

# Humber dialogue

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS

FALL 2011

**International  
excellence**

Humber around the world

**Honouring  
grads**

meet our  
Alumni of Distinction

**education for all**

**Rumeet Toor**



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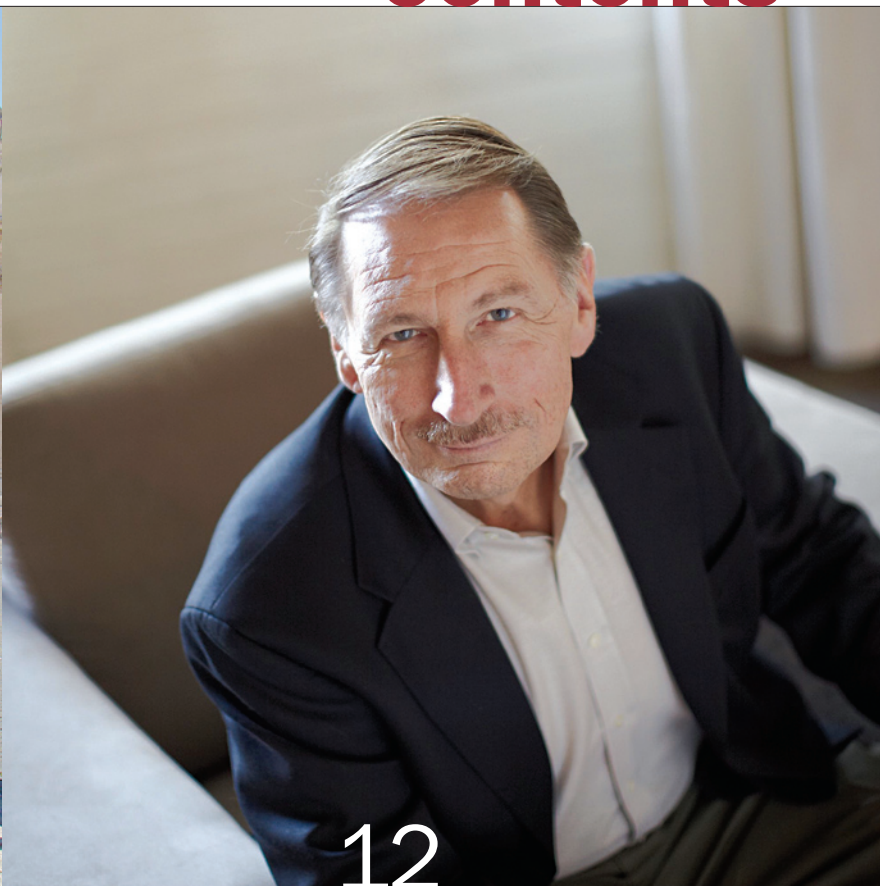


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Photography by  
Geoff George

## president's message

JOHN DAVIES > President, Humber College Institute of Technology & Advanced Learning

**Welcome** to the international issue of *Humber dialogue*. Over the past 44 years, Humber has established itself as a premier institution for global success. Our understanding of, and interest in, international issues has fuelled a variety of initiatives, resulting in a myriad of programs and opportunities for students, faculty, staff and newcomers to Canada.

More and more, the world is becoming a "smaller place" due in part to instant communication, increased business activity and immediate awareness of catastrophic events. Because of this, individuals who have international knowledge or experience have a competitive edge when entering a changing workplace. Several of our programs deal specifically with global affairs. Many of these and others have a study abroad component allowing students to take their education beyond the classroom.

While an important part of our mission is to provide students with international experience and perspectives, we also welcome students from around the world. Humber's vast range of academic programs and services attract top students who enrich the culture and diversity of the college.

Our faculty are involved in global pursuits, sharing their knowledge with people around the world. One of those exceptional teachers is Eva Ziemsen who on a recent trip to Bhutan lent her expertise to their fledgling film industry. Eva's experience reached far beyond helping the Bhutanese students. She has since shared her experiences with her students here at Humber and plans to connect her students with the Bhutanese participants.

From its inception, Humber has engaged in international partnerships and activities to support education overseas. Working with education ministries, universities, colleges, community and non-governmental organizations, Humber provides a range of educational services such as teacher training, development of technical colleges, and curriculum development. A prime example is our work with the Bangladesh Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry, helping to build capacity for women wishing to establish and manage small businesses.

Finally, I am proud to announce our new Bachelor of International Development degree program which will begin in the fall of 2012. The degree will provide students with a theoretical foundation as well as professional and technical skills both in the classroom and on their work placements. Employment opportunities are wide-ranging including diverse careers such as managing food security programs, co-ordinating relief efforts and developing funding plans for charities.

Humber's vision of excellence reaches from our local communities to every corner of the globe. We educate, help and welcome citizens of the world. Our doors are always open — from those looking to change careers to those looking to change the world.



## Humber dialogue

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### humber's vision

Excellence in polytechnic education

### mission

Humber develops broadly educated, highly skilled and adaptable citizens who significantly contribute to the educational, economic and social development of their communities. We accomplish this by:

- preparing learners for careers through a comprehensive choice of educational credentials in a broad range of programming
- developing informed and engaged citizens through an applied and liberal education
- enabling organizations to enhance their effectiveness through customized training and lifelong learning opportunities
- supporting our local communities through outreach activities

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## new spaces



Ceremonial sod turning at Humber's North Campus

## Humber receives funding FOR LEARNING RESOURCE COMMONS

Earlier this year, a packed crowd of students, faculty and staff gathered as the provincial government announced that Humber College will receive a large grant toward building a new student services centre at the college's North Campus.

Dr. Shafiq Qaadri, MPP for Etobicoke North, announced that Humber is the recipient of \$64.1 million from the Ontario government for a \$91.5 million development project. The centre will be the new gateway to the campus.

The new Learning Resource Commons and Student Services Centre will enable Humber's North Campus to accommodate 2,200 additional students. The six-storey, 240,000 square-foot structure will feature group and independent study spaces along with enhanced library and customer services. The development will also provide the opportunity to restructure the campus roadways to allow public transit vehicles to drop off and pick up passengers on campus.

"Humber is the fastest growing Ontario college with the highest applicant demand in the province," says Humber President, John Davies. "This grant will help us continue to provide our students with modern facilities and a high quality educational experience that prepares them for their future careers." The project is anticipated to break ground in early 2012 with completion expected in September 2014.

**President announces retirement** Humber President, John Davies, has announced plans to retire at the end of the 2011–2012 academic year. Look for our next edition of *Humber dialogue* as Davies reflects on his time at Humber and how his leadership has contributed to shaping the college's future.

## Faculty achievements

Humber Theatre Performance professor, **Diana Belshaw**, was awarded the 2011 Maggie Bassett Award by Theatre Ontario. The award is presented annually to an individual who has made a sustained and significant contribution to the development of theatre in the province. An actor and director for more than 40 years, Belshaw has worked at theatres across Canada.

**Elizabeth J. Duncan's** third novel, *A Killer's Christmas in Wales* was recently published. Her first novel, *The Cold Light of Mourning*, won the William F. Deek-Malice Domestic Grant and the St. Martin's Press/Malice award and was nominated for two major mystery writing awards, the Arthur Ellis and the Agatha. Duncan is a Humber graduate and an instructor in Humber's Public Relations and Humber School for Writers programs.

Humber writing instructor, **Jeff Latosik**, has won the Trillium Book Award for English-language poetry. The \$10,000 award is presented annually by the Ontario government. The province's leading award for literature, the prize recognizes writing excellence and fosters increased public awareness of the quality and diversity of Ontario writers.

**John Steckley**, professor of sociology and anthropology, has recently written a new and distinctly Canadian textbook, *Introduction to Physical Anthropology*. The book, published by Oxford Press, is designed to allow students to explore basic and advanced anthropological concepts.

## humber headlines

### a royal MEAL

When the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, Prince William and Princess Catherine, visited Canada this past spring, their first banquet meal came from a kitchen where Humber College students were cooking. Humber was invited to participate in the June 30 meal and five recent graduates were part of the culinary crew.

**“This was the biggest and most exciting event that I have ever cooked for. I am proud and thankful that I had the opportunity to represent Humber and to help make this event a success.”**

**BROOKE DE ANGELIS**

Sophie Doria and Brooke De Angelis cook for the royal visit >



## Student successes

Students in a wide cross-section of Humber programs are already

**David Da Costa and Zachary Piskun**

(Electromechanical Engineering Technology – Automation and Robotics) are the top mechatronics students in Canada after winning gold at both the provincial and national levels of the Skills Canada 2011 competition.

Mechatronics concerns the design and building of Automated PLC-controlled electro-mechanical systems. Skills Canada is a national, not-for-

profit organization that promotes skilled trades and technology careers among Canadian youth.

**Hania Arafat** (Bachelor of Applied Arts - Interior Design) worked with instructor Bettina Takacs on the redesign of the Great Lakes Brewery building's storefront and public entrance. Great Lakes, the oldest craft brewery in Toronto, approached Humber looking for innovative designs that would mesh well with the current architecture. The brewery plans to implement many of Arafat's and Takacs' design suggestions.

**Mark DeBonis** (Comedy Writing and Performance) beat out 64 competitors from across Canada to win the 2011 Yuk Yuk's Great Canadian Laugh-Off contest held in Toronto. The win includes a \$25,000 cash prize and a Comedy Network Special.



Skills Canada winners with faculty member, Neal Mohammed (centre)



# Top marks

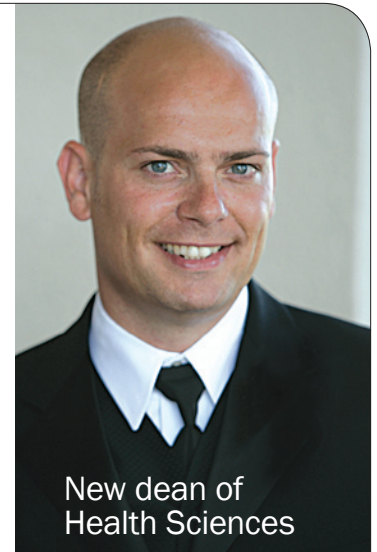
According to the 2010–2011 KPI\* survey, Humber is the Greater Toronto Area's number one college for graduate satisfaction and, for student satisfaction, number one for teaching and learning. The school also has the highest graduation employment rate among GTA colleges.

This fall, Humber was named one of Canada's Top Employers for Young People for 2011 by Mediacorp Canada Inc., as part of its annual competition. Recognized employers are considered Canada's leaders in attracting and retaining younger employees to their organizations.

\*Key Performance Indicators (KPI) is a method of measuring how well Ontario colleges meet the needs of students and the marketplace.

## TEDx comes to Humber

This past spring, Humber public relations students put their heads together and created TEDxHumberCollege, the first ever TEDx event held at a Canadian college. Titled More Than Words, the team brought together speakers from the Humber community – faculty, alumni and students – whose passionate ideas, innovative projects and compelling stories reflected emerging concepts in communication. The event was attended by an audience of more than 100 people, was watched live online by several hundred and became a top Twitter trend across Canada. Independently-organized TEDx events are held throughout the world, created in the spirit of TED's mission of "ideas worth spreading".



New dean of  
Health Sciences

Jason Powell has recently been appointed the new dean of the School of Health Sciences. Powell is a Humber alumnus and has taught at the school for nine years including having the role of program co-ordinator for the Practical Nursing program. He holds a BScN and MScN and is currently working on his PhD. While pursuing these degrees, Powell worked in several Greater Toronto Area hospitals before returning to Humber to assume his recent appointment. Powell believes that although the next few years will be challenging due to changes in the health-care sector, the School of Health Sciences will remain one of the premiere schools in the country and that its graduates will continue to be the preferred choice among employers.

### distinguishing themselves in their chosen fields:

**Sophie Doria** (Culinary Management and Apprentice) won gold at the Canadian Culinary Federation's Junior Culinary Competition in Ontario and then represented the province at the nationals in Vancouver, where she placed third. She also placed second at Skills Canada and Commis Rotisseur – Jeune Chaine chef competitions. After graduating, Doria was one of five Humber students selected to cook for Prince William and Princess Catherine during their visit to Canada.

**Regis Dudley** (Public Relations) was named the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC)/Toronto 2011 Student of the Year. The award, which recognizes an IABC student member's excellence in communication, includes a cash prize of \$500.

Dudley also had her work published in the OVATION Award Winning Entries Booklet.

**Chris Rennie** (Bachelor of Applied Music – Contemporary Music) was awarded the Galaxie Rising Stars top scholarship of \$1,500 at the TD Ottawa International Jazz Festival. The saxophonist performed with the TD Jazz Youth Summit.

**Amanda Richer** (Film and Television Production) was named best Canadian filmmaker at the Toronto International Deaf Film and Arts Festival (TIDAF). Richer, who has a hearing disability, directed *Marianne Matters*, a subtitled, eight-minute documentary about one woman's battle with schizophrenia and the steadfast dedication of her sister.

## humber headlines

### The Humber Hawk's men's golf

**team** won the RCGA's University/College Championship this spring, completing the 72 holes an impressive 18 strokes over the runners-up, the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds.

Capping off a triumphant golf season, team captain Mark Hoffman (right) was named Humber's male athlete of the year. As well as the RCGA team title, his victories included the individual men's title at the tourney, and winning the 2011 Investors Group Ontario Amateur Championship in Brampton.

Hoffman was joined by Greg Belsito and Adrian Cord as part of the Canadian golf team at the 26th Summer Universiade in China. Professional Golf Management program co-ordinator, Ray Chateau, served as head coach and team leader. The team finished well, placing 8 out of 16 countries.

Hoffman, Belsito and Cord were also named All Canadian by the Golf Coaches Association of Canada.



## hawk's nest

### Join the Flight Crew!

Come cheer on your favourite Humber Hawks Varsity teams as part of the official fan club.

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# learning

## BEYOND BORDERS



**W**hen it comes to the global community, Humber's international credentials never fail to impress. Whether it's through internationally focused programs, study/work abroad options, supporting internationally trained professionals, or faculty teaching overseas, the international reach of the Humber community stretches far and wide. No surprise for a school already celebrated for its diversity, with more than a third of students and staff born outside of Canada.

Humber's worldwide connections offer unparalleled opportunities to engage in global citizenship, build on an area of study, practise a foreign language, and acquire experience for a future career. The list of international programs and partnerships is exhaustive. Here are just a few noteworthy examples.

### Humber-Ningbo-Jimei partnership

**What it is:** A program in international business for students from China. Students take their first two years at Ningbo or Jimei University in China and receive a Humber Business Management diploma. In their second year, they are taught by both Humber and Ningbo/Jimei professors. Many travel to Canada for a third year at Humber, earning them a diploma in Business Administration.

**Wow factor:** Students come from as far away as Shanghai, Tibet, and Mongolia to gain exposure to international business practices in two countries. Launched in 1996, the program is considered one of the longest running and most successful postsecondary programs linking Canada and China.



### Humber music partnerships with South Korea and France

**What it is:** Humber's Music program has partnerships with two renowned music schools overseas: the Paekche Institute for the Arts in South Korea, and the Paris Conservatory in France. After completing two years at their home institutions, highly talented young musicians who qualify, travel to Canada to complete Humber's Bachelor of Applied Music - Contemporary Music degree.

**Wow factor:** Humber's Music program has a long tradition of attracting students from around the world thanks to its excellent reputation as one of the foremost music schools in North America. In addition to welcoming students from South Korea and France, Humber has recently hosted young virtuosos from Columbia, Brazil, Mexico, Sweden, Australia, South Africa and the UK.

### International business certificates and degrees

**What they are:** Humber offers three programs for students interested in an international career: postgraduate certificates in International Development and International Marketing, and a four-year degree in International Business. The school will also offer an International Development degree beginning in 2012-2013.

**Wow factor:** Students taking the International Business degree have the option to study for a semester in the United States, Ireland, Austria, Germany, Japan, or New Zealand. In the International Development certificate, every student completes a work placement at a well-known humanitarian organization such as Doctors Without Borders (in South Sudan), the World Literacy Foundation (India) and World Vision (Costa Rica).



## MILE (More International Learning Experience)

**What it is:** A study abroad program, offered through the School of Liberal Arts & Sciences, where Humber students from a variety of academic schools can earn a general education credit. While travelling with a faculty member, students learn about the culture and history of a country or region. Assignments are based on lectures and experiential learning on the trip.

**Wow factor:** On a recent MILE Italy course, students learned about Cicero, Julius Caesar and St. Augustine, bringing pagan and Christian Rome alive during their time in the Italian capital. In Florence, they took in artworks, tombs, and other important historic sites related to legendary and world historical figures.

**“It was fantastic to experience Italian culture first-hand. Taking the course and travelling to Europe was one of the best and most eye-opening experiences of my life.”**

Alex Fuller, student



## Screenwriting in Bhutan

**What happened:** Humber faculty members often teach in other parts of the world. But when Eva Ziemsen, co-ordinator of Humber's Film and Television Production program, was invited to teach a screenwriting course in Bhutan, the experience was truly special. The Bhutanese government's Department of Information and Media was interested in formalizing Bhutan's film industry – up until then, there had never been any kind of film course offered there. Ziemsen condensed her semester-long course for a class of 20 talented and eager students.

**Wow factor:** Ziemsen is now looking into ways to have her department's lectures recorded so they can be shared with Bhutan. She is also planning to connect second-year Humber screenwriting students with her Bhutanese students as pen pals.

## Study tour opportunities

**What it is:** A 15-week course for Hospitality Tourism students which includes a two-week study tour abroad. The travel component is designed to complement classroom learning.

**Wow factor:** In a recent Study @ Sea course, students attended interactive lectures and workshops aboard MV Explorer, a “floating university campus,” where they studied the politics, history, culture, and natural environment of Central America.

## The Humber-NKUHT Study Abroad and Cultural Exchange program

**What it is:** Through this innovative partnership, third-year students from the National Kaohsiung University of Hospitality & Tourism (NKUHT) in Taiwan visit Canada for just over a year. Following two semesters of study, students go on four-month summer internships across Canada. Starting in January 2012, the program will expand so that Humber's hospitality and tourism students have the chance to study for a semester at NKUHT, followed by a work experience in Kaohsiung or Taipei. The partnership also brings NKUHT faculty to Humber and vice versa.

**Wow factor:** The level of integrated and immersive learning that the program provides. Students from Kaohsiung attend classes alongside Humber students, and work at hotels, resorts and other popular tourism destinations across Canada.

**“One of the important components of this cultural exchange is the integration opportunity. Students aren't just in a class with those they came with; they are learning along with people from another culture.”**

Alister Mathieson, dean, School of Hospitality, Recreation & Tourism







## Field/clinical placement opportunities

**What it is:** Several of Humber's Health Sciences programs offer opportunities for students to gain invaluable practicum experience in developing countries. In the Occupational Therapist Assistant and Physiotherapist Assistant diploma program, and the Early Childhood – Advanced Studies in Special Needs postgraduate programs, second-year students combine academic studies with a service learning volunteer opportunity in Mexico. Practical Nursing diploma students have a placement opportunity in Tanzania, where they travel to small villages and educate community members in public health clinics and hospitals.

**Wow factor:** These international opportunities offer full cultural immersion while abroad. Students have a chance to make a difference, from working at a school for children with differing abilities or with adults in long-term care facilities, to addressing important public health topics such as HIV/AIDS, female genital mutilation, and immunization.

## Trades Win Support Program

**What it is:** An 11-week program for internationally trained mechanics, plumbers, millwrights and industrial electricians. Offered in partnership with Skills for Change, a non-profit agency that offers employment programs for Canadian newcomers, the program helps tradespeople build on their expertise and acquire the skills and knowledge they need to prepare for Canadian government qualification exams. Humber also offers a variety of other programs for international professionals, such as the Engineering Software Skills Enhancement Program for mechanical, civil and electrical engineers.

**Wow factor:** More than 70 per cent of Trades Win Support graduates go on to pass their career qualification exams, allowing them to work in their area of expertise.

**“Some of our students had no idea where to go or what to do to be able to continue in their profession in Canada. I've seen people make big, positive changes in their lives as a result of this program.”**

Joe Tomona, associate dean, School of Applied Technology



## The International Centre

**What it is:** Since the 1970s, Humber has offered programs that help facilitate a smooth transition for international students, who are attracted by Humber's excellent faculty, outstanding resources, and strong, career-focused programming. Today, the International Centre actively recruits students in more than 25 countries and works with other Humber departments to develop new international programs with academic institutions and other partners worldwide. Centre staff offer counselling on topics such as immigration and academic matters; help students find their way around campus and Toronto; and organize social activities and outings. There are two international centres, one located at Humber's North Campus and the other at the Lakeshore Campus. An expansion is now underway to the Lakeshore centre which will be completed in 2012.

**Wow factor:** Humber has 2,700 international students – more than 10 per cent of the student body – who come from 99 different countries.

## Service learning project

**What happened:** In winter 2011, two Humber staff members led a group of students on a weeklong service learning opportunity in the Dominican Republic. The group volunteered with Orphanage Outreach, an organization that works to transform the lives of orphaned, abandoned and disadvantaged children while providing a personal growth opportunity for international volunteers. The Humber team worked with schoolchildren in the community, teaching English classes and participating in recreational activities.

**Wow factor:** Children in the Dominican Republic attend school for only half a day. The Humber students knew they were making a difference when some of the children showed up during the remaining half day, when they weren't expected.

**In Kenya**, children need uniforms to attend school. They also need teachers who are properly trained and a community that values education. At the very root of these things, is a need for the schools themselves. Rumeet Toor, a 28-year-old doctoral student and Humber grad, has seen these challenges and has turned them into opportunities, spearheading initiatives to facilitate education in developing countries.

“Educating myself and providing the opportunity for others to become educated has always been my passion,” says Toor. “My parents emigrated from India to Canada so that my siblings and I could receive a quality education. That value has remained important to me ever since.”

A committed lifelong learner, Toor’s list of academic credentials is impressive. She has an undergraduate degree in Industrial Relations and Sociology, and a Master’s in Higher Education, both from the University of Toronto. She also has several certificates, including one in Human Resources Management from Humber College, and is currently pursuing a PhD in Higher Education.

While many students find pursuing postsecondary education sufficiently challenging, Toor also began her professional career during this time. In the second year of her undergraduate degree, she became the president and CEO of Jobs in Education, an employment job board bringing together employers and candidates who are seeking a career in the education sector. While this venture was successful, she developed the desire to make an even greater impact. “I began to explore broader, global issues of education,” she says. “I wanted to leave a legacy that was driven by creating social change.” Toor became a social entrepreneur and now uses a percentage of the profits from her business to launch various projects that support educational initiatives around the world.

Toor’s most recent project is the creation, development, and implementation of The Toor Centre for Teacher Education in rural Kenya. While previously building schools in Ecuador, Toor explored the issues of quality of education and a lack of teacher training, especially in rural areas. She discovered that most teachers’ colleges in developing countries are located in cities and the commute is often too long and difficult for most rural residents. And when someone does go to the city for training, they’re not likely to come back to the countryside. Her idea was to provide teacher training in rural areas so that most of the students would be able to commute from nearby villages.

Toor took her findings and used them in an assignment in her Master’s program, developing a strategic plan to implement a teacher training centre. What started out as a five-year plan on paper, turned into a reality in just one year with the Kikima community in Kenya embracing the idea. Toor worked closely with members of the community who donated an old existing building to become the school. Her organization financed the renovations and provided the startup funding with the goal that the school will be self-sustaining. The school opened last year with 14 students and recently took in 20 more candidates.

Toor’s accomplishments in education in developing countries have resulted in numerous accolades. In 2008, she received the honour of being named one of Canada’s Top 100 Most Powerful Women in the future leaders category. Since then, she was selected to represent Canada at the 6th Annual UNESCO International Leadership Programme: A Global Intergenerational Forum, and was a facilitator for the European Regional Forum in Italy. Additionally, she was the Canadian Ambassador for the IGOAL: Education for All campaign with FIFA World Cup.

Toor has now come full circle and is teaching a leadership course at Humber. “I am so pleased to be back at Humber in a teaching capacity. This is where I received the foundation for my current work,” says Toor. “Now I have the opportunity to share my knowledge and give back.”



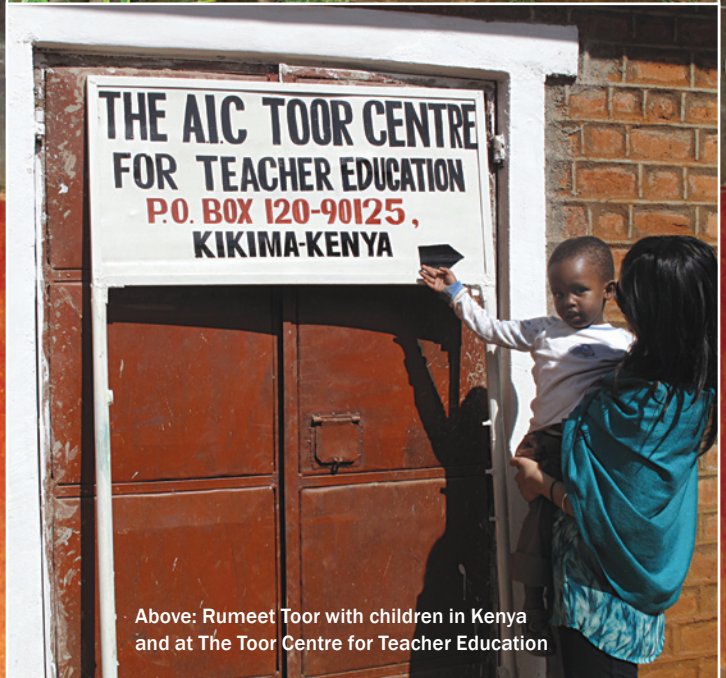
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Faith Mwen



# International classrooms



“I began to explore broader, global issues of education. I wanted to leave a legacy that was driven by creating social change.”



Above: Rumeet Toor with children in Kenya and at The Toor Centre for Teacher Education



# Alumni OF DISTINCTION

2011

The following five Humber graduates were presented with the 2011 Humber Alumni of Distinction award, given to graduates whose professional lives exemplify exceptional success and commitment. These alumni have also been nominated for Premier's Awards. Presented annually, the Premier's Awards celebrate the outstanding contributions that Ontario College graduates make to the province and throughout the world.

## Suzanne Dimma >

**Interior Design, 1993**

**Current position:** Editor-In-Chief, Canadian House & Home, and Maison et Demeure magazines

**Career highlights:** readership has grown over 10 per cent yearly under her leadership

- grew House & Home to reach 2.3 million people monthly including readership in the United States
- co-produced, co-created and hosted her own television series on HGTV, seen in more than 15 countries
- acted as the home design director for Wish, Canadian Family and Gardening Life magazines

**Humber's influence:** acquiring essential tools and skills: big picture thinking, attention to detail, independent and collaborative work ability and a strong work ethic

**Awards:** Two National Magazine awards for art direction and photography





PHOTOGRAPHY: GEOFF GEORGE

## < Gordon Schofield

**Business Administration, 1976**

**Current position:** Founding Partner, Murphy Business Canada; Owner/President Commerce Harbor Inc.

**Career highlights:** 35-year veteran in the business world

- information technology executive for 20 years; mergers/acquisitions advisory executive for 15 years
- first college graduate hired by IBM into sales with the data processing division
- former president of Ingram Micro in Canada, building the business by \$1.1 billion over four years

**Humber's influence:** receiving a variety of business skills that helped develop the confidence and motivation to achieve anything

**Words to live by:** Recognize that you alone are responsible for what you achieve in life. The most successful individuals demonstrate effort, humility, compassion and appreciation.

## Rahul Singh >

**Paramedic, 1993**

**Current position:** Paramedic; Founder and Director, Emergency Programs with GlobalMedic

**Career highlights:** has led more than 50 disaster relief missions in more than 30 countries

- since its inception, GlobalMedic has donated more than \$10 million worth of relief items worldwide
- named one of "Canada's Top 40 Under 40"
- included on Time Magazine's list of 100 Most Influential People in the World

**Humber's influence:** gaining the skills and knowledge to face the challenges of work in the paramedic field

**Awards:** William Allen Award from Toronto EMS, the Toronto Paramedic Association for Humanitarian Effort, the Indo-Canadian Chamber of Commerce's Humanitarian of the Year, and the Ontario Paramedic Association's Humanitarian Award



PHOTOGRAPHY: SAKANA PHOTOGRAPHY



## Steve Wargalla

**Data Processing, 1973**

**Current position:** Vice-President, Intelliware Development Inc.

**Career highlights:** throughout a 30-year career, has helped organizations solve business problems by applying innovative technologies

- founded Impletech International Inc.
- worked internationally for KPMG
- developed the President's Choice Recipe Box mobile app

**Greatest accomplishment:** building Impletech from an idea to a staff of 70 people in two countries

**Words to live by:** Honour your commitments. Treat your customers and fellow workers with respect and empathy.



PHOTOGRAPHY: GEOFF GEORGE







## < Daniel McDonald

**Law and Security Administration, 1978; Advanced Police Science, 1983**

**Current position:** Deputy Chief, Peel Regional Police

**Career highlights:** 32-year member of the Peel Regional Police

- has worked in Uniform Patrol, Intelligence Bureau and the Criminal Investigations Bureau, with involvement in homicides, the drug squad and the Special Investigations Unit
- in charge of 60 bureaus and 1,300 officers

**Greatest contribution:** the ability to provide employees with opportunities for success - supporting programs and ideas that have been developed and brought forward by them

**Greatest accomplishment:** being a successful police leader and working with the community



## < Jade Jager Clark

**Fashion Arts, 2007**

**Current position:** Owner and Artistic Director, Jade's Hip Hop Academy

**Career highlights:** opened her own business at the age of 18

- multi-faceted career includes artistic director, choreographer, teacher and businesswoman
- teaches more than 220 students
- has raised the profile of, and gained more respect for, authentic hip hop dance

**Greatest contribution:** choosing to make a difference and affect change in the community and in the lives of others

**Greatest inspiration:** her mother who is her role model and is always supportive

*Jager Clark was nominated for a Premier's Award only. Recent graduates are not eligible for Alumni of Distinction awards.*





## Breaking down barriers

As one of just a handful of female students in Humber's Electronics Engineering Technology program, Durray Farooqi vowed to prove that women can succeed on an equal footing with men. When she graduated in 2007, she received the HOPE bursary sponsored by the University Women's Club (Toronto) Heritage Fund and awarded to the best female student in a non-traditional program.

After a brief stint working at Research In Motion, Farooqi returned to school to study electrical engineering at Lakehead University, graduating with a Bachelor of Engineering degree in 2010. Earlier this year, she joined Ciena Corporation as a hardware characterization engineer. She feels right at home working in the multinational corporation's high-tech R&D facility and credits her time at Humber for instilling in her the confidence necessary to do so. "At Humber, my professors encouraged me to believe in myself, work hard and pursue my goals," says Farooqi. "Because of that I can now mentor other young women considering careers in engineering."



**"At Humber, my professors encouraged me to believe in myself. Because of that, I can now mentor other young women considering careers in engineering."**

## < Digital dynamo

Matt Di Paola has worn a lot of different hats during his 16 years in the interactive, advertising and public relations industries. After obtaining a degree in political science, he attended Humber, earning a postgraduate certificate in public relations in 1994. He landed work in PR and event marketing, but within four years had switched to the digital realm of e-commerce.

With his expertise in both communications and high-tech, Di Paola soon found himself on the leading edge of developments in interactive and social marketing. He's put these and other skills to work in management roles at several of Canada's top advertising agencies, including Leo Burnett, Tribal DDB and Proximity. His work for Canadian and global blue-chip clients earned numerous awards, including three Lions at the Cannes

competition, the ad industry's equivalent of the Oscars. Di Paola recently joined MediaCom Canada in the newly created role of chief strategy and innovation officer, with responsibility for strategic planning, digital, research & insights, business sciences and branded entertainment.

Di Paola also embraces variety when it comes to his extracurricular pursuits. He's on the advisory councils of Google, nextMEDIA and AOL and has been a guest speaker at the Banff World Media Festival and SXSW. Passionate about the arts, he raised thousands of dollars for Toronto's film festival before it became the international juggernaut it is today.

Di Paola credits his time at Humber for laying the groundwork for whatever challenges he's taken on. "The PR program taught us research and organizational skills, and how to prioritize and think critically - all those skills that serve you well whatever you do in life."

# HONORARY DEGREES

Humber celebrated eight outstanding individuals, granting them honorary degrees in 2011.

**Howard Breen** has more than 30 years experience in the marketing communications industry. He has worked with multinational companies on both the agency and client side in Canada and the United States. He is the former chairman and CEO of MacLaren McCann WorldGroup. In 2009-2010, Breen became the first marketer-in-residence in Humber's Business School.

**"You can achieve anything in life if your persistence and determination are rock solid."**

**Tony DiGiovanni** is the executive director of Landscape Ontario, Ontario's premier horticulture trades association. He is recognized nationally for his leadership role in advancing the horticulture industry and promoting the benefits of community green spaces.

**"The simple idea of being able to choose your own attitude under any circumstances is one of the most liberating and profound life lessons."**

**Irwin Elman** holds an extensive background as an educator, counsellor, youth worker, program manager, policy developer, and child and youth advocate. He is Ontario's first independent provincial advocate for children and youth.

**"Decide to make a difference. It takes enormous courage, but always say 'I can'."**

**Steve Paikin** is an award-winning journalist, documentary producer and author. Since 2006, Paikin has been the anchor and senior editor of *The Agenda with Steve Paikin*, TVO's flagship current affairs program.

**"Why fit in when you were born to stand out?"**

Entrepreneur, **Mia Pearson**, is the creator of North Strategic, a communications agency helping clients execute programs that are social by design. Before this, she was co-founder and CEO of High Road Communications and was regional president of Fleishman-Hillard Canada.

**"Have a strong work ethic and be yourself – everyone else is taken."**

**Gordon Schofield**, a 35-year veteran in the business world, is president/CEO of Commerce Harbor Inc. and partner/investor in Murphy Business. Previously, he was the president of Canada's largest technology distributor.

**"There is great importance in being a positive person – lead your own path to success."**

**Judson W. Simpson**, a certified chef de cuisine, has been the executive chef at the House of Commons in Ottawa since 1991. He has worked at many Toronto landmark hotels and restaurants and has been a successful competitor and team manager in various culinary competitions.

**"Learning from your mistakes is an opportunity for growth and success."**

**Miriam Toews**, is a nationally and internationally known writer. She has won numerous awards for her work including several for *A Complicated Kindness*. This novel was shortlisted for the ScotiaBank Giller Prize, won the Governor General's Award and was chosen for the 2006 Canada Reads competition. Her most recent book is *Irma Voth*.

**"It's your responsibility to goad, tease, confront, defy and rebel."**

## upcoming events

### DECEMBER 2011

- Dec. 6 7:00 p.m.  
Dressing for the job YOU want  
Humber Fashion Institute  
\$25  
RSVP to [alumni@humber.ca](mailto:alumni@humber.ca)  
or 416.673.0152
- Dec. 7 12:15 p.m.  
Tod Maffin  
From backpack to briefcase:  
How to thrive in the hyperspeed  
workforce without losing your mind  
Auditorium, Lakeshore Campus  
Complimentary  
Visit [humber.ca/degree-lecture-series](http://humber.ca/degree-lecture-series)

### JANUARY 2012

- Jan. 24 7:00 p.m.  
Social media & your job search  
\$5  
RSVP to [alumni@humber.ca](mailto:alumni@humber.ca)  
or 416.673.0152

### FEBRUARY 2012

- Feb. 1 6:00 p.m.  
Athletics throw back night  
Men's and women's basketball:  
Humber vs. Sheridan  
Gymnasium, North Campus  
Complimentary  
For a complete game schedule,  
visit [humber.ca/athletics](http://humber.ca/athletics)
- Feb. 2 James Bartleman  
7th Semester, North Campus  
Complimentary
- Feb. 29 1:45 p.m.  
Jian Ghomeshi  
L1017, Lakeshore Campus  
Complimentary  
Visit [humber.ca/liberalarts](http://humber.ca/liberalarts)  
for lecture details

### Music and theatre

Reconnect with us through the arts.  
Visit [humber.ca/scapa](http://humber.ca/scapa) for theatre and  
music showtimes and details. Or visit our  
blog or on twitter: @humbercreative



## A MESSAGE

### from the alumni relations team

The Alumni Office has recently added new programs and perks to benefit you, our Humber grads. Here are some highlights:

- a new affinity partner, Manulife Financial, offering preferred rates on insurance plans including health, dental and term life
- a Humber alumni presence on social media... join the conversation on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn
- discounts on theatre, sports, accommodation and more. Have a look at all our perks on page 6.

Coming up next is the launch of e-communications. We're creating an e-newsletter which will provide you with regular updates on Humber as well as activities, benefits and how you can stay connected with us. Be sure to share your updated email address with us so you don't miss a thing.

We'd like to hear what you think of our new offerings and what else you'd like to see. **Drop us a line at [alumni@humber.ca](mailto:alumni@humber.ca). Let's stay connected.**



## Comedy grads steal the show

**Five alumni from the Comedy Writing and Performance program won top prizes at the Canadian Comedy Awards held this fall.**

<b>Eric Andrews</b>	Best Stand-Up Newcomer
<b>Debra DiGiovanni</b>	Best Stand-Up Female
<b>Sarah Hillier</b>	Best Female Improviser
<b>Nikki Payne</b>	Best Taped Live Performance
<b>Josh Saltzman</b>	Best Web Clip in <i>That Thing That Happened</i>

## class notes



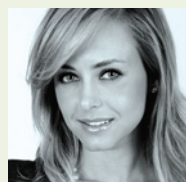
**Simon Forrest-Power** (Police Foundations, 2004) has opened Forrest-Power Insurance Brokers Ltd., where he serves as vice-president. Prior to that, he worked for Willis Canada, the third largest insurance brokerage firm in the world.



**Dale Gagne** (Film and Television Production, 1995) was recently the picture editor for an episode of *Little Mosque on the Prairie*. Past career highlights include being the visual effects producer for the feature film *Splice*, head of editorial for C.O.R.E. Digital Pictures, and production manager for various animated projects including two CG features, *The Ant Bully* and *The Wild*.



**Matt Giffin** (Music, 2010) was recently featured as an accompanist on Global Television's new series, *Canada Sings*. Since graduation, he has played on countless stages across Canada and the United States, some of which include the Montreal Jazz Festival, Live Green TO Festival as well as concerts at Trent University and Dalhousie University.



**Marissa McMahon** (Paralegal Studies, 2008) has joined Humber's Paralegal Studies Advisory Committee. She is currently employed as a legal compliance specialist at Crawford & Company which provides claims management solutions and legal settlement administration.



**Alfred Tonna** (Creative Cinematography, 1980) has recently contributed to the revamp and re-branding of VisionTV and the channel ONE. Past career highlights include working at OMNI Television and Citytv and receiving three Gemini Awards. He is currently the associate creative director for ZoomerMedia – Television Division.

**Tell us of your recent professional accomplishments by contacting us at [alumni@humber.ca](mailto:alumni@humber.ca)**

# An anniversary gift that lasts

Fifty years of business is an accomplishment in itself, but one of Humber's long-standing annual supporters has chosen to share that success with students in the college's Funeral Service Education program.

Guaranteed Funeral Deposits of Canada (GFD) is an independent, non-profit association of funeral professionals and experts in the field of preplanning funerals. For many years, they have had strong ties with Humber's program, with their board of directors all Humber graduates and its 356 members all virtually Humber alumni.

GFD also has a tradition of philanthropy by funding an annual \$1000 award to a student graduating from the Funeral Service Education program. To celebrate their milestone, GFD has taken a significant step in enhancing its financial contribution and has endowed a new scholarship. In doing so, they have created a lasting legacy for Humber students and the funeral service industry.

Through a great spirit of generosity, GFD and its members contributed \$25,000 to establish

the Guaranteed Funeral Deposits of Canada Scholarship. The endowed scholarship will be awarded annually to a Humber student who displays academic excellence, extracurricular leadership and financial need. "We knew that by giving \$25,000, it would be matched by the provincial government's Ontario Trust for Student Support," says GFD president and CAO, Harry Renaud. "The resulting \$50,000 is a meaningful way to celebrate our 50th milestone."

Adding to the impact of this significant gift, enhanced government matching support was received, bringing the total of the endowment to \$65,000. The donation is invested and kept intact, while the income it generates each year will fund the scholarship for years to come.

"Humber has an excellent program and establishing a scholarship just makes a lot of sense," says Renaud. "It's important for our industry to have a strong relationship with the college and support those who will one day join us in the work we do."

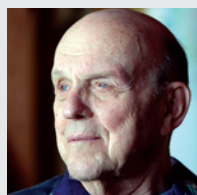
## Are you celebrating? Retiring? Remembering?

Tribute giving offers you the opportunity to honour someone special. Creating a gift in honour or in memorium makes a lasting impact on the lives of both current and future Humber students.

To learn more, visit  
**[humber.ca/giving](http://humber.ca/giving)**  
or contact us  
**[giving@humber.ca](mailto:giving@humber.ca)**  
**416.673.0152**

## Tribute giving

This past year several new tribute and memorial funds were established including:



### George Ferguson Memorial Scholarship

Earlier this year, former member of the Superior Court of Justice of Ontario, George Ferguson Q.C., passed away. A great friend to Humber, Ferguson served on the college's

board of governors from 1999 – 2005, and also received an honorary degree from Humber in 2006. In memory of Ferguson, and in lieu of flowers, his family chose to create a new endowed scholarship for Humber students. To date, well over \$11,000 has been raised.



### Patricia Fors Memorial Scholarship

Last summer Humber lost a great teacher and a loyal friend in Patricia Fors. Fors taught nursing at Humber for 25 years and as she was about to retire, she was diagnosed with

cancer. She passed away a few weeks later. Faculty, staff and students in the nursing program came together and established a scholarship in her name. With an overwhelming response, more than \$20,000 was raised.

Both of the new scholarships received matching funds from the Ontario Trust for Student Support government program.





> PATRICIA LOVETT-REID

## secrets to success

“Rather than focusing solely on debt reduction, working on improving your net worth is a more holistic way of financial planning.”

# Increasing your net worth

A comprehensive postsecondary education is one of the best ways of obtaining a sustainable competitive advantage in today's constantly evolving global economy. But, obtaining higher education is an expensive proposition and student debt is a fact of life for many. In fact, according to the 2011 TD Canada Trust Student Finances Survey, 64 per cent expect to graduate with debt hanging over their heads, with one quarter anticipating they will owe more than \$25,000.

As you proceed through your schooling and beyond, your focus will shift from paying for your education to one of paying down your debts. Rather than focusing solely on debt reduction, I would argue that focusing on improving your net worth is a more holistic way of financial planning as it takes into account both the asset and liability side of your personal balance sheet. You can increase net worth either by paying down liabilities or by growing assets or by doing both simultaneously.

### Get on top of debt

Take a step by step approach to tackling your debts.

**1 Take stock** Make a detailed list of all your outstanding debts and consolidate all your various household debts onto one statement.

**2 Set debt priorities** Rank the debts from the highest interest rate to the lowest. As a guideline, you'll want to pay the debts with the highest interest rates down before those with the lowest interest rates.

**3 Boost payments** Allocate a portion of each paycheck to debt reduction, and make as large a payment each month as you can. Use tax refunds and bonus pay to make lump sum payments against your debts.

buy things. So stop doing battle with your brain and use it to your advantage.

**Rewire your brain.** Pleasure from most purchases is fleeting. When you find yourself about to buy something that's not an absolute necessity, remind yourself of how little ongoing pleasure you got the last time around, and how guilty you felt.

**Make it real.** Say you're planning to purchase a home. Visualize the home of your dreams and then picture the party you'll throw. Making a future goal, such as home ownership, tangible will make it easier to put aside for a down payment, instead of a pricey restaurant meal.

**Think small.** You probably find that a big goal simply can be overwhelming. It's hard to convince yourself it's worth missing a night out in order to save for your retirement that is decades away. A good trick is to break down big goals into smaller and more immediate goals, like tucking away \$100 in to an RRSP each week! Small changes can yield big results. No one can take control of your financial future but you. It's your future, so take charge now!

### The psychology of saving

Observing the brain with magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), scientists can actually see the brain's pleasure centre lighting up as it gets a rush of a feel-good chemical called dopamine when you

Patricia Lovett-Reid, senior vice-president of TD Waterhouse Canada Inc., is one of Canada's leading and most respected authorities on personal finance. A certified financial planner, she is a speaker, author and television commentator. Lovett-Reid received an honorary degree from Humber in 2010.

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