University in St. John's.

Mae Shaban, an architecture student in the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design, is one of five winners of the International Design Award 2011. A panel of high-profile experts judging the award assess the competition entries on the subject of Design Your Living Space. Award winners were officially announced March 2 at the MARTa Museum in Herford. The International Design Award 2011 attracted entries from more than 50 countries. The five best designs will receive the award sculpture and will be given a cash prize of €2,000.

Varsity Blues

The Varsity Blues women's fencing team won its third title in the past four years at the 2011 Ontario University Athletics (OUA) women's fencing championship Feb. 5-6, hosted by the Royal Military College of Canada. **Kelly Doyle**, who won gold in the individual sabre, was named recipient of the Dave O'Donnell Trophy, awarded to the female fencer most proficient in skill, style and sportsmanship. Teammate **Julia Barette** won silver in the individual épée and **Kristina Han** took silver in the individual sabre. The team also took the silver in the team foil and gold in the team sabre en route to winning the championship banner.

The Varsity Blues men's swimming team was crowned champion, while the women finished second at the 2011 Ontario University Athletics (OUA) championships Feb. 10-12 at the University of Guelph pool. The Blues won their 10th title in the past 11 years with a combined team score of 793.5 points, well ahead of the second-place Western Mustangs and third-place McMaster Marauders. U of T's women finished second (734.5) to the Western Mustangs for the third consecutive year. Toronto earned a total of 38 medals and broke nine OUA records over the three-day event. Third-year standout **Andrea Jurenovskis** was named the female swimmer of the year, while **Byron MacDonald** and **Linda Kiefer** were named the coaches of the year on the men's side.

Third-year standout **Zack Chetrat** broke his third individual OUA record in three days en route to a first-place finish in the men's 100-metre butterfly. Chetrat set earlier records in the men's 400-metre freestyle, 200-metre butterfly and also anchored the first-place and record-breaking men's 800-metre freestyle relay team. **Jurenovskis** also ended the three-day competition with a recording-breaking performance. She bettered Olympian Julie Howard's in the 50-metre backstroke to sweep the women's backstroke events. She also earned a silver medal in the 50-metre butterfly and swam the first leg of a record-breaking 400-metre medley relay for the Blues.

Other top results on Day 3 included **Poppy Ruksys** and **Vanessa Treasure's** 1-2 finish in the women's 400-metre individual medley (IM). Similarly, **Paige Schultz** and **Ruksys** placed second and third, respectively, in the 20-metre freestyle. **Frank Despond** and rookie **Jeremie Holdom** also earned silver medals in the 200-metre freestyle and 400-metre IM.

Wrestler Dene Ringuette won the bronze medal in the men's 76 kg category at the 2011 Canadian Interuniversity Sport wrestling championships Feb. 25-26 in Thunder Bay, Ont., defeating Concordia's Michael Noonan in the third-place match to claim his second consecutive bronze medal.

The Varsity Blues women's squash team earned the silver medal at the 2011 Ontario University Athletics championships March 19-20, hosted by the Queen's Gaels in Kingston, Ont. The women finished with a combined team score of 10 points, behind the champion Western Mustangs who tallied 12 over the two-day tournament. Toronto's men team ended the tournament with six points, with the Mustangs men completing the sweep with 24 points. The Varsity Blues women won six matches on the final day and were buoyed by the play of No. 5 **Helena Whyte**, who won all four of her matches during the tournament. The second-place finish also earned head coach **Dave Cooper** the women's coach of the year honour.

Kirk Hansen was named the male rookie of the year as the **Varsity Blues badminton team** earned the bronze medal at the 2011 OUA championship March 18-20 in London, Ont. The Blues finished with a combined team score of 28 points, behind the champion and host Western Mustangs (78) and Waterloo Warriors (62). Varsity Blue **Melissa Hill** of Oakville, Ont., also earned her ninth OUA all-star award.