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THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

The SUGUNA

Alumni Newsletter

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*Totem Poles on the campus of the University of British Columbia
Photo by Wolf Nader*

SAUVIGNON BLANC AND SUNSETS IN VANCOUVER

A gentle late afternoon Vancouver sun is streaming through the glassed-in walls of an upstairs courtyard room in the UBC Student Union as Sydney University graduates begin to trickle through the door and head for the bar. Members of our organising committee are busy greeting new arrivals, making introductions and having last-minute conferrals with the caterers. They've been planning this for months, and the moment has finally arrived.

Over the surprisingly good BC chardonnay and sushi we reconnect with old friends: Ailsa and Stephen Ludvik, Portia and Les McKenna, Ron and Sonia Ettinger, Jan Wise, Gillian Beattie, Angela Kirgo, Evi and Erni Newbrun, Dawn and John McLenaghan, Perry Seamonds, Austin Angell and Jenny Green, Margaret Williams, Philip Minter and Helen Pryor, Julian Brown; and meet some new ones: Christine Allen and her artist husband Michael

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SAUVIGNON BLANC AND SUNSETS IN VANCOUVER (CONT)



Royal Vancouver Yacht Club

Kluckner and, appearing at SUGUNA for the first time, President of the SU Alumni Council, David Turner, and his wife Dr. Jenny Silverton. Best of all, though, is the charming welcome on behalf of the First Nations from Rose Point of the Musqueam Nation, who talks both about linking generations and the important health benefits of eating avocados.

Next morning it's up bright and early for the presentations, which is one of the best things about SUGUNA – the annual conference is always an eclectic mix of fascinating, informative and frequently novel talks about everything from (as we have this morning) Canadian literary awards (Andrew Irvine) to *Roses of History, Legend and Literature* with Christine Allen to an update from Vincent Hock on the Asian carp/Great Lakes saga to a talk on the architecture of green with legendary landscape architect Cornelia Oberlander. This last presentation includes a walking tour of some of the cutting-edge green buildings on the UBC campus, which in itself is one of the stars of our event – leafy, green, spacious and gently-lit, surrounded by the sea and misty islands on one side and snow-capped mountains on the other.

After an afternoon of sightseeing excursions, we load on to a bus headed for the Royal Vancouver Yacht

Club where, as the sun dips over the ocean and later turns a dramatic red, a sumptuous buffet awaits us. More socialising, some introductions, some informal speeches and it's all over far too soon.

Saturday's presentations include Professor Trevor Hambley on targeting cells in the different microenvironments of solid tumours, Dr. Barry Catchlove on updates from the University of Sydney, Bill Evans on the political scene in California, Dr. Michael Mandl on allergies and climate change, and a talk on recent developments in cataract surgery from Dr. Pierre Faber, before we launch into our Annual General Meeting and another afternoon of sightseeing and sporting activities. (We are told that some energetic souls even played tennis.)

As the evening begins to cool we board our buses for Saturday's banquet at the Vancouver Lawn Tennis and Badminton Club. The banquet is always the highlight of a SUGUNA meeting, where we all look our glamorous best, old friendships have been rekindled, new friendships made, duties have been discharged, papers given and everyone can relax and enjoy a warm summer evening. We scramble onto a bank for the group photo as Wolf Nadler tries to corral some order into the buzzing, jostling chaos, and then it's time to line up at yet another



The SUGUNA Group

spectacularly laden banquet table, each meal seeming more delicious than the last.

During dinner, Honorary Consul to BC, Kevin Lamb, talks to us about the special fraternal relationship between Australia and Canada (did you know that there are 4,700 Canadian students in Australia and that there are 25,000 Australians living on Canada's west coast, many of them young people staffing the resorts?). Then Gerry Bassell hands over the presidential gavel to Wanda Haschek-Hock and we present the Jim Wolfensohn Award to our beloved past President Ron

Ettinger before Russell Boyd leads us in the traditional sing-along and – special surprise entertainment – Sydney actor John Derum makes us all homesick with a thrilling reading of *The Man from Snowy River*.

And then it's all over. In the morning people will head off to the baking east coast, or to California or Iowa or Kansas, or even back to Sydney. But we look forward to seeing old faces and new at next year's meeting in Boston, which promises to be as stimulating and collegial and as fun as it always is.



Bette Nadler, Sonia Ettinger, Perry Seamonds and Ron Ettinger



On the patio of the Vancouver Lawn Tennis and Badminton Club before the banquet

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

SUGUNA is seeking member volunteers who would like to become involved in its activities including serving on the Board of Directors (BOD, 2 year term) and meeting organisation. No specific experience is required; however the ability to commit time and energy, and to attend the Annual Conference, is very important. To volunteer, or if you need more information, please contact a SUGUNA Officer; contact details are shown on the inside cover.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



SUGUNA President Wanda Haschek-Hock (third from left) with Sydney visitors (L to R) Barry Catchlove, Jenny Turner and David Turner

This is my first report since being inaugurated as President of SUGUNA at the 2011 Annual Conference and I have much to tell. But first, let me thank all the members and the past and present officers and directors for their contributions to making SUGUNA the successful organisation that it is. I especially want to thank the outgoing president, **Gerry Bassell**, for his outstanding term as president of SUGUNA. Gerry's eloquence, leadership of the sing-along and never-ending supply of jokes will be remembered. He will remain in harness as Past President and as Master of the sing-along. **Jennifer Green** is SUGUNA's new Vice-President and President Elect and we thank her for taking this on. Jenny is Clinical Associate Professor, Chemistry & Biochemistry, at Arizona State University (ASU). **Bill Evans** and **Michael Marsh** are our newly elected directors.

The 2011 SUGUNA Annual Conference, held in August at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, was a spectacular success, with nearly 70 attendees. This was SUGUNA's 21st Annual Conference and marked the 20th anniversary of the founding of SUGUNA. Our thanks go to the Local Organising Committee from the Pacific Northwest Chapter which consisted of **Robert Bear** (Chair), **Ernie Baja**, **Margaret Bear**, **Gillian Beattie**, **Rex Fortescue**, **Barbara Grier**, **Elizabeth**

Harris, **Joan McConnell**, **Scott Stanners** and **Margaret Williams**. Please see the write-up of the conference for more details. We thank the speakers for fascinating presentations on a variety of topics and the University of Sydney for providing sponsorship for the conference. We had an excellent turnout from the University of Sydney Alumni Council including **David Turner** (President), **Barry Catchlove** (Graduate Fellow of Senate), **Frank Perry** and **John McLenaghan** (SUGUNA's representative). In addition, **Trevor Hambley**, the Science Dean, attended and spoke at the conference.

During the Banquet, we had the honour of recognising **Ronald Ettinger** for his outstanding contributions to the dentistry profession and to SUGUNA with the 2011 Jim Wolfensohn Award presented by last year's winner, **Michael Challis** (see related article in this newsletter). Ron and his wife, **Sonia**, were also key to last year's successful conference in Chicago. The keynote speaker was **Kevin Lamb**, Honorary Australian Consul to British Columbia, and he has put us in contact with the Education section of Austrade.

It was a pleasure to see some new and young SUGUNA faces at the conference this year. These included **Scott Stanners**, member of the conference organising committee, and **Arati Kaza** who attended with her husband, **Vijay** (now also a SUGUNA member). We welcome them and hope they can help us make this organisation relevant to the next generation. **Arati** has volunteered to assist with the SUGUNA newsletter - a daunting task following in the footsteps of **Portia McKenna** and **Angela Kirgo** who have made this newsletter so successful.

The University of Sydney will be honouring several SUGUNA members in October. On October 14th, **Michael Challis** will be made an Honorary

Fellow of the University for his service to the University of Sydney through his contributions to SUGUNA, and on October 28th, SUGUNA members **Robyn Alders** (a speaker at the 2010 meeting in Chicago) and **David Anstice** (Chair of the University of Sydney USA Foundation) will share the Alumni Award for International Achievement.

We now have a venue for the 2012 Annual SUGUNA Conference - it is Boston. This vibrant, thriving city is renowned for its cultural facilities, world-class educational institutions, champion sports franchises, as well as its place at the very forefront of American history. Australia and the University of Sydney have links to Boston University, Harvard University, MIT, the American Australian Association of New England and more. The Conference site will be Boston University and the dates are August 2 to 5. Please see separate article on the 2012 Annual Conference and check the SUGUNA website frequently for updates and registration form.

A final message to SUGUNA members - your support and views are important to SUGUNA. Please continue to be an active part of the organisation and let us know your concerns and suggestions. I was impressed by the number of members who volunteered at the AGM to help with various facets of the organisation and especially with assistance for the next SUGUNA Conference. This is fantastic! In addition, a few new young members are now closely involved with the organisation. For those members who were not at the meeting, you missed an exceptional opportunity. We are eager to receive feedback on any aspect of SUGUNA and would love to have you volunteer for any of the SUGUNA activities. I look forward to a lively term working with your officers and directors to continue our initiatives and be of service to the membership. See you in Boston in 2012!

Wanda M. Haschek-Hock
SUGUNA President
whaschek@illinois.edu

SUMMARY FROM MEETINGS HELD BY SUGUNA MEMBERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS DURING THE 2011 SUGUNA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, VANCOUVER, BC



SUGUNA Board of Directors: L to R: Chris Blaxland, Bette Seamonds Nadler, John McLenaghan, Rod Holme, Ron Ettinger, Wanda Haschek-Hock, Michael Challis, Philip Minter, Jenny Green, Gillian Beattie, Julian Browne, Gerry Bassell, Angela Kirgo, Portia McKenna, Rex Fortescue and Perry Seamonds (present however not in photo, Derek Raghavan).

The following presents a summary from the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of SUGUNA Members and from the Board of Directors Meeting (BOD) held during the Annual SUGUNA Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia from 4 to 6 August 2011:

Jim Wolfensohn Award:

Congratulations to **Dr. Ronald Ettinger** for receiving the 2011 Jim Wolfensohn Award, in recognition of Ronald's distinguished career and for his continuing service to SUGUNA for many years.

Gerry Bassell reported that the retired Jim Wolfensohn Award engraved silver plates will be displayed at the Wolfensohn & Company headquarters in New York City. Also, that Mr Wolfensohn has very generously arranged to provide individual mementos for previous and future recipients.

Elections: Congratulations to newly elected SUGUNA Directors **William A. Evans** and **H. Michael Marsh** and to re-elected Directors: **Gerry Bassell**, **Ronald Ettinger**, **Wanda Haschek-Hock**, **Charles McKenzie** and **Derek Raghavan**. All were elected to a two-year term.

Congratulations to incoming President, Wanda Haschek-Hock and to newly elected Vice President and President Elect: Jennifer Green, for a two-year term. **Gerry Bassell** continues as Immediate Past President.

Future Conferences: At the AGM, it was announced by the BOD that investigations were underway for the 2012 Annual SUGUNA Conference at possible locations either in Ithaca, NY or Boston, MA. Following subsequent investigations, the BOD has decided to select Boston, MA: dates to be 2 to 5 August 2012. Additional information is included in the newsletter.

Derek Raghavan has kindly offered to chair the Annual SUGUNA Conference to be held in Charlotte, NC in 2013, probably in September. More information will be forthcoming.

During the AGM, members volunteered to assist with the 2012 conferences organisation, including: Angela Wales Kirgo and Philip Minter with speaker programs, as well as Russell Boyd, William Evans, Jennifer Green, Arati Kaza and Frank Perry.

University of Sydney USA Foundation

– **SUGUNA Scholarship Fund:** The Directors elected to donate \$2,500 towards the Fund from donated reserves. SUGUNA Directors encouraged individuals to offer donations towards the Scholarship in support of Sydney University students' travel expenses in North America for further studies. Report of recent activities is included in the newsletter.

Sponsors Acknowledged:

Appreciation was expressed for contributions by the **University of Sydney**, by **Russell Boyd** and by



Out-going President Gerry Bassell with in-coming President Wanda Haschek-Hock

SUGUNA in support of the 2011 Annual Conference.

Appreciation was expressed to the Vancouver Conference Committee: Robert Bear, Chair, Margaret Bear, Ernie Baja, Gillian Beattie, Rex Fortescue, Barbara Grier, Elizabeth Harris, Joan McConnell, Scott Stanners and Margaret Williams for a well-organized and wonderful 2011 Annual SUGUNA Conference, attended by 65 members, alumni and guests.

Again, presentations were outstanding, evening venues were superb and cultural, tours and sporting events enabled visitors to see and experience the best of a beautiful city location.

IT'S BOSTON, MA, IN 2012



Faneuil Hall, Boston

The venue for SUGUNA's Annual Conference for 2012 will be at Boston University. **The dates are August 2 – 5; mark them in your diary now, and if you haven't been to a Sydney University alumni event in the Americas before, make this the one.** There will be plenty to do, much to listen to and many new people to meet over a stimulating and fun-filled few days. Bring the family; there will be something for everyone.

City of spires, museums, ships and schools, Boston is replete with history. One of the activities planned is the 2 ½ mile walk through 16 iconic places in America's fight for independence, the Freedom Trail, which includes such legendary sites as Boston Common, Paul Revere's house, the Old State House, the Old North Church, Faneuil Hall and Old Ironsides. Other activities will of course be the morning presentations, afternoon excursions, evening receptions and the Saturday banquet, at which we will present the Jim Wolfensohn Award to an alumnus

or alumna who has made a significant contribution to their chosen field in North America. Get your nominations in soon! (See related item in this newsletter.)

Morning presenters at the time of writing include:

Alan Ruby, from the University of Pennsylvania, speaking on global trends in university education (branch campuses, international students, etc.). **Vikram Khurana** discussing research in his topic "Beer on the Brain: A Yeast – Stem Cell Dual Discovery Platform for Parkinson's Disease". **Rami Cobb**, telling us about a country rich in wildlife and the efforts being made to conserve these species, in her talk "Wildlife of the Mongolian Steppe". In addition, as always, representatives from Sydney University will update us on developments there.

Boston is also, of course, packed with places to visit: the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, Fenway Park (home of the Red Sox – and who knows? Maybe we'll go to a game!), the Isabella

Stewart Gardner Museum, Beacon Hill, the Museum of Science, the Samuel Adams Brewery, the colourful neighbourhood of North End, the Boston Harbor Islands National Park, the Kennedy Presidential Museum, and much, much more.

We are looking for speakers and helpers. If you think you can attend the meeting and can make a 30 minute presentation on your field or a subject of interest to other SU graduates, please contact Philip Minter at pminter@comcast.net. (Keep in mind that we aim for a balance of topics, so if we can't schedule you this year maybe it can happen next year.) Similarly, if you live in the Boston area and can lend a hand with organising please contact Wanda Haschek-Hock at whaschek@illinois.edu. These SUGUNA events are organised by on-the-ground alumni. We'd love to hear from you.

THE JIM WOLFENSOHN AWARD FOR 2011

PRESENTED BY 2010 RECIPIENT,
MICHAEL CHALLIS



Michael Challis (right) presents the Award to Ronald Ettinger

“It is an honour to introduce the 2011 Jim Wolfensohn Award winner – a person well-known in his continuing service to SUGUNA for many years and one who embodies the spirit of alumni of the University of Sydney through his contributions to his chosen profession, to academia and to society: Dr. Ronald Ettinger”

Ronald Ettinger received his BDS (1966) and MDS, Prosthodontics (1970) from the University of Sydney and Certificate in Gerontology (1983) from the University of Iowa and DDSc, Prosthodontics (1990) from the University of Sydney. He is a Fellow of the American and International College of Dentists and a Diplomate of the American Board of Special Care Dentistry. Ronald is currently Professor in the Department of Prosthodontics and the Dows Institute for Dental Research at the University of Iowa. He is the Director of Geriatric Dental Programs at the University, is a past-president of the American Society for Geriatric Dentistry and is a consultant in geriatric dentistry to

the 800-bed Veterans Administration Psychogeriatric Hospital in Knoxville, Iowa.

Throughout North and South America, Europe, Asia, and Australasia, Ronald has served, and continues to serve, as Consultant, External Examiner, and Visiting Professor at some 40 Universities and Institutions, including the World Health Organization. On more than 300 occasions he made presentations in over 30 countries and has lectured at Research and Specialty Meetings, Continuous Education and Table Clinics.

In 1995 he was appointed Editor of the *Journal of Special Care in Dentistry*. He continues to serve on many National and International Committees, Editorial Boards, Journal Reviewer and Editorships and Professional Societies. In 2001 the International Association of Dental Research (IADR) named him the Distinguished Scientist in Geriatric Oral Research and in July, 2010 he was named by IADR as a Distinguished Scientist in Prosthodontics and Implant Dentistry. Also In 2010, he received a Citation for his high level of excellence in assisting the Special Care

Dentistry Association and the patient population with special needs. Ronald has received many other Honours. He has published over 20 chapters in textbooks, and more than 300 papers, manuscripts, abstracts and monographs.

Ronald has made significant contributions to SUGUNA through his involvement, is a tireless supporter and contributor, serves on the Board of Directors, is Past-President (2003 – 2005) and was Co-Chair of the 2010 Annual Conference Committee in Chicago, IL. During the course of these activities, he has attended many SUGUNA Annual Conferences and has made a number of presentations to members including *Drug Induced Dental Disease* in 2010.

Ronald Ettinger admirably represents alumni of the University of Sydney and richly deserves to be recognized for his significant contributions to SUGUNA, to his profession and to society by being presented with the Jim Wolfensohn Award.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR 2012 JIM WOLFENSOHN AWARD



Nominations are invited for the 2012 SUGUNA Jim Wolfensohn Award. Any member of SUGUNA may submit a nomination for this award, based on the following criteria:

- (a) The winner must be a graduate of the University of Sydney.
- (b) He or she must be a member of SUGUNA.
- (c) He or she must be a person who has made significant contributions

for the betterment of society and his, or her, profession, business, academia.

- (d) The nominee shall have participated in SUGUNA conferences.

Nominations must include a complete curriculum vitae, with details of professional appointments, awards, honours, other accomplishments (research where appropriate), affiliations, compilations of publications, service to communities and organisations, and other achievements.

The nomination must also include a supporting letter from the nominating member outlining the merits and qualifications of the person nominated. Nominees of the winning candidate are asked to ensure that both they and the

award winner are present at the award presentation. The selection committee for each year is comprised of the five previous winners.

The deadline for nominations from SUGUNA members is May 31, 2012

Please email your nomination to the Chair, Phillip Smith, at:
phillip1952@earthlink.net

Or send to:

Phillip N.H. Smith
Chair, Wolfensohn Award
Committee
102 Haverford Road,
Fox Chapel, PA 15238-1620

The Chair will circulate all nominations to the selection committee.

HISTORY OF THE JIM WOLFENSOHN AWARD

In the early days of SUGUNA, founder Bill Lew had the inspired idea of approaching Jim Wolfensohn to request his support for an eponymous award for meritorious recognition to be presented at the annual meeting. Bill had asked Graeme Goodsir, host of the 3rd (1993) SUGUNA meeting at Penn State University, to make the request to Mr. Wolfensohn in his Manhattan office during a forthcoming business trip to New York City. Bill telephoned Mr. Wolfensohn to advise him of Graeme's imminent visit.

Jim Wolfensohn had joined SUGUNA in the organisation's early days and was then the most prominent Australian in the international investment-banking sphere. At the time, he was President & CEO of the investment and corporate advisory house he founded in 1981, James D. Wolfensohn, Inc. He would subsequently be appointed the 9th President of the World Bank, becoming only the 3rd person to serve two five-year terms. He is currently Chairman and CEO of Wolfensohn & Company, founded in 2005 upon his leaving the World Bank.

During the aforementioned meeting with Graeme Goodsir, Jim very

generously offered to provide a large Tiffany sterling silver award plate. The original plate is inscribed "Jim Wolfensohn SUGUNA Award for Meritorious recognition" and contains the names of the first 11 recipients of the award (1993–2003) together with their University of Sydney degrees. This plate has been retired and will be displayed in the offices of Wolfensohn & Company in the future. Mr. Wolfensohn has also generously offered to purchase a personal memento for all recipients past and present to retain. These will be presented at the SUGUNA 2012 conference banquet in Boston on Saturday, August 4. The Tiffany award plate in current use was donated anonymously and, on its retirement, will be put on display alongside the original plate.

Jim Wolfensohn's luminary career on the world stage has benefitted millions of our fellow human beings. We owe Mr. Wolfensohn a debt of gratitude for his ongoing generosity in supporting the Jim Wolfensohn SUGUNA Award.

Gerry Bassell
Immediate Past President

List of Recipients

- 2011** Ronald L Ettinger (BDS '66 MDS '70) DDSc
- 2010** Michael D Challis (BE(Civil) '54)
- 2009** Philip Minter AM (BSc Hons '51)
- 2008** John C Semmler BSc (Cornell)
- 2007** Phillip H Smith (BE '50 DEng '97)
- 2006** John McLenaghan AM (BEc '59)
- 2005** Gerard Bassell (MBBS '73)
- 2004** Ian Campbell (BA '67)
- 2003** Ernest Newbrun (BDS '54, DSc '97) MSc, DMD, PhD
- 2002** Peter Farrell (BE '64) PhD, DSc
- 2001** Thomas Dunn (BSc Hons '50, MSc '51, PhD)
- 2000** Gillian M Beattie (BSc '61) DSc
- 1999** Bruce A. Bolt (Dip Ed '53, MSc '55, PhD Science '59, DSc '72)
- 1998** Enid Gilbert-Barness AO (MBBS '50, MD '83, MD '99) DSc
- 1997** Clifford Kwan-Gett (BSc '55, BE Mech & Elect '57, MBBS '64)
- 1996** Ronald N. Bracewell (BSc '41, BE Mech & Elec '43, ME '48)
- 1995** June R.P. Ross (BSc '53, PhD Science '59, DSc '74)
- 1994** Ernest A. Baja (BDS '57) FADH
- 1993** B.L (Lyn) Behrens (MBBS '64)

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER MEETING

The Pacific Northwest Chapter of SUGUNA usually meets in May or June in British Columbia or Washington, for a day of reunion, reminiscence and relaxation. All SUGUNA members are welcome to attend these events.

GILLIAN BEATTIE

The Pacific Northwest Chapter is still recovering from organizing the 2011 SUGUNA Annual Conference which was successfully held in Vancouver, BC in August. The next PNW meeting will be sometime in the late Spring or early Summer of 2012. Although not cast in stone, we are thinking of meeting

somewhere on the Olympic Peninsula, with an overnight rendezvous where we can enjoy the wonders of the Olympic mountains. Please email Gillian at gbeattie@ucsd.edu for further information. The PNW group is open to everyone in SUGUNA and if you would like to be added to the email list, please let Gillian know.

VALE

We were saddened to learn from Professor Edward McWhinney that his wife, Emily, has passed away after a short illness. He says that they had been looking forward to attending the SUGUNA Annual Conference in Vancouver, and to renewing friendships and ties formed at the recent conferences in Philadelphia and Chicago. He adds, "...we also had fine memories of our visits to Canberra and Sydney in 2010".

SUGUNA members extend their condolences to Professor McWhinney and his family.

ALUMNI NEWS

GRAEME GOODSIR and his wife Esme attended the Inaugural Golden Graduates Lunch held in the Great Hall at the University, in April this year – the event was for graduates from the years 1961 and earlier. Approximately 400 people attended and it went off very well. The Vice Chancellor gave a welcoming speech and after lunch the guests were entertained by a choir singing with organ accompaniment.

As SUGUNA members, Graeme and Esme were greeted by an Alumni Office representative who joined them at their table. Afterwards, some ancillary tours and other events were offered. Altogether, it was a most enjoyable experience.

SUGUNA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The SUGUNA Scholarship Fund has been created to award funds for travel expenses to University of Sydney students or researchers who wish to explore or pursue serious study opportunities in USA or Canada. The University of Sydney selects awardees who are requested to make their best effort to attend a SUGUNA Annual Conference and at a minimum to provide a short written report to SUGUNA on their activities supported by this scholarship. The University of Sydney USA Foundation exists to encourage and promote research and education in USA and Australia, and for this purpose receives donations (including allocations from SUGUNA) for the SUGUNA Scholarship Fund. The University of Sydney reports two Scholarships were awarded in 2011 to:

Ms. Elizabeth Dylke, Bachelor of Human Kinetics (British Columbia), Master of Physiotherapy, PhD Faculty of Health Sciences, Discipline of Physiotherapy (Sydney). Travel was to attend the American Board of Radiology exam in Louisville, KY, for the purpose of accessing a large pool

of experts for assessment imaging (lymphoscintigraphy) results, in order to assess reliability of a new grading system. Amount of award: \$1,500

Ms. Usha Salagame, BSc and MSc (Pune, India), Postgraduate Certificate in Bioinformatics (Sydney), PhD; Faculty of Medicine, Sydney Medical School – Public Health. Travel is to Cancercare Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB. The purpose is a collaborative project with investigators at Cancercare Manitoba, which is already underway. Certain datasets can be accessed only on-site at this institution. Amount of award: \$2,500.

SUGUNA members and friends living in USA who wish to offer a tax-deductible donation may do so through a gift to the University of Sydney USA Foundation, requesting allocation towards the SUGUNA Scholarship Fund. With their annual end-of-year fund raising appeal, the University of Sydney USA Foundation will provide information for submitting donations, which includes credit card payment options. For legal purposes, a Donation

Form is requested to accompany each check or money order and mailed to:

The University of Sydney USA Foundation, P O Box 3906, Ithaca, NY 14852-3906.

Additionally, SUGUNA members and friends living in Canada may forward tax-deductible donations directly to The University of Sydney, requesting allocation towards the SUGUNA Scholarship Fund.

SUGUNA exhorts our members and friends to continue donating in support of University of Sydney students' research in North America, and commends funding the University of Sydney USA Foundation to meet the objective of this Scholarship.



WHAT WE LEARNED IN VANCOUVER

IN THIS AND THE SPRING 2012 ISSUE, SUMMARIES OF THE TALKS PRESENTED AT THE VANCOUVER CONFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN

CANADA'S BEST: THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S LITERARY AWARDS (1936-2010)

ANDREW IRVINE PhD



It's often said that the only difference between the first generation of Europeans to settle in Australia and the first generation to settle in Canada is that those coming to Canada had the good sense to leave before they got caught.

Be that as it may, what we do know is that in a relatively short time and in comparatively harsh conditions, both populations have produced bodies of literature that are impressive by any standard.

In Australia, one need only think of *For the Term of His Natural Life* (Marcus Clarke, 1874), *The Songs of a Sentimental Bloke* (C.J. Dennis, 1915), *The Burnt Ones* (Patrick White, 1964), *A Fortunate Life* (Albert Facey, 1981) and *The Fatal Shore* (Robert Hughes, 1987) — not to mention *The Magic Pudding* (Norman Lindsay, 1918) and *Tales of Snugglepoot and Cuddlepoot* (May Gibbs, 1918)!

Titles like these remind us of the contribution Australian authors have made to the founding of one of the world's great, modern nations. The same is true in Canada.

What would Canada be without Stephen Leacock, Gabrielle Roy, Emily

Carr, Leonard Cohen, Alice Munro, Northrop Frye, Al Purdy, Marshall McLuhan, Marie-Claire Blais, John Gray, Romeó Dallaire or Mordecai Richler? Think of the impact of titles such as *The English Patient* (Michael Ondaatje, 1992), *The Handmaid's Tale* (Margaret Atwood, 1985), *A Jest of God* (Margaret Laurence, 1968) or *Two Solitudes* (Hugh MacLennan, 1945). Before they were well-known films, they were all winners of the Governor General's Literary Awards.

Initiated in 1936 by the Canadian Authors Association in collaboration with Canada's 15th Governor General, the 1st Baron Tweedsmuir, the GGs remain Canada's premier literary awards. The first award ceremony was held at the University of Toronto on November 24, 1937. The purpose of the ceremony was to honour the best books published in 1936 in English, in the categories of Fiction and General Literature. The winners were Bertram Brooker for *Think of the Earth* and Thomas Robertson (posthumously) for *T.B.R.: Newspaper Pieces*. No doubt the awards had special significance coming from a Governor General who himself was famous as an author. Just two years earlier, Tweedsmuir's most commercially successful novel, *The Thirty-Nine Steps* (which had appeared under his given name, John Buchan), had been released as a film by Alfred Hitchcock. In 1937 poetry was added as a third category and in 1959 the awards were extended to include books published in French as well as English. Today fourteen categories of books receive awards, seven in each of Canada's two official languages. In the 75 years the awards have been offered, 610 books have been recognized. As one might

expect, they come as close as any collection might to serving as a canon of Canadian literature.

Like any awards, there have been controversies. When Igor Gouzenko won in 1954, perhaps more in recognition of his role in initiating the Cold War than for his novel *The Fall of a Titan*, future University of Toronto president Claude Bissell resigned from the selection committee in protest. When Northrop Frye won in 1986, some suggested that he had been granted the award, not so much for his book *Northrop Frye on Shakespeare*, but more likely because he had been passed over in 1947 (for *Fearful Symmetry*), in 1957 (for *Anatomy of Criticism*), and again in 1982 (for *The Great Code*). In 1968, at least one bookstore declared Mordecai Richler's *Cocksure* so obscene that they refused to carry it. Wanting to draw attention to various political issues of the day, five awardees have refused to accept their awards and at least one publisher (Jack McClelland) boycotted the presentation ceremony as a way of drawing attention to the "inept handling" of the awards by the Canada Council.

Even so, looking back over the years, one can't help but realize the significance of the awards and of the body of work they've recognized. One hopes that, just as with the Prime Minister's Literary Awards in Australia, the GGs will continue to have a long, bright future.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF CATARACT

PIERRE FABER MD



Recent developments in Cataract Surgery have dramatically changed the way the surgery is currently performed. Newer instrumentation has made the procedure safer, faster and allowed for more reliable outcomes. The recovery from the

surgery no longer limits patients and allows them to resume their normal lives more quickly. This has been made possible by the use of smaller incisions, as small as 1.8mm to remove the cataract. These incisions reduce any surgically induced astigmatism and allow for a safer removal of the cataract through the use of pulsed ultra sound energy. Wounds no longer have to be extended due to the development of foldable Intra-ocular Lenses that can be put through these smaller wounds. The amount of induced inflammation is significantly less, and fewer drugs are needed in the immediate post-operative period.

Increasing patient expectations have led to the development of new Intra-ocular lenses which allow more

and more patients to achieve their goal of spectacle independence. The newer Intra-ocular lenses can correct near, as well as distance, vision. Some can accommodate while others are able to correct corneal astigmatism. Determining the type of lens used requires careful calculation by the surgeon as well as extensive discussions with the patient to explain the benefits and problems of the different solutions offered.

Outcomes are carefully monitored to assure that patient needs are met and to allow surgeons to evaluate their performance. This enables further innovations which will make the surgery even safer and more effective.



Join us for the 2012 SUGUNA conference in beautiful Boston. You will have the opportunity to explore the city of spires, museums, ships and walk the iconic Freedom Trail.

The Conference features morning symposia covering a diverse array of topics presented by alumni. Also offered are visits to local points of interest, guided tours, sporting activities and evening social events.

Thursday, August 2 – Sunday, August 5, 2012
Boston, MA

Questions?

Email Philip Minter
at pminter@comcast.net

Or visit the SUGUNA website:
sydney.edu.au/alumni/suguna/conference

Statue of Paul Revere on the Boston Freedom Trail

ROSES IN HISTORY, LEGEND AND LITERATURE

CHRISTINE ALLEN BA



Carbon dating of a fossil of a rose leaf found in Colorado, shows roses were in existence 35 million years ago. Experts have identified the leaf as a specimen of the Nootka rose (*Rosa nutkana*), which still grows wild in the Pacific Northwest.

In 1888, Sir William Flinders Petrie, excavating Egyptian tombs, discovered wreaths of roses that were subsequently dated to A.D.170. Analysis of the petals showed them to be *Rosa sancta*, the Holy Rose of Abyssinia, another rose still extant today.

Roses were popular with the Romans: wealthy Romans liked to shower their guests with thousands of petals. With the decline of the Roman Empire, interest in roses declined in Europe, but in Persia and India vast fields of Damask roses were being grown for the perfume industry.

In 1250, a French knight returning from the Crusades brought with him slips of *Rosa gallica* 'Officinalis', the Apothecary's Rose, whose petals have the unique property of holding their fragrance when dried. It became the chief ingredient in rosary beads, and was much used in medicinal preparations.

In England, the same rose became known as the Red Rose of Lancaster, symbol of the House of Lancaster in the Wars of the Roses. When the wars ended in 1485, the victorious Henry VII combined it with the White Rose of York (*Rosa maxima*) to create the Tudor Rose, a stylised white rose on a red one, that is still the emblem of the British monarchy.

We owe the preservation of many of these roses and their hybrids to Napoleon's wife, the Empress Josephine, who developed possibly the world's greatest rose collection at her Malmaison estate. Josephine employed the painter Redouté to produce a record of her roses. Sadly she didn't live to see his completed work, but his images remain popular today on cards, calendars and notebooks.

Roses feature in several legends and fairy tales, such as Beauty and the Beast and Sleeping Beauty.

Examples in literature include Oscar Wilde's story of The Nightingale and The Rose, D. H Lawrence's sexy ode to his lover entitled Gloire de Dijon, and references in several of Shakespeare's plays. The play The Lady's Not for Burning by Christopher Fry includes my favourite lines about roses: "I can pass to you Generations of roses in this wrinkled berry."

There: now you hold in your hand a race of summer gardens."

WANT TO CONTRIBUTE?

The *SUGUNA Alumni Newsletter* is published in Spring and Autumn. Contributions, Alumni news and letters to the editor are welcome and should arrive before January 15th (for Spring) and September 15th (for Autumn).

We are always on the look out for news stories, ideas and features to include in future editions. If you have any suggestions for content please do not hesitate to contact the editors.

DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

If not, you are missing out on special invitations to events and your monthly electronic newsletter eSydney.

Simply email your full name along with your degree to alumni.office@sydney.edu.au

WALKING TOUR OF UBC CAMPUS LED BY CORNELIA OBERLANDER

GILLIAN BEATTIE BSc DSc



SUGUNA group at the Totem Poles and Haida Houses on UBC campus

We were extremely fortunate to take part in a walking tour of the University of British Columbia (UBC) campus led by renowned Canadian landscape architect, Cornelia Oberlander, and featuring the landscaping she designed for the C.K. Choi Building and the Museum of Anthropology.

We began our tour at the C. K. Choi Building, an award-winning building recognised for its leading-edge, sustainable design features. She explained that through the collaborative effort between the architect and the project team, a landscape solution was developed to focus on the following strategies:

- Don't cut down any substantial trees. Locate the building within the existing parking lot.
- Introduce judicious pruning to bring in filtered light through the forest
- for the forest floor and for the building.
- Use native or indigenous plants, particularly those that need little maintenance.

- Select plants that support bio-diversity by attracting different insects, birds, etc.
- Although not native, use Columnar Ginkgo trees for street trees. They do not block the light and are known to clean the air of pollutants.
- Use existing soil, amended with organic matter, to support plant life.
- Avoid chemical pesticides; use non-toxic biological fertilizers.
- Provide a greywater trench with marsh vegetation to purify the 'tea' from composting toilets, water from sinks, and rainwater. Use this water for irrigation purposes.
- Store the storm water for gradual absorption.
- Use re-cycled paving material.

From there we wandered through the Asian garden toward the Museum of Anthropology (MOA).

The Museum grounds feature indigenous plants and grasses around two outdoor Haida Houses and ten full-scale totem poles (one inside the larger of the two Haida Houses), two carved house-posts and a Welcome Figure. Recent commissions include



Cornelia Oberlander

two outdoor sculptures by Musqueam artists. Since MOA is built on traditional Musqueam First Nations land, it is appropriate that works by artists from this area are the first to greet visitors when they arrive on site. Finally, after 34 years, her vision of a reflecting pool has been created beside the totem poles.

Cornelia, who is indeed a national treasure, was celebrating her 90th birthday that weekend!

STEVE MANDEL'S CONUNDRUM



Steve Mandel, a University of Sydney graduate and former professor of mathematics, presents us with Spring's conundrum. The answer will appear in the next issue or readers may send the solution directly to Steve at MaryJaneMandel@aol.com – he is happy to hear from readers.

THIS ISSUE'S CONUNDRUM:

What country is an anagram of a synonym of a homophone of an even prime number? (Hint: There is only one even prime number!)

LAST ISSUE'S CONUNDRUM:

In the 2010 Census a Census worker comes to a house to gather data and asks

the respondent, inter alia, the number of children residing in the household and their ages. The respondent replies as follows: "There are three children living in this household, the product of their ages is 72 and the sum of their ages is the same as the number on the house which is directly across the street".

The Census worker thinks for a bit and then says that she needs a little bit more information. The respondent replies "OK, my oldest child is named Chris". The Census worker says thank you and departs, having obtained the needed information. How old are the three children?

Solution: They are 8, 3 and 3. If you write down all possible sets of three numbers whose product is 72, for example (12,3,2); (12,6,1); (9,4,2); (8,3,3); (6,4,3); (6,6,2) and so on (there are some more of these that are not very plausible (24,3,1) etc.), and add up the ages, they all add up to different totals except for one pair of sibships, namely (8,3,3) and (6,6,2) both of which add up to 14. Since the Census worker had to ask for more information it must have been one of this pair and the respondent's answer breaks the tie.

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Janet Austin, LL.M. 1997
Fredericton, NB

Sarah Carter, Master of Taxation 2000
Chicago, IL

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Vancouver, BC

Julia Elmer, BA 1947
Boston, MA

Robert Gordon, BE (Mech), BCom
1998, PhD (Eng) 2004
Montreal, QC

Sanjeev Gumber, PhD 2007,
Baton Rouge, LA

Roberto Hernandez, LL.B. 2009
Houston TX

Jeremy Huelsman, MBA, AGSM 2000
Irvine, CA

Hannah James, BhortSc 2004, PhD
(Agriculture) 2008
Wenatchee, WA

Arati Kaza, PhD (Science) 2010
Tumwater, WA

Vijay Kaza, MSc (Biotechnology) 2000
Tumwater, WA

Kim Klein, BA (Hons) 1959
Washington, DC

Nikola J Komsic,
BCom, BE (Civil) 2008
Laval, QC

Waverly J Lebard, BDS 1976
Waynesboro, PA

Tammi Teng Yin Ling, BSc, Bcom 2007,
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Srihari Mahadev, MBBS 2010
New York, NY

Peter D C Mason, BBec 1981, LLB 1983
Brooklyn, NY

Erica Grace Mayer, MPH 2009,
Glendale, AZ

Wendy Qin, MInternatPHLth 2010
Silver Spring, MD

William Radler, Master of International
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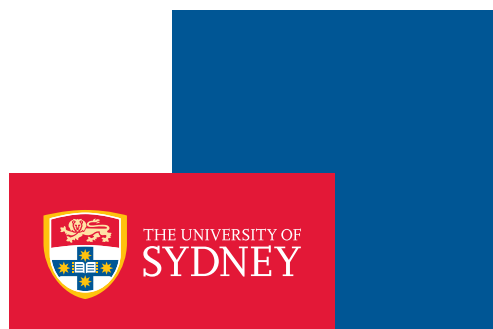
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database with current information. Membership includes participation in business decisions of SUGUNA, in person or by proxy. In accordance with the agreement between SUGUNA and the University of Sydney, Membership

Dues are not required. Readers are encouraged to offer comments and suggestions and to ask any questions concerning SUGUNA. Please refer to any SUGUNA Officer – contact details are noted above.



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THAT WILL BE REMEMBERED
TOMORROW



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