

THE PHOENIX



FOUNDERS COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Celebrating 50 years

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VOLUME 1 / ISSUE 2

SELF, CULTURE AND SOCIETY

Bright Hues Amidst Winter Blues

Prof. Maria João Dodman, Interim Master



Last term was an extremely busy time for the Office of the Master and before we knew it, we were salsa dancing the day away and making holiday cards at our **End of Term Get-Together!**

Chit-Chat with the Master, which began in October, has become one of my favourite activities. You can find me every other Tuesday with a member of our Student Council, roaming the halls of the college with our treat cart. In addition to the delicious contents it carries, the cart has become the centerpiece of engaging conversations beyond the trivial aspects of life. We talk about academics, program choice, but also about social justice, culture and our commitment to world citizenship. I thank our students for their willingness to share these moments with me and I look forward to the many Tuesdays still ahead.

Winter Orientation on January 9 brought out a modest, yet interested bunch of students who bravely faced the cold to join us for the day. We checked in on our first-year students by holding a **Re-Orientation Luncheon** on January 22. This informal gathering was the perfect opportunity to speak to students about their university experience thus far and talk openly about pressing matters.

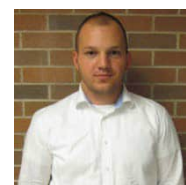
Following our Fall newsletter, our Alumni have come forth with fond memories of their time at Founders. I am certain you will enjoy reading, among others, a piece from Don Long, co-editor of *The Fountain* from 1966-69. Speaking of Alumni, the beautiful artwork that adorns the Junior Common Room now includes a plaque with the work's title and its creator, Richard Rizzo. We look forward to continuing to welcome our Alumni to Founders and to participate in the events organized by our Alumni Chapter.

We were delighted to see so many of you support our fellows' academic activities at the **book launches** for professors Powe, Morera, and Cothran. Our winter breakfast, **Good Morning Founders**, was very well attended as over 100 of you came to enjoy a hot breakfast that included pancakes served by members of our Student Council.

In this issue you will find much more information regarding past and upcoming events organized, sponsored and co-sponsored by our office, including highlights of both academic and student success.

I wish you all the best for the remainder of the term.

See you at Founders,
Maria João



A Message from Founders College Student Council President

Emiljano Mance

Hello Founders Constituents! Since our first issue of the Phoenix, FCSC has hosted its two annual excursions, Montreal and Blue Mountain. Montreal usually takes place in the first week of November, and Blue Mountain on the last weekend of January. Both of these trips this year were a huge success and a lot of people have given us wonderful feedback. These trips give you the chance to bond with Founders students and they are offered at a discounted price. If you haven't had the opportunity to be a part of these trips, you should definitely consider attending next year.

One of my biggest goals this year was to renovate our student lounge (see before and after pictures on the following page). The Lounge (FC004) is located in the basement of Founders College. It is a space where you can relax, listen to music, play video games & ping pong, etc. I am happy to say that we had our grand re-opening of the student lounge on Tuesday, February 3rd, 2015. If you ever need a break during class, you should definitely stop by.

Elections started on February 25th, 2015 and are open until March 5th, 2015; you should

really think about being involved with Founders College Student Council. You have the chance to have your voice heard, represent thousands of constituents and bring ideas to the table. If you are interested, the following positions will be up for grabs:

President, Vice-President of Operations, Assistant Director of Finance, Vice-President of Athletics, Vice-President of Social Affairs, (2) Social Representatives, Athletics Representative

If you have any questions about any of the positions, you can send an e-mail to the current FCSC members and see how their experiences have been so far. Contact information for all FCSC members can be found on our website: http://www.yorku.ca/founders/student_council.html. There are other positions that are hired after the above council has been voted in. The other positions that you might be interested in are:

Orientation Chair, Vice-President of Finance, Director of Administration, Director of Promotions

If you are interested, make sure to stop by FC121A and pick up a nomination package, and see where you'll end up next.

Last but not least, our end of the year event, our yearly formal, is on its way. A chance for everyone to get together, enjoy dinner, dress fancy, and have a good time. The formal this year is taking place on March 20th, 2015 and tickets will soon be available for sale in FC121B. If you have any questions about the formal, e-mail fcscsocial@gmail.com and they will be happy to answer any of your questions.

BEFORE



AFTER



A Word from your CALC...

Prof. Monique Adriaen
College Academic Life Coordinator



As we already start to think about spring and warmer days, it is hard to realize that first term is behind us. As College Academic Life Coordinator I hope that Founders students have now settled in their courses and their academic routine and have made new friends. Founders College organized in the Fall a number of academic workshops and activities and programs to support students in their quest for academic success and making connections.

First-year students have participated in the ongoing **Peer Mentorship** program wherein this year 17 upper-year students from 10 of our affiliated programs and departments offer one-on-one assistance on academic and university life matters. Students can make an appointment or simply drop by the Junior Common Room in the basement of Founders to meet with them.

Students also attended three workshops on **Becoming a Good Academic Citizen** in November where they learned about good study habits, academic integrity and the SPARK modules for research assignments.

A workshop on **Studying Abroad** informed students about the many courses being offered by many departments in China, Spain, Greece, Italy, France and elsewhere as well as the numerous opportunities to work abroad. Finally, we also offered a number of workshops for graduating students on how to apply to **Graduate School**, and the **Faculty of Education Program**.

This term, students can anticipate more academic workshops as well as information sessions on **Applying to Law School, Jobs & Career Perspectives and Financial Matters**.

I look forward to everyone's continuing participation and valuable input!

Don't forget: you can always drop by my office, FC 219, send me an email (madriaen@yorku.ca) or phone me at 416-736-2100 ext 20724.

Beautiful Little Moments

Samira Malakpour
College Administrative Coordinator



Often times people ask: what is the best part of your job in the College? For me, it is an easy question to answer. It is knowing that opportunities exist that allow me to make a difference in someone's life. In this issue of *The Phoenix*, I would like to write about the beautiful little moments in our lives that allow us to step outside of our box and develop our truest self.

Imagine how boring our lives would be if there were no moments to extend a helping hand or think about anything else beyond our own needs? Whoever invented the college system probably had this little tidbit in his or her mind while creating these places where people can be themselves, where they can interact, try new things, help one another and establish long lasting memories...places where beautiful little moments can take place. But perhaps what they did not fully imagine is just how impactful a college can really be. Not only for the student, but also faculty and staff across all levels.

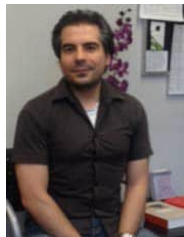
Over the years in my role, I have seen all sorts of connections made. Friendships created, friendships lost, confidence gained and at times, confidence diminished, new love found and for some, love forgotten. All necessary and part of life, and as such all equally beautiful. Who would have thought that so many interesting things could take place in a faraway building on the outskirts of the university? You would have to experience it in order to believe it!

I have my own set of beautiful moments at Founders as I am sure most, if not all, engaged community members do. I know for certain that they have contributed greatly to my time here and this is why I also know just how much these special moments can enhance a student's time in university.

So if you haven't thus far experienced what I am speaking about, make sure you don't leave university without giving yourself a little taste. And what better place to start than at Founders!

From Breakfasts to Book Sales

Marco Sestito
Events Assistant



Events are stressful. There are so many components that make up an event - many of which happen behind the scenes - that need to be in place in order to make an event

successful. And the more moving parts, the easier it is for something to be missed or to go array. So, as I said, events are stressful. Or maybe not the events themselves but the planning and effort that goes into organizing them. That's definitely stressful.

But I have learned something in my time planning the events here at Founders and that, namely, is that events are worth the stress.

We are a community and the events we hold here are the lifeblood of building, strengthening and constantly fashioning our community into something vibrant, something living, something that is uniquely Founders.

The events we hold at the College include conferences, breakfasts, seminars, information sessions, socials, book sales and more. They all offer something unique in their own way, be it supplementing what you learn in the classroom, grabbing a warm meal on a blisteringly cold winter day, or helping you map out your future. However, there is something more about all these events that sometimes gets overlooked: they bring us together.

Events bring people together. They bring all of our different backgrounds, experiences, expectations, hopes, dreams, personalities in one room and give us the chance to meet each other, to talk to one another, to create a colleague or a friend out of a stranger. They forge us into a community.

Events are stressful. But they are always worth it.

"There is something more about all these events that sometimes gets overlooked: they bring us together"

Student Awards & Scholarships

At Founders, we have a variety of student awards & scholarships set up through Student Financial Services to recognize our students for their academic achievements and their commitment to the college community. Congratulations to the following recipients for 2014-2015!

Arthur Haberman Award in History and Humanities

Awarded: May 22, 2014

Recipient: **Victoria Alexis Shearham**

Founders College Cock & Bull Scholarship

Awarded: October 10, 2014

Recipient: **Katy Sze Wai Shum**

Charles Edward Rathé Scholarship

Awarded: October 10, 2014

Recipient: **Qamar Halat**

Lola Hayman Alumni Bursary

Awarded: December 22, 2014

Recipient: **Kamal Noble Abdul-Haqq**

Founders College Council 50th Anniversary Award

Awarded: January 13, 2015

Recipient: **Sharon Ehizogie Bello**



'Spirit of the Season' Bursary Award

Awarded: December 2, 2014

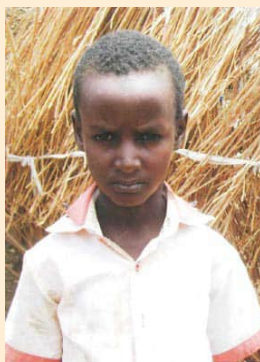
Recipients: **Katharine Meehan, Alexander Stellato, Julia Walter**

This award was made possible through our Book Sale proceeds. Thank you for supporting our Book Sale! The next big sale takes place from March 2-6, 2015.

DID YOU KNOW...



Our Student Council Makes a Difference Abroad!



Founders College Student Council has been proudly sponsoring a child in Khartoum, Sudan since 2007. Ahmed Mohamed Ali Abaker (shown on the left) is 10 years old and he lives with his sister (shown on the right) and mother. Ahmed goes to school and his educational and living expenses are eased by the generous donation from our student council. FCSC receives updates from Ahmed two to three times a year.



MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY

FEATURED STUDENTS

Emmanuel Adarkwah

Business & Society

My name is Emmanuel Adarkwah and my journey here at Founders College has been nothing short of eventful and life changing. I arrived, originally a History major, with no actual path or set standard of guidance in hand. However, through time and time again, the trials of adversity thrown in my direction during my time here have only strengthened the faith in my character. I love to pride myself on the fact that the Founders College mascot is a Phoenix, the universal symbol of rebirth. The aspect and attributes associated with the philosophy of rebirth resonate so strongly within me because of the overwhelming positivity we're forced to associate with it. Two years prior to my current state, I was battling cancer, an onslaught of grades reflecting my mental wandering and no real goal in mind. Today I'm on the cusp of grasping a successful photography career, a major containing a vast amount of my interest and my own plan covering the span of my next 5 years. The transformation between now and then warms me like no other metaphorical blanket can because one thing remains consistent: the overwhelming support and wanting to see one another succeed, and I am forever grateful.



Daniel Romero

Environmental Studies



I joined York University after three years at Seneca College. My college experience was very dull. I never attended any sporting or social events. For three years all I did was study and work. Joining Founders College was a

life altering experience.

Frosh Week was the best week I have had in years. I made more friends in one week than I had made in three years in college. I quickly found myself involved with student council as a first year athletic representative and then as a director of communication for Founders College's old equity committee. In the earlier years I joined intramural sports and went to almost all of the trips.

Although I am not nearly as active within the Founders community as I would like to be, I owe a whole lot to the college. I can say that being involved with Founders College helped me develop my interpersonal skills. I think these skills helped me academically, and indirectly affected my success at Ontario Power Generation. I have been with Ontario's leading energy producer since June 2014 on an internship in the Environment department. My term ended December 2014 and I returned to York University as a full-time student in January.

I look back at my academic and employment success and I have to thank Founder's College for helping me develop as a person.

FEATURED PEER MENTOR

Jeanine Farmer

Social Work



Although I've been at York University for almost 4 years, it was only after I got involved on campus that I began to feel at home. I have been a member of several student clubs over the years and I currently hold an executive position in the Social Work Student Association. I am in my third year of Social Work and am enjoying the program, the class discussions and the material we are covering. But the best part of being a student at York is not the classes. It's the opportunity to meet and network with so many amazing people

with all different backgrounds and interests and value. At Founders College it is easy to network and build relationships because the people here are friendly, helpful, and outgoing.

This year, volunteering as a Peer Mentor for the College has given me the opportunity to get to know many of the wonderful students, professors and staff of the Founders Community, whom I hope to stay connected to for years to come! Shout out to any students who are new to the community: "I hope you love it here and stay awhile".

FEATURED FELLOWS



Prof. Boyd Cothran

Boyd Cothran is an assistant professor of U.S. Indigenous and Cultural History and he is the author most

recently of *Remembering the Modoc War: Redemptive Violence and the Making of American Innocence* (University of North Carolina Press, 2014). He has been a college fellow since 2014. "I think Founders College is a really special place," he said. "And I'm honoured to be part of an intellectually and politically engaged community that is welcoming and open to different views while supporting each of us as we grow and learn."

Professor Cothran's diverse research has appeared in a number of international journals including the *International Journal of Critical Indigenous Studies*, and *American Indian Quarterly* as well as in edited collections on the history of slavery in North America and the history of tourism in the American West. He is also currently co-editing a special issue on the importance of Indigenous history for the *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*. He also writes for a more general audience and his op-ed pieces on history and contemporary Indigenous issues have appeared in the *New York Times* and *Indian Country Today*.

As a teacher, Professor Cothran enjoys teaching broad introductory courses such as the United States history survey AP/HIST 2600. "I love teaching and I'm passionate about history. For me, teaching is about telling an interesting story well and making the past relevant to our everyday lives. If I can hook you in with a compelling story that entertains as well as leaves you thinking about the world around us, I think I've done my job."



Prof. Bernard Luk

I have been residing at Founders since I joined York in 1991, and soon became a fellow of the College. At first, my office was

on the south side, walking down the long corridor from the Master's Office. One day during the mid-1990s, a little mouse came out of the bag of a student who had come for a chat. The mouse wanted to explore the corridor, so my student and I thought no more about it. But later on, I heard some rustling in my wardrobe, and realized the mouse had decided to take up residence there. It must have been trying to get into a cookies bag. Freaking out, I asked around for advice. One colleague offered his cat; but I decided against that, not wanting mouse blood on my books.

Then I thought I might fumigate the room. So I bought some mothballs and scattered them in my wardrobe. Then I suffered headaches, and did not come in. Colleagues residing along the corridor must have been affected too. Before long, Trish Swanson, the College Administrative Assistant at the time, declared my room an "occupational hazard", and moved me across the corridor to my current location.

Trish was very kind about it all. She did not just tell me to move; she also asked a carpenter to remove empty shelves from her own office to install them in my new one, and gave me her precious poster of "Tomba di San Francesco" to decorate it. Trish was so nice to so many people that her untimely death in 2009 was much lamented throughout the College.

The mouse incident was just one episode of my remarkably enjoyable time at Founders.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR VICE-PROVOST STUDENTS



Prof. Janet Morrison

My name is Janet Morrison and I am the Vice-Provost, Students at York. I joined the University in 1999 as the Director of Student Programs in the Faculty of Environmental Studies; I moved to the Faculty of Health

several years later and to the Division of Students in 2012. I have spent my entire career at Colleges and Universities in Canada and the United States; I've worked in student housing, academic advising, a registrar's office and career services. I've been an Educator for almost twenty-five years and remain passionate about the transformative power of getting a University degree. I am proud to work at York specifically because I think our learning community fosters human and social change better than any other school in the country. (For more on this, check out my 2014 TEDxYorkU Talk at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xv7c1pR_bw)

York is a great university, founded on clearly articulated values: openness, inclusiveness, respect, excellence and social responsibility. Often, I have the opportunity to observe these values being "lived" by faculty and staff. Every day, staff clean the campus, keep us cool in summer and warm in winter, provide resources, answer questions and solve problems. Faculty members invest in their teaching, foster open communication with learners and make community connections to expand experiential education opportunities. York is like a small city and our systems can sometimes be difficult to navigate. Please don't ever question, however, our genuine commitment to your success. If you've got ideas about how we can better action that, let me know at vpstdnts@yorku.ca.

What I love most about York though is our students. They are so impressive: many are the first in their family to attend university; almost a third speak English as a second

"York is a great university, founded on clearly articulated values: openness, inclusiveness, respect, excellence and social responsibility"

language; and, a significant percentage are first-generation Canadians. York students work more hours per week than their counterparts at other institutions. They also spend more time travelling to and from campus. Under the weight of considerable responsibility, however, our students persist and flourish to become successful professionals and community leaders. I admire their courage and perseverance. Every day, they teach me and fuel my passion for working at York.

FOUNDERS COLLEGE IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE WINNERS OF OUR WE ♥ FOUNDERS CONTEST

Congratulations to our students:

OSAMEDE ODIGIE
BEST WRITTEN PIECE

EMMANUEL ADARKWAH
BEST PHOTO

BRITTANY PILEGGI
BEST VIDEO



FELLOWS NEWS AND UPDATES

By Prof. Gabriella Colussi Arthur



There are certain years that mark momentous changes in one's life and in my thirty-year career at York University, 2014 was one such year. It all began in 2008, following my tenure as Associate Dean - Academic (in the former Faculty of Arts) the period during which I discovered YUFA's Educational Leave program. Aha! Here was my opportunity to pursue a special project and earn a doctoral degree in the process. I had entered York University, as many academics before me in York University's early years, as a Lecturer in the Alternate Stream, but I had always hoped to earn a doctorate.

On 15 October 2014, I officially received my Ph.D. from the Faculty of Education for the following dissertation, completing a circle of expertise both within and across disciplines.

"There are certain years that mark momentous changes in one's life..."

Methodological Reflections In Italian-Canadian Storytelling considers existing methodological practices in the collection of Italian-Canadian immigrant family narratives and focuses on a number of immigrant family stories recounted by my Northern Italian, Friulian-born parent-informants as collected from my perspective as a trilingual daughter-as-researcher. After reflecting on aspects of qualitative methodology that deal with collecting narratives at large, I present a triangulated, interconnected model that I call Breadth, Depth, and Form, based on three foundational approaches: life history, narrative inquiry and oral history. *Breadth* contextualizes my informants across time and space; *depth* allows me to focus on my informants as individuals and reflect of the narrative meaning for my informants; *form* allows me to recognize and document the

authentic, original language(s) of the narratives themselves. Chapter One examines the foundational aspects of my methodology and introduces my triangulated approach with a series of methodological considerations; Chapter Two presents the field of Italian migration and ethnic studies most pertinent to my work; Chapter Three describes the scholarship on Friulian immigration to North America and provides a brief overview of the history of Friulian language and its place in the diaspora. Chapter Four explores my position as daughter-as-researcher and provides detailed reflections on my role as insider; Chapter Five culminates with an analysis of my informants' narratives based on content and form.

Two quotes capture my sentiments concerning my journey. I hope they can inspire you...

You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.

(C. S. Lewis)

Setting a goal is not the main thing. It is deciding how you will go about achieving it and staying with that plan.

(Tom Landry)

By Prof. Hédi Bouraoui

I have published a book of prose and poetry, bilingual (French and Italian) and intergeneric, entitled:

Orbit'Luire *Maremma/Orbit'Luccicare*
Maremma, published in Canada by CMC Éditions, and in Italy by Effigi Edizioni.



The city of Orbetello in southern Tuscany conferred on me honorary citizenship. I have given two lectures on my work at the University of Paris-XII, Créteil, in September 2014.

By Prof. José C. Curto

LUSO-AFRICAN GROUP AT TUBMAN AWARDED CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION!

Congratulations to the Luso-African Group at the Tubman Institute on recently being honoured by the Angolan Community of Ontario, through its President, Mr. Antonio Ildo Major Alves, with a Certificate of Appreciation for their "dedication to educate people about Angolan culture and history" within the Angolan community in Ontario.

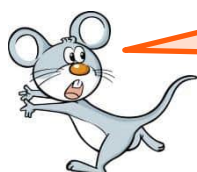
The awards were presented on September 20, 2014, on the occasion of Angola's National Heroes Day, marking the anniversary of the birth of the first President of independent Angola, Agostinho Neto, on September 17, 1922.

The certificates were presented by His Excellency Agostinho Tavares da Silva Neto, Angola's Ambassador to Canada, to Professor José C. Curto, Dr. Frank J. Luce, and to PhD candidates Vanessa S. Oliveira, Tracy Lopes, Maryann Buri, and Faustino Kusoka (the last three in absentia).



From Right to Left: Dr. Frank J. Luce, Estevam C. Thompson (one of the group's new members), PhD candidate Vanessa S. Oliveira, His Excellency Ambassador Agostinho Tavares da Silva Neto, and Professor José C. Curto. Photo credit: Isaac Choi

The occasion also provided Toronto's Angolan community with an opportunity to mark the departure of Ambassador Tavares for his new posting as Ambassador to the United States of America in Washington.



NOW THAT I'VE BEEN DISCOVERED...FOLLOW ME TO PAGE 11 FOR SOME EXCITING NEWS!

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

By Prof. Gail Fraser

Undergraduate Program Director,
Faculty of Environmental Studies

The Bachelor in Environmental Studies (BES) program provides a well-rounded, interdisciplinary education in various fields relating to natural, built, and social environments. The program is designed to equip students with the knowledge, critical understanding, and capacity to deal effectively and sensitively with complex environmental and social challenges arising at the local and/or global scale.

The BES program introduces students to the relationships between the exploitation of the natural world and justice issues. Aware of the growing interdependencies of human and natural life in a globalized world, the Faculty of Environmental Studies (FES) believes that non-Western and Indigenous perspectives are essential to a fruitful discussion of environmental issues. The BES program is committed to preparing students to take action on critical environmental issues. Students are encouraged to explore alternatives, strategies, and action related to social and environmental change. Specific learning outcomes include:

- Identify and situate complex environmental issues with a critical interdisciplinary perspective
- Understand, diagnose and engage with complex environmental topics, especially in the Areas of Concentration
- Analyze complex environmental issues, including key research methodologies, analytical tools and essential communication approaches
- Engage effectively in society on pressing environmental challenges.

GEOGRAPHY

By Prof. Steven Tufts

Chair, Department of Geography

Geography, the late Harm de Blij reminds us, *matters more than ever* as a way of understanding our world. Literally,

Geography is 'to write about the earth'. The discipline is by definition 'interdisciplinary' given its breadth and the knowledge needed to understand changing environments and societies. ***Self, Culture & Society***, the motto of Founders College, reflects a comprehensive, holistic approach to engaging the world around us and is therefore a good home for Geography students. Building a better world for ourselves and others begins with knowledge of how cultures and societies are both influenced by and shape the environment – a foundation of geographical inquiry.

GERMAN STUDIES

By Prof. Gabriele Mueller

German Studies, Department of Languages,
Literatures & Linguistics

Faculty and students of the German Studies program are very proud of our association with Founders College. Our program invites students to explore the German-speaking world and gain an understanding of its rich cultural heritage through the writers, filmmakers, philosophers, scientists, artists and intellectuals who have shaped modern society. When we delve into a different culture, we do not only look outside. The process of trying to understand another society, language, literature or social system always also means that we encounter images of ourselves and different perspectives of things we thought we knew. In this way, by exploring German culture and society we are bound to find to a new understanding of ourselves, our society and our own place within it. **Therefore, the Founders College motto of *Self, Culture & Society* resonates on all levels with what the German program is about: an interdisciplinary program that draws on a range of subjects (language, literature and film studies to intellectual and cultural history, urban studies, political science, museum studies, art history, women's studies) and emphasizes the development of intercultural awareness and knowledge of cross-cultural contact**, for example in courses such as *The Fairy Tale: From Grimm to Disney*, *Germany and the Global Imaginary* or in our language course which is taught in Berlin, *Intermediate German in Berlin*.

Our students are also encouraged to take one of the many opportunities to study abroad in a German-speaking country for one or two semesters - there is no better way to develop your language skills and advance your cultural knowledge.

HISTORY

By Prof. Marcel Martel

Chair, Department of History

History has long been a popular field of study, and with good reason. What better starting place can there be for thinking about how to act in the present than to understand how people have acted in the past? What better starting place for thinking about the forces that shape people's lives in the present than to understand the forces that have shaped people's lives in the past? And what better way to acquire the skills necessary for succeeding in the twenty-first century—critical thinking, careful reading, energetic researching, analytical writing, and effective communicating—than to choose a Major or Minor in which all of these are emphasized?

Here the Department of History wishes to highlight some benefits that can be gained through intensive study of the past. Political ideas, cultural traditions, social patterns, and economic structures inherited from the past are very important in shaping the world in which we live today. For example, we cannot make sense of current events in the Middle East, Africa, China, or Canada without studying the history of these areas. Nor can we fully appreciate the significance of the Internet without examining the development of writing, the printing press, the telephone and telegraph, and television and film. And we cannot grasp the roles of race, ethnicity, class, religion, gender, and sexuality in today's world without exploring their history.

The study of history is good preparation for many professions and careers. Teachers, librarians, lawyers, civil servants, journalists, writers, editors, managers, and diplomats, for example, all need to process large quantities of information, assess meaning and significance, and communicate conclusions. It is no accident that many history graduates are found in these fields of work.

PORTUGUESE STUDIES

By Prof. Inês Cardoso

Portuguese Studies, Department of Languages, Literatures & Linguistics

Portuguese Studies is a recent program affiliated with Founders. Established in 2008, the program educates students about the Portuguese-speaking world, including the language, the culture and the literary expressions of 9 countries and several communities worldwide. We prepare students for advanced study in those disciplines, as well as for practical application of their acquired skills and knowledge in a wide variety of fields, such as education, business, and international studies. **This past fall, Portuguese Studies put into practice the college's motto of *Self, Culture and Society* by offering an experiential education course that included a community placement.** While refining language skills in professional environments, students also had the opportunity to assess themselves and others by connecting with another culture thus gaining a better understanding of one of the largest Portuguese-speaking communities and their contributions to Canadian society. As the most spoken language in the southern hemisphere, and used worldwide by 250 million people, recent data reveals that the interest in Portuguese will continue to rise. The program appreciates and shares the college's commitment to engagement and the enrichment of the student experience. Hence, in consultation with the college, we look forward to developing tailored opportunities for our students to best prepare them for popular and exciting careers. For more information about Portuguese Studies, please visit <http://www.yorku.ca/laps/dlll/portuguese/>.

SOCIAL WORK

By Prof. Barbara Heron

Director, School of Social Work

The School of Social Work in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies at York University is recognized as one of the most progressive and diverse schools of social work in Canada. We are home to over 500 students in our full-time undergraduate and part-time post degree Honours BSW programs.

The Founders College motto of *Self, Culture & Society* resonates with themes that are intrinsic to the School of Social Work's Mission Statement:

The School of Social Work, York University is committed to social work education which develops practice strategies for human rights, social justice and thus affirms that personal experiences are embedded in social structures. Through research, curriculum, and critical pedagogy the School will:

- Address oppression and subordination as experienced and mediated through class, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, age and ability;
- Develop a critical appreciation of the social construction of reality;
- Promote an understanding of how values and ideologies construct social problems, and how they construct responses;
- Prepare students to be critical practitioners and agents of change.

Our School, like Founders College, seeks to support students to think about the connections between themselves as individuals and the larger society of which they are a part. We do this by focusing on self-reflection; diversity, including ethno-racial-cultural relationships; community engagement; and social justice. We are inspired by our relationship with Founders College whose motto closely aligns with our vision and commitment to social work education.



COMMUNITY OF UNITED JAMAICANS (CUJAM)

EACH ONE REACH ONE is an annual fundraiser organized and spearheaded by CUJAM in which school supplies and backpacks are collected for under-served students in the rural areas of Jamaica. The trip is made during the February Reading Week each year to distribute the supplies.

Founders College was pleased to contribute six backpacks filled with a variety of school supplies, ranging from notebooks to markers to dictionaries!

Congratulations to CUJAM for this great initiative! We look forward to supporting your fundraising efforts in future years.



L-R: CUJAM event poster, supplies donated by Founders College

HEALTH & SOCIETY STUDENT ASSOCIATION (HESOSA)

By Aleeza Freedman

President, HESOSA

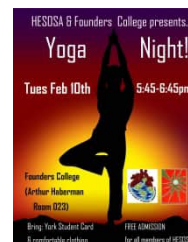
HESOSA YOGA NIGHT!

HESOSA held a Yoga night with the Fit at Founders program and had an amazing time! In total, there were approximately 12 participants, at least 5 of which were HESOSA members.

All first time students had to sign waiver forms at the door, which were supplied by Founders College. The session was taught by Mimi Star, an energetic, kind and skilled instructor who made us all feel welcome, and who encouraged us to try the Yoga poses at our own pace. She even came around to each participant to assist them, if they required help.

The session began with a short warm up, followed by a series of challenging poses and finished up with a relaxing cool down, in which one of our members actually fell asleep because he was so relaxed!!!

Overall, I think the students really enjoyed it, and hopefully will be able to return for future Fit at Founders sessions!



SPECIAL FEATURE

A trip down Memory Lane

Founders – 50 years ago

By Jayne (Probert) Long

In 1964, from my very large urban high school, I applied to a university that didn't really exist – York University, at the “to be completed” Keele campus.

I arrived at that campus in September 1965 by travelling up Keele St., at the time a paved country road with no centre markings, flanked by gravel shoulders and deep ditches. I found a lot of mud. And construction. And lines of people.



In those lines I met people from exotic places: Niagara Falls, Grimsby, Brockville, Bracebridge, and – wow – Winnipeg! These were the first people I connected with, who would be my neighbours in the residence.

And the residence was . . . well . . . not quite what I'd expected. It wasn't actually finished yet. The doors (to the building as well as the rooms) had no locks. There was no carpet on the floor, and the walls were very freshly painted. In fact, the cinder block walls had been painted a little too precipitously, because they sweated – a lot. Most nights you put your head down onto a damp pillow and slid between decidedly clammy sheets.



I recall very clearly one morning waking up in my bed to find a “gentleman” in my room installing the carpet.

Even in single rooms you had roommates; a veritable army of mice had moved in. We discovered quite quickly that a rustling noise in the wee hours was caused by mice who thought the steam escape hole in last night's pizza box was an invitation to enjoy crusts and crumbs.

One of the most embarrassing moments of my life happened during the first week. I was probably the youngest student on campus, and I had to find Murray Ross to sign a paper so my mother could continue getting the “baby bonus.” I did say embarrassing, didn't I?

Those first few weeks we had no “supervision” *per se* – the Dons and the Senior Tutor didn't move in until the accommodations were a bit more complete. I think back on how unsafe it all was – but it seemed a bit of a lark at the time, at least until the night a gang from the Crang Plaza arrived to confront students. Even then I remember the girls sitting on window ledges watching thugs with chains skirmishing with “our” guys brandishing pool cues. Lectures were held at Burton Auditorium – a nice trek through the mud in the fall, but a whole different experience when winter hit. After all, you were the first vertical object the north wind hit since Thunder Bay!

One of the most significant memories I have is of November 9, 1965. That was the day a massive power failure hit a major part of eastern North America and lasted for about 12-13 hours. I had just arrived in the dining hall for dinner, so at least I got food that was still warm, but when the power failed at 5:27 p.m., I ate it in the dark. As the lack of power dragged on, it stopped being an adventure. A little group of students started walking the halls of the residence with candles and one flashlight (the latter not being on the “must pack” list for residence) gathering more people as they went. One guy was chanting “We're doomed! We're doomed! The end is nigh!” A couple of girls got quite worried, but again – it was all a lark to most of us. The funniest moment came at about 2:00 a.m. when one girl and her boyfriend emerged from her room and she said, “Oh! Has there been a power failure?”

Another sharp memory was part of the “Grand Opening” ceremony. Something was going on in the dining hall – dinner and speeches I guess, with special guests Canada's Governor General, Georges Vanier, and his wife, Mme Vanier. Several of the students lounged in the common room as the speeches were piped out to us through the PA system. As things were wrapping up in the dining hall, the Vaniers came out to the

common room and spoke to us. I was awestruck. I still clearly remember Mme. Vanier's lovely snow white hair and her deep purple gown.

There was the most egalitarian atmosphere imaginable about York that first year. You see, everyone was a freshman (or a Founder). Even those second and third year students who had transferred up to the “new” campus from Glendon were new to the campus, as was the faculty and staff. And everything about campus life had to be started from scratch – from student council and clubs, to social activities, etc. Founders' first publication, *Fountain*, was started by Ron Nye. I remember he turned the office closet into a darkroom, which was also used later by *Excalibur*. I was part of the first student theatre production, a revue. The first on-campus concerts were held – I remember Neil Diamond and Joe Cocker.

By 1966, things had improved. A bit. It was still a muddy trek to Burton Auditorium across an open field, and by 1969 there was that grey monolith of the Ministry of Love (aka the Ross Building, named after York's founding president). The Ministry of Love? Hey, man, it was the '60s.

I joined the staff of *Fountain*, eventually becoming an editor. I kept my pet rabbit, Maxie, in a wooden playpen in the *Fountain* office. He went for walks (or hops) in the quad, where he was regularly joined by Alice the runt pig, and Booze, the raccoon, all denizens of Founders and all on leashes! As I recall, Alice's leash was magenta coloured yarn.

While there were Vanier College students starting in 1966, Founders College residents got front row seats to the fire in the Vanier residence while it was under construction.

Faculty memories? John Priestley joined the faculty as a professor of French studies, and you could almost hear his groan as he watched the uncomprehending faces of first year students taking his lectures. And there was Gary Michael Dault, now noted Canadian art critic and writer, then in his early years as a teaching assistant. Dalton Kehoe came on board in 1967 as an instructor in the Social Sciences Dept., a hip, young, bearded dude, and never left, retiring in 2008. But there's

this vivid memory of him unabashedly stripping down to his skivvies to put on a robe (bedsheet) for some Roman-themed event on campus.

As a United Way prank, arranged with CHUM, students “kidnapped” announcer Jungle Jay Nelson from the downtown Toronto radio station near the end of his on-air shift, and held him “captive” at York until a “ransom” was paid. He was eventually returned, feeling no pain, having been well looked after and lubricated by his “captors.” There were fireworks in 1967. It was called The Great Debate. The topic: The Vietnam War. It was a doozy of an event, drawing debating teams from 20 U.S. and Canadian universities and, in the middle of the Cold War, a team from the University of Moscow. It drew a major crowd and was televised. Of course, we had at least one draft dodger living in the residence – it certainly brought the subject of the debate close to home.

In September 1995, 30 years after starting at York, I went with my son for his first day at York. I arrived at a mini-city of high rises and concrete – no mud! I really didn’t recognize



the place. And while I was impressed by the size and scope of the university – both physically

and in its educational offerings – I felt nostalgic pain that that sweet adventure of being there at the beginning was a unique and life-changing experience that would never be experienced by this or any other cohort.

Launching a career

By Don Long

I was “The Leaky Pipe.” That was the name of my column in *Fountain*, the original Founders College newsletter. That was before *The Phoenix* – strange saying *The Phoenix* was “after my time” – back in the very early days of Founders.

Working on *Fountain*, and hanging out in its painted concrete block office with the likes of Jayne Probert, Dale Kern, Mike Snook, then Stewart Linton (“Goon”) and Simon Michael Ralphe Elmsley (to use his full moniker, a Brit who seemed to know every dirty limerick), in a room located pretty much across the hall from the Cock and Bull pub in the college’s basement (okay, lowest floor), was nearly the ruin of my academic career. But it helped to

launch my life’s work as a writer/editor and photojournalist.

My first year at York, 1966, brought me into contact with a great group of people, two of whom – Ross Howard and Dave Cooper – illumined my career path. Ross and Coop worked on *Excalibur*, the weekly university newspaper born that October, Ross as a writer and editor, Coop as photographer. And both were stringers for the *Toronto Telegram*. Both those guys went on to stellar careers in Canadian journalism, Ross primarily with the *Globe & Mail*, Coop helping launch *The Toronto Sun* and, as I write this, still trying not to be “retired” from *The Toronto Star* where he’s the chief photographer.



I became part of the *Fountain* crew in its second year, my first on campus. It had been started, with Ron Nye its editor, in 1965. I will admit, for me, ending up in that

Founders College basement office was a case of *cherchez la femme*. In this instance it was Jayne Probert. Best decision I ever made, first to follow her into the *Fountain* office, then marry her. Our eldest son is also a York alumnus.

The *Fountain* wasn’t as glorious a start in journalism as stringing for the *Tely*. *Fountain* was funded by the student council, and printed and stapled somewhere in the bowels of the college (strange I can’t recall where) on legal-size paper, then left out in bundles/piles throughout the college. I do remember we had to type our text on special paper, using an IBM Selectric typewriter with special carbon ribbon cassettes. That typewriter had removable type “balls,” each one a different font. Those balls were plastic, with a toothed bottom, and an internal mounting point, clicked into place on a small pole inside the typewriter. The serrated bottom was the weakest point, and if one of the teeth got chipped or broken, the ball would be unbalanced and wouldn’t work, so we lost that font.



I wouldn’t go so far as to call us budding journalists, like those who worked on *Excalibur*; we were students who could, for the most part, string coherent sentences together. Eventually Jayne (columnist “Rose

of York”) and I became co-editors of *Fountain*, once actually publishing the announcement “The editors of *Fountain* are pleased to announce the engagement of the editors of *Fountain*.”

Looking back on it with 20-20 hindsight, yeah, we did the occasional immature story, and we did, as I recall, rise into the sights of the JDL when we published Al Hadawi’s personal perspective on his family’s struggles and hardships in Palestine. And then there was the time, following the student council’s request *Fountain* publish the minutes of meetings, a set of said council minutes was cut up and each word pasted down separately on one page of the publication in a random, jumbled mess. That didn’t go over well. Or the time we mocked *Excalibur* by publishing a quasi-look-a-like “Ex-sabre” and caused confusion.

Working on *Fountain*, and with Ross and Coop as role models, my career path began to change. When I entered York, I had some unformed notion of becoming a lawyer, but quickly disabused myself of that when I couldn’t get the hang of one of the prerequisite courses, Statistics. Hardy Grant taught the course and was also the residence Don, which made things a bit uncomfortable for me that first year, especially when my marks never became statistically relevant. Although I purportedly began studying sociology, and even momentarily considered getting a PhD in it so I could end up a professor and teach (Dalton Kehoe was cool, man), I got a job the summer of ‘69 with a public relations company because of my experience on *Fountain* and my budding photo prowess (I had been shooting since I was a kid using my dad’s gear and bought my first camera while at York), and the rest, as they say, is history. I went on to have a 40-year career as a journalist and photographer, and, while ostensibly now retired, I continue to do freelance work for a U.S. publisher. And it was all because of *Fountain* . . . and a certain young lady.

Have to tell you, driving up to Keele & Steeles with our eldest son so many years after graduating was a real eye-opener for the two of us. Not just the size of the campus, but also the location of the buildings; where’s the Ross Building, and who knew they had moved Burton Auditorium? The answers: The Ross Building is hiding behind Vari Hall and, no, they hadn’t moved Burton, but with all the other buildings that had sprung up between here and there on the campus, it sure felt like it.

ALUMNI NEWS

Tentanda Via

Nivea Tomas

Founders College Alumna, 1991

Last Fall, I had an opportunity to visit York University and Founders College, almost a quarter of a century since I graduated. As I exited the GO bus, I felt that I was somewhere foreign. The campus that I remembered for being vast and spacious - what originally attracted me to York - was all changed. It seemed that a whole new campus had emerged around the original framework.



I needed to gain my bearings - my north star was the Ross Building. Find the Ross Building and I would find home. The Ross Building has always had a special place in my heart. It was there, on that vast concrete walkway that I made my decision to attend York. As a first generation immigrant, I was struggling to make my decision as to which university to attend. It was there that I saw the following quote by Murray Ross inscribed on the outside wall:

"We at York must give special emphasis to the humanizing of man, freeing him from those pressures which mechanize the mind, which make for routine thinking, which divorce thinking and feeling, which permit custom to dominate intelligence, which freeze awareness of the human spirit and its possibilities."

Ross' quote inspired me spiritually, it embodied all the aspirational qualities of an education. I concluded there and then that I wanted to be part of the York tradition.

So many years later, on that cold Fall day, those words continue to inspire me, continue to beckon the fundamental essence of learning; freeing the mind and heart to contribute to the betterment of humanity. Over the years, I vaguely thought about those inspirational words, but being in a world that promotes automaticity - it became easy to forget. I was grateful for the reminder.

From there, the route to Founders College was easy. I had the privilege of meeting with Maria João Dodman, Interim Master of Founders College. She is a delightful person

and graciously welcomed me back to the college.

Meeting with Professor Dodman was significant for me on a personal level. When I attended York University, the number of students from Portuguese descent was small, and still fewer were those from Azorean descent. Not only did I discover that we share a common background, but also that there is a Portuguese Studies program at York. And to my amazement... a course on the Azorean experience is part of the offering. It felt gratifying to be a part of the evolutionary process of change.

As I left campus, all the additional buildings no longer seemed like an infringement on the open spaces, but symbolic of an institution that evolved to meet the needs of the emerging communities.

"Tentanda Via: The way must be tried", words that have always been part of my conscious and in many instances guided many of my choices. I felt honoured and proud to be part of York's history ... education truly does pave the way. Thank you York.

A message from our NEW Founders College Alumni Network

By Momita Ahmed

Founders College Alumna, 2012

Since 1965 Founders College has been the home of many of the brightest minds to attend York University, and has helped create thousands of memories for its students and faculty members alike. Rich with history, Founders College has fostered educational growth and has stood as the foundation to many positive relationships.

With over 50 years of graduates associated with this College, it is our honour to officially announce the commencement of the Founders College Alumni Network.

We hope to bring together the knowledge, successes, and life experiences of all those who have helped create this wonderful sanctuary of knowledge and acceptance.

With a number of events coming up over the next few months, we hope to see all of the faces of Founders College make an

appearance and help spread their diversity of knowledge to eager young minds.

Please feel to contact the Network executives **Serafim Nanos**, **Momita Ahmed**, or **Alex Fyles** for information on upcoming events or committee meetings at YUFCAN@Yorku.ca or join the Facebook page: [Founders College Alumni Network](#).

We hope to see you back at Founders College soon!



**FOUNDERS IS
TURNING
50 THIS FALL!**

**We are calling all students, fellows,
alumni and staff for submissions to our
50th Anniversary issue!**

**Please e-mail your
submissions
to founders@yorku.ca**

OUR EVENTS

Past

Luncheon for Delegation of Visiting Greek Students ~ **July 28th**
 2014 College Life & Academic Orientation ~ **September 3rd & 4th**
 Parent and Family Orientation ~ **September 3rd**
Good Morning Founders! Complimentary Breakfast ~ **September 16th**
"Re-framing Challenges" Panel for Mature students (Cosponsored with the Office of the Dean, LA&PS; McLaughlin College, New College and Vanier College) ~ **September 17th**
 Book Launch of: *Marshall McLuhan and Northrop Frye Apocalypse and Alchemy* ~ **September 18th**
 Founders College Homecoming Brunch ~ **September 20th**
 Fit at Founders Fitness Program ~ **September 23rd to April 1st**
 Peer Mentor/Mentee Meet & Greet ~ **September 24th**
 Fellows Meet & Greet and Mural Dedication ~ **September 30th**
 Applying to Graduate Studies Seminar ~ **October 7th**
 Book Launch & Roundtable Discussion: *The Italians Who Built Toronto* (Cosponsored with the Mariano A. Elia Chair in Italian Canadian Studies) ~ **October 14th**
 Book Launch: *Gramsci, Materialism, and Philosophy* ~ **October 15th**
"So You Want to Become a Teacher?" A Workshop on Applying to a Faculty of Education ~ **October 16th**
 Department of Anthropology Annual Lecture (Cosponsored with the Department of Anthropology) ~ **October 24th**
 Founders College Open House ~ **October 26th**
"Are You Thinking of Studying Abroad?" - A Workshop on International Opportunities at York University ~ **November 6th**
 Becoming a Good Academic Citizen: SPARK, Your Program and You ~ **November 13th**
 Becoming a Good Academic Citizen (2): Academic Integrity ~ **November 18th**
 Becoming a Good Academic Citizen (3): Study Habits ~ **November 26th**
 Italian Section Awards Ceremony (Cosponsored with Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics, Faculty of LA&PS and the Office of the Dean, Faculty of LA&PS) ~ **November 26th**
 Peer Mentor Debrief Lunch ~ **November 27th**
 Preserving Memories: Canadian Missionaries in Angola (Cosponsored with the Department of History, Faculty of LA&PS and the Office of the Dean, Faculty of LA&PS) ~ **November 28th**
 End of Term Get-Together ~ **December 3rd**
 Winter College Life & Academic Orientation ~ **January 9th**
Good Morning Founders! Complimentary Breakfast (Cosponsored with Founders College Student Council) ~ **January 13th**
 Book Launch & Roundtable: *Remembering the MODOC War: Redemptive Violence and the Making of American Innocence* ~ **January 15th**
 Re-Orientation Luncheon ~ **January 22nd**
 Arab Culture Day (Cosponsored with the Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics) ~ **January 28th**
 How to Make SPARK an Integral Part of Your Studies ~ **February 4th**
 Applying to Osgoode Hall Law School (Cosponsored with McLaughlin College, New College and Vanier College) ~ **February 25th**
 How to Make SPARK an Integral Part of Your Studies ~ **February 26th**

Upcoming

Toronto 2015 Pan Am / Parapan Am Poet-Tree Project: *The Poetry of Sports & the Sport of Poetry* (Cosponsored with Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics, Spanish Program and Portuguese Studies Program, Faculty of LA&PS Community Outreach Fund and LA&PS International & Community Collaborative Events) ~ **February 22nd to April 30th**
 Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics Research Symposium ~ **February 27th**
Trying the Way ~ Studying York Ethnographically: A Roundtable Discussion (Cosponsored with the Dept. of Anthropology) ~ **March 2nd**
 2015 Spring Book Sale ~ **March 2nd - 6th**
Transformations in Quecha Literature: Peru, 1900-1950 (Cosponsored with the Spanish Program, DLLL) ~ **March 5th**
 Jobs & Finances Information Session ~ **March 17th**
Conceptualizing the Landscape of Language and Trauma within Host-Foreign Linguistic Immersions Through the Study Of Oscar Hijuelos' Thoughts without Cigarettes (Cosponsored with the Spanish Program, DLLL) ~ **March 19th**
 Snakes and Lattes Charity Fundraiser (Cosponsored with Founders College Student Council) ~ **March 19th**
"I'm Graduating, Now What?" Information Session ~ **March 20th**
 Peer Mentorship Recognition Ceremony ~ **March 25th**
 Peer Mentor/Future Leaders Retreat ~ **April 1st**
 Winter End of Term Get-Together ~ **April 2nd**
 Ontario Association of Teachers of Italian (OATI) High School Contest (Cosponsored with Italian Studies, DLLL, Faculty of LA&PS) ~ **May 1st**
 Resisting Inequality/Enabling Inclusion: An India-Canada Comparison International Symposium (Cosponsored with the York Centre for Asian Research) ~ **June 7th - 10th**

Contact Us

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Founders College at York University
 @FoundersYork