

# Humber dialogue

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

WINTER 2011

## Global hero

Rahul Singh  
fights disaster

## At the top of their game

Alumni of distinction

George Stroumboulopoulos  
**in good company**



ALUMNI

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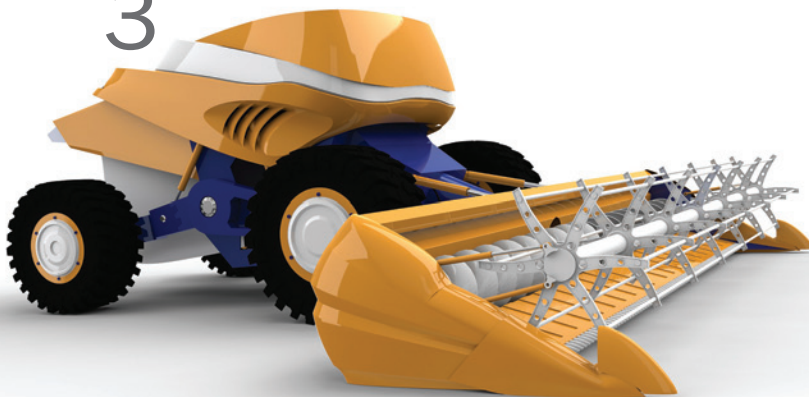
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## president's message

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

### As I walk the halls of Humber,

I see most students engrossed in their hand-held devices, something I didn't see even five years ago. New technology is changing the face of how we communicate with each other and how we become informed. To meet industry demands of this rapidly changing technology, and for Canada to maintain its international reputation as a leader in this field, Humber is continuing to build on its strong programs in media and communications.

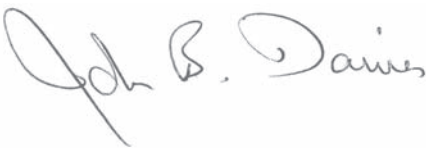
We have the largest college-level school in media studies, offering more than 30 different programs in media-related areas. Recognized as a destination of choice for students seeking specialized education, approximately 12,000 applications are received for 1,900 first year spaces available in the School of Media Studies & Information Technology. These select students demonstrate their exceptional skills in academic awards, industry competitions and career success. In fact, our journalism students have received more awards (including print, broadcast and online) than any other postsecondary journalism program in the country. This past year, our students won a record-breaking 49 awards in two prestigious college-level journalism competitions competing against students from across North America.

Our leading facilities and faculty fuel student success. In this issue, you will read about our new Humber Arts & Media Studios, housing film, media and television studios with state-of-the-art facilities. Another exciting venture is now underway – the creation of a new Centre for Digital Media & Communications at the Lakeshore Campus, part of a 100,000 square-foot learning environment slated to open at the end of this year. The introduction of two new and innovative bachelor's degree programs in public relations and journalism will give students more options and credentials.

We are pleased to feature in this issue one of our most notable graduates, well-known media figure George Stroumboulopoulos. George is a prime example of the kinds of skilled and talented Humber graduates who become outstanding in their fields. You'll read as George shares with us his path to success and how he sees emerging trends in media.

Media is but one sector in which Humber excels. In these pages, we have also featured alumni who are leaders in the fields of applied technology, business, community & social services, health, creative & performing arts, and recreation. Humber prides itself on educating leaders of tomorrow in all walks of life. Our students succeed; our graduates inspire them.

We hope you enjoy this issue of *Humber dialogue*.



## 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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## Faculty achievements

**This past year, Humber's award-winning faculty continued to be recognized for their outstanding work. Here are just a few of their successes.**

Humber music faculty member, **Don Thompson**, was awarded the Oscar Peterson Award by the Festival International de Jazz de Montréal. The award recognizes a performer's musicianship and exceptional contribution to the development of Canadian jazz. Thompson was also appointed to the Order of Canada, the highest honour the Canadian government can bestow upon a citizen.

*Fearless Female Journalists* written by journalism professor, **Joy Crysdale**, was shortlisted by the American Library Association's Amelia Bloomer Book List. The list comprises the best feminist books of the year for readers under the age of 18.

On-camera acting professor, **Janet-Laine Green** was cast in the lead role in the new VisionTV series *She's the Mayor*.

Green has been an actress, director, producer and teacher for over 25 years and has numerous film and television credits to her name.

Business professor, **Daniel Thompson** launched a mineral-based cosmetics collection. Thompson has been featured on national television and radio programs and is a magazine writer and online author.

## Skyrocketing to success

Each year, the Rocket Show helps graduating students from Ontario's three schools of industrial design launch their careers. Sponsored by the Association of Chartered Industrial Designers of Ontario, it showcases original products that the students designed for their senior level thesis studio projects. The Rocket Show is also a rigorous competition where entries are judged by criteria such as their degree of innovation, esthetics, user benefits and ability to solve a particular problem.

It pits Humber students from the Bachelor of Applied Technology – Industrial Design program against tough competitors in the field, Carleton University and OCAD University. But as results over the years indicate, Humber students with their special mix of academic and real-world experience continue to do exceedingly well. The graduating class of 2010 was no exception: at the 10th annual Rocket Show, Humber students took home a total of eight awards, including Best in Show.

That prize and two others went to Eric Springate for his prototype combine harvester. Having grown up on a farm, he took on the challenge of rethinking agricultural equipment from the ground up. His solution: a lightweight, hydrogen-powered autonomous combine designed to help farmers harvest more efficiently.

Vick Sahadeo also took home a prize for his unique interactive toy/learning device for children with autism. The AuToy is a simple-looking box that belies a sophisticated ability to automatically adjust its settings as a child's language skills and cognitive development improve.

These days, both are busy with full-time jobs. Springate works for a renewable energy manufacturer and Sahadeo at a firm specializing in consulting and project execution.

"I use what I learned at Humber every day," says Springate, words echoed by Sahadeo. "Industrial Design is a rigorous program but you learn from the best to become the best."



**Vick Sahadeo** (top) with his AuToy design. **Eric Springate's** combine harvester (below).



## the program

- one of the top industrial design programs in Ontario
- students learn to generate innovative product ideas, create designs, and bring them to life through CAD modelling, illustration and physical models
- proven track record of industry competition awards

### Hands on

Lars Kristjansen, Joel Lau and Anilson Cardoso with their E-Knee project



Joel Lau carefully scrutinizes a small piece of metal. He is part of the “E-Knee” team, creating an automated assistive walking leg brace that allows people with diminished leg function to walk with a normal gait.

In his third year in the Electromechanical Engineering Technology program, Lau and fellow student, Anilson Cardoso, are working on their

final year research project. Supervised by Lars Kristjansen, small business owner and Humber professor, the students are putting their studies into practice.

Lau, Cardoso and more than 100 other students are part of Humber’s expanding applied research program. With projects ranging from health sciences to business to liberal arts, the government and industry-funded program is designed to augment students’ education while helping local businesses and boosting Ontario’s economy. The result: industry and community organizations come to Humber with their problems and students and faculty help to solve them. Kristjansen’s company, Canadian Engineered Innovations, brought the E-Knee project to Humber. “Humber’s research program is a perfect fit for

“Rapid changes in technology and popular culture are merging various forms of communication.

### new spaces



## Lakeshore Campus growing

Humber’s Lakeshore Campus is undergoing significant expansion and renovation to keep the college at the forefront of postsecondary education. Complementing the historical buildings already on site, new facilities will enhance the

college’s capacity to prepare students for today’s high-tech and creative careers. They will also enable Humber to address the growing demand for new programs, especially degrees.

Construction is well underway on a four-storey,

100,000 square-foot building that is destined to become the centrepiece of the Lakeshore Campus. Outstanding in technological scope, the new building will be home to state-of-the-art equipment and facilities. A spacious commons

on the main floor will serve as a meeting and learning hub for students who will have access to classrooms and labs with cutting-edge technology.

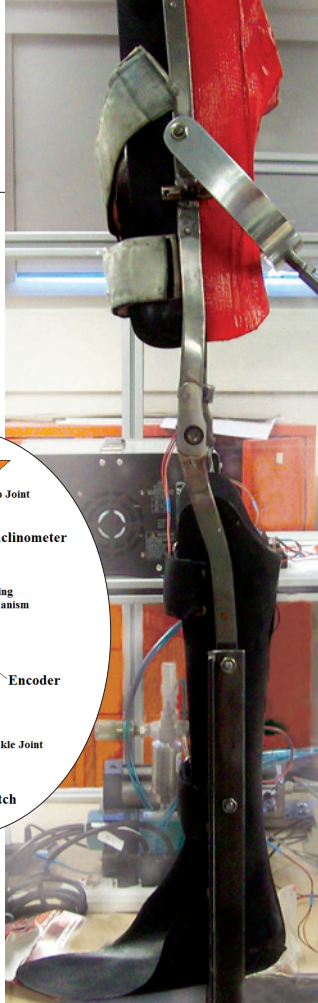
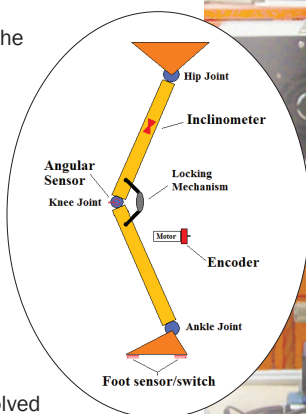
The pinnacle of the building will be the Centre for Digital Media & Communications where students will gain theoretical and practical knowledge in the different ways that media is produced and reaches audiences. This specialized space will enable students to exchange technical expertise and will foster a collaborative atmosphere among those from different disciplines such as journalism, public relations and filmmaking.



this project. It's great to have fresh minds working on developing new technologies."

James Watzke, dean of research, stresses the importance that research plays in a student's education. With a doctoral degree and a wealth of experience in developing research programs, Watzke says that research helps students to broaden their skill set. "Students – both in diploma and Humber's ever-growing number of degree programs – work with real clients, meet potential employers and learn things that they otherwise would not have learned. Research bridges the academic world and the real world." Faculty are also involved in the research projects. "When professors bring their experience back to students, their learning is enhanced," says Watzke. "Everyone benefits."

The E-Knee may someday help those with diminished leg function



## Mind games

In another research venture, recent graduates have just put the finishing touches on "Octino", an innovative math board game. Created for everyone from elementary students learning math, to seniors keeping their minds sharp, Octino creator, Marek Czekanski, wanted to enhance the game's presence. Graduates from Humber's Advertising and Graphic Design, and Multimedia Design programs collaborated to rebrand the game, redesign it and develop a website. Look for it on store shelves and online.

## Humber is in position to train a new kind of storyteller."

Basil Guinane, associate dean, School of Media Studies & Information Technology



"The Humber Arts & Media Studios will continue the college's tradition of developing award-winning actors, comedians, designers, filmmakers, journalists and broadcasters."

Joe Kertes, dean, School of Creative & Performing Arts

## Humber Arts & Media Studios

This 53,000 square-foot facility was also designed with an eye to cross-disciplinary collaboration. Formerly the Lakeshore Lions Arena, the newly renovated building houses programs in the School of Creative & Performing Arts and the School of Media Studies & Information Technology. Students from each school have opportunities to work together

on film and media productions.

The building includes facilities custom built for each school. For performing arts students, there are acting, cabaret, dance and rehearsal studios, a scene shop and a carpentry shop. The key feature is an exceptionally flexible space called a black box theatre: because there is no built-in stage, the room can be reconfigured to suit different

types of productions.

Media students learn in film, media and television studios using the latest production equipment they will encounter in industry including a cyclorama for 360-degree panoramic images. This type of equipment is the basis of the effects seen in everything from the latest Hollywood blockbusters to the weather forecast.

The facility also includes a gymnasium which is open to Humber students, alumni, and members of the local community.

**Partial funding for both buildings was received from the Government of Canada's Knowledge Infrastructure Program (KIP) and from the Ontario Government.**

## Experience that counts



Shameela Shaheed with her designs

When Shameela Shaheed enrolled in Humber's Fashion Arts diploma program, she had dreams of becoming a fashion show organizer. She has since learned that there are many ways to have an exciting career in fashion.

That classroom message was reinforced by first-hand work experience. In her fourth semester, Shaheed had a field placement with Grafton-Fraser Ltd., a Toronto-based retailer that operates more than 140 menswear stores

across Canada. Several months later, Shaheed returned to school, transitioning into the third year of Humber's four-year Bachelor of Applied Business - Fashion Management program.

Shaheed had clearly made a good impression: Sandra Claydon, Grafton-Fraser's director of planning and logistics, invited her to return for the 14-week paid work term that is a mandatory component of the degree program. From May until August, Shaheed worked full-time as a merchandise allocator, a demanding position that requires a range of technical skills to ensure stock is in the right place at the right time. "The experience really opened my eyes," she says. "It was a window into understanding how the industry works."

Shaheed is one of thousands of Humber students who each year take the knowledge

they're gaining in the classroom and apply it in the workplace. More than 90 per cent of Humber's programs feature work placement opportunities with leading Canadian and international companies. By the time students graduate, they already have real-world experience that employers value.

Placements may or may not result in a full-time job offer, but always provide a range of benefits. Students build their resume and

make contacts. They get insight into their chosen industry and that helps them further refine their focus.

Humber, which assists students in finding a placement, has a roster of employers who take students year after year. In doing so, they can see if a potential employee is a good fit before making a job offer. And because advisory committees that include industry professionals help

keep Humber programs current on emerging trends, employers know students have the latest in theoretical knowledge and practical skills. As Grafton-Fraser's Claydon puts it: "The interns have fresh ideas. And that prompts me to take a fresh look at what we do and if we can do it better."

**For information on hiring student interns, call 416.673.0152.**

**"The interns have fresh ideas. And that prompts me to take a fresh look at what we do."**

Sandra Claydon  
Grafton-Fraser Ltd.

## more programs

Humber is a leader in offering new and innovative programs. Here's what's been recently introduced and what's new for this fall.

### 2010

3D Animation, Art and Design advanced diploma  
Developmental Services Worker apprenticeship  
Food and Nutrition Administration advanced diploma  
Interior Decorating diploma  
Sport Management advanced diploma

### 2011

Bachelor of Child and Youth Care  
Bachelor of Commerce – Accounting  
Bachelor of Journalism  
Bachelor of Public Relations  
Law and Security Administration: Crime Scene Investigation diploma





# from the red chair

Famous for his high-energy, insightful interviews with some of the biggest names in politics, entertainment, sports and more, **George Stroumboulopoulos** takes the interviewee chair and talks about his passions, what he's doing now and the current state of radio and TV.

### How did you become interested in broadcasting?

I grew up listening to radio at a time in Toronto when radio was really special, original and creative. I loved music and pop culture, but I didn't even know that radio was a career option. Then I discovered that Humber had a radio broadcasting program. I checked it out and found what I wanted to do.

### What was the best part about attending Humber?

Making friends was the best part and working with people who were passionate about radio. And I loved the practical application. I'm a hands-on guy and I got to be in the studio all the time.

### What does your day look like?

I'm up early and I read the papers online. The rest of the day is very collaborative – that's how our television show runs. I meet with writers to discuss the stories of the day, prepare for interviews and go over the jokes. In between, I have some other projects on the side that I work on. After rehearsal, we run the show and then spend time with the audience. Then, I meet with the web team, go home, eat, and watch a movie or a hockey game. An hour or so later, I start working on the next show.

### What's your objective when you sit down to do your show?

I want to be good company and I want to make people laugh. I love engaging and interacting with the audience and they are what inspires me.

### Who's watching your show?

Our audience is broad and I want the show to be interesting to people whether they are 20, 50 or 70.

### What is the most gratifying part of your work?

I am inspired by the people I work with. I interview some of the smartest and most interesting individuals, many of whom are my heroes. Equally important is the audience. I do a 30-minute question and answer after the show. People take the time to come out – I should take the time to talk with them.

### What was your favourite interview?

No question, my favourite interview was with journalist, author and social activist, June Callwood, just days before she passed away in 2007. She was such a wonderful person with an accumulation of knowledge that is now gone.

### What have you learned that's helped you most in your career?

I still use these key lessons every day:

- think for yourself (then you're true to yourself)
- be prepared (then you're respectful of and true to the people you're talking to)
- practise, practise, practise (then you'll get good at what you do)

### How do you define success and how do you get there?

I consider myself successful if I can do what I want for a living. I'm not an ambitious guy nor particularly driven. Hard work is what's most important. I inherited a strong work ethic coming from an immigrant family. You may be talented but talent isn't as important as passion and hard work.

“You may be talented but talent isn't as important as passion and hard work.”

## answerpology

**The CD you would you take to a desert island:** *Led Zeppelin II*

**Your favourite politician:** Tommy Douglas

**The song that makes you want to dance:** *Waters of Nazareth* by Justice

**The song that makes you want to cry:** *Shine a Light* by Spiritualized (but I don't cry)

**Where you want to be in 10 years:** I don't worry about that but for sure I want to be in love with what I'm doing



### What changes have you seen in radio over the years?

Radio has really changed. When I was growing up radio was spectacular - it was diverse and provided a sense of discovery. Now, stations aren't playing a wide variety of music and have become homogeneous. I don't think that people are going to the radio for music anymore. The Internet has changed all that. As a self-confessed radio freak, I seek out small Internet radio stations and music blogs, and I listen to music on satellite radio. There are many more vehicles today to hear great music and interesting storytelling.

### What about the changes in television?

TV is a little different. People have extensive choice with so many channels. But a huge audience is going on the Internet to watch TV. In fact, many more people watch my show online than they do on television which led us to change our format from one hour to 30 minutes. We decided that instead of putting all the content on the show, we'd put half of it on the Internet. In TV today, you have to make big, brave decisions and constantly revamp things because viewers want to receive information and entertainment in different ways.

### What's up next for you?

I have a television series in development and some film on the horizon. Beyond that, you never know. Shows are fleeting. I'm in my seventh year and shows don't often run that long. I'm always trying to develop myself so I'm ready for what comes along.

## the bio:

- > born in Toronto in 1972
- > graduated from Humber College's Broadcasting - Radio program in 1993
- > worked as a
  - sports announcer for THE FAN 590
  - music host for The Edge 102.1
  - producer and host for MuchMusic
  - producer and host of CBC's *The Hour*
- > won nine Gemini awards including four awards for best host in a talk program or series, and three for best talk series in Canada
- > received an honorary degree and an Alumnus of Distinction award from Humber
- > interviewed (among hundreds)
  - Hillary Clinton
  - David Suzuki
  - Bono
  - Tom Cruise
- > currently produces and hosts
  - *George Stroumboulopoulos Tonight* on CBC Television
  - *The Strombo Show* on CBC Radio 2

**Favourite car you've owned:** a 1971 Pepsi blue El Camino

**The cause that's closest to your heart:** I think everyone should have an opportunity to have a healthy, safe life. Poverty plays a big role in that especially where food rights and food politics are concerned

**What you would do if you didn't do this job:** in a dream alternate reality I would have a motorcycle mechanic shop in the desert or I'd be working in film



# the mender



“The hardest thing was the children. I’ve seen so many kids die.

**Rahul Singh** has been back in Toronto since last September. But his mind frequently returns to Pakistan and the people whose lives were dramatically affected during the 2010 flood.

Singh, a Toronto paramedic, is the leader of GlobalMedic, an organization he founded in honour of a close friend who died in 1998. “After finishing my education, I did international work with a number of non-governmental aid organizations,” says Singh. “But I felt that many of those organizations weren’t efficient, so I started my own.” GlobalMedic’s vision is twofold. “In times of non-disaster, we train local medics who support landmine clearance teams. In times of disaster, we conduct search and rescue operations, provide clean water and run emergency medical units.”

With donations from companies, trusts, foundations and support from the Canadian International Development Agency, the organization was able to secure more than \$1 million worth of medicine for the victims of the Pakistan flood. “All this money went directly to help the people,” says Singh. “There was no overhead; we are a group of trained professionals, including some Humber graduates, who volunteer our time.” In the past five years, GlobalMedic has been on 50 missions in more than 30 countries, including St. Lucia late last year.

Reflecting back on the month he spent in Pakistan, Singh says the greatest need was clean drinking water. “In one area, a third of the

LEFT PHOTO: SAKANA PHOTOGRAPHY





## What makes me stay, are the children I **can** help save.”

people we saw had diarrhea due to contaminated drinking water. Our nine-member team brought in portable water units and was able to get 11 million litres of clean water to 30,000 people.”

Singh, who takes leaves from his job to provide disaster aid around the world, says this mission was one of the biggest and toughest relief efforts he has ever encountered. “We had numerous successes, but there were also many horrific times. The hardest thing was the children. I’ve seen so many kids die,” he relates. “What makes me stay, are the children I can help save. A young child came in with a fever, severely dehydrated and we thought we couldn’t save him. An hour later he was nursing from his mother. That makes the work worthwhile.”

Singh graduated from Humber’s Ambulance and Emergency Care program (now called the Paramedic program) in 1992. He credits Humber for giving him the training he needed to face the challenges of his work. “The faculty were smart and experienced and I received real-world experience,” says Singh. “My placements included work in a small town and in Toronto. You don’t get more diverse than that.”

Last summer, Singh was named one of “Canada’s Top 40 Under 40”, which recognizes individuals for their vision, leadership, achievement and community contribution. He was also given the honour of making Time magazine’s list of 100 people who have

most affected the world. But Singh is modest about these accolades. “This is not about me,” he says. “These awards are for all the talented and dedicated people on the team.”

Although these awards recognize big achievements, Singh’s philosophy is simple. “If there’s a disaster declared, I go,” he says. “We’re all global citizens and I can help save lives. It’s just the right thing to do.”

### the program

- the longest running paramedic program in Ontario
- students are trained for employment in hospital emergency departments, health and medical centres, sports injury management services, the ambulance system, and for work on emergency response teams
- graduates have more than 500 hours of experience in both the ambulance services and chronic and acute-care hospital settings
- some graduates have gone on to medical school and are now physicians



A scholarship has been created in memory of Laura Masella (above).

**“To me, a scholarship is a concrete way of demonstrating that you are valuable to the workforce. This scholarship has definitely reinforced my self-confidence.”**

Christie McKeown  
2010 scholarship recipient

## A lasting tribute

Receiving a scholarship can help turn a student's goals into reality. Tuition is just the start. Add in the cost of books and supplies, as well as living and transportation expenses, and someone who lacks funds or has family obligations can face formidable challenges to achieving their aspirations. But financial obstacles shouldn't stand in the way of a student's education, says Julie Castle, Humber's chief advancement officer. "Scholarships can have a significant impact, helping lighten students' budgetary burdens and recognizing their hard work and talents."

For the family of Laura Masella, establishing a scholarship in her name seemed the ideal way to honour the memory of a woman who loved teaching. A well-respected professor of law in The Business School, Masella was just 51 when she died of cancer in April 2009. Her family established the Laura Masella Memorial Scholarship to be awarded each year to a student enrolled full time in either the school's Law Clerk program or Paralegal Education program and who has demonstrated academic excellence and extracurricular leadership.

The 2010 recipient was Christie McKeown. After eight years in the workforce, she made the major decision to leave a full-time job and return to school to pursue a career in law. She enrolled in Humber's Law Clerk program and to focus on getting good grades, McKeown decided not to work part time

during the school year. She attained top marks, but at the cost of accumulating significant debt.

Despite this mounting pressure, upon graduation, McKeown enrolled in the Paralegal Education program. With another year of school ahead of her, the scholarship gave her a timely boost. And its impact went far beyond the monetary value. "To me, a scholarship is a concrete way of demonstrating that you are valuable to the workforce," she says. "This scholarship has definitely reinforced my self-confidence."

For Laura Masella's family, the true value of their gift lies in the meaning and purpose it gives to her life. Tony Masella says that as a lawyer his sister wanted more than just the business side of practising law. At Humber, she'd found the ideal outlet for her skills and expertise. "Laura loved teaching the theory and principles of law," her brother recalls. "With this scholarship, we can help support students who share her passion for the law for years to come. For a teacher, I can't think of a better way to honour a legacy. For our family, it means a great deal to have an opportunity to keep her memory alive."

**The Ontario government matches private contributions to endowed scholarships dollar for dollar. This doubles the funds that are invested forever to generate interest income to fund the annual scholarship.**



**more support  
more success**

You can help other Humber students facing financial challenges. Contact us to learn more.

[humber.ca/giving](http://humber.ca/giving) 416.673.0152



**“I received a scholarship and it made all the difference.”**

**Ebenezer Tiku**  
Nursing student and scholarship recipient





# Bringing home the medals

When it comes to athletics, Humber is in a league of its own. This is true whether you're talking winning teams, outstanding competitors or facilities fit for elite athletes.

Over the years, Humber Hawks Varsity sports teams have compiled the best overall record among Ontario colleges. And it's not just high-profile teams like the men's basketball teams – the 2009 and 2010 Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) champions – that have earned a place in the record books.

Take, for instance, the badminton team. Humber has a history of attracting some of the best young talent in the province. The latest to make her mark is Renee Yip (pictured at bottom), now in her second year of Humber's Fitness and Health Promotion program. Last year she led Humber's badminton team to its first provincial championship. She also collected assorted individual awards, most notably the OCAA 2009/2010 Female Athlete of the Year. "Many people play badminton for fun," says Yip. "But at the competitive level, it's a physically demanding sport that takes a lot of strategy, technical skills and endurance. Thanks to Humber's great training facilities and coaches, I'm able to keep improving all aspects of my game."

## New teams & facilities

With the 2010/2011 school year, came two new teams hoping to build on Humber's winning tradition – men's baseball and women's rugby. Launching two teams at once is an achievement in its own right. In addition to athletes, notes assistant athletic director Jim Bialek, fielding a high-performance team also requires bringing in coaches, managers and athletic therapists. This massive undertaking has added about 70 new varsity members overall, an increase

of nearly 20 per cent.

Recent renovations and an expansion to establish the Centre for Health & Wellness ensure that Humber's athletics facilities continue to be up to the task. The number of cardio-style machines, for example, jumped from 15 to 50. In all, facilities now include three varsity gyms, a cardio and weight-training centre, a swimming pool, group exercise studios and high-performance labs for Fitness and Health Promotion students. In fact, three provincial sport associations chose Humber to hold their summer elite programs and camps. As the adage says, nothing succeeds like success.

## The scoreboard

In the fall 2010 season, Humber athletes came home with impressive wins. Here are the most recent stats:

- Men's cross-country Team Ontario member national gold medalist
- Women's cross-country Team Ontario member national gold medalist
- Men's golf national team championship
- Men's golf national individual championship
- Men's golf provincial team championship
- Men's golf provincial individual championship
- Men's rugby provincial team championship
- Women's rugby provincial team championship
- Men's soccer provincial team championship
- Women's soccer provincial team championship

**Humber alumni are eligible for \$100 off a membership at both the Lakeshore and North Campus athletics facilities. For more information, call 416.673.0152.**



## We have more for you

Over the past few months, we've been working on creating more perks and benefits for you. Here's a sampling:

**Our new advice column:** In this issue, you'll read about steps to financial success written by Patricia Lovett-Reid, one of Canada's leading experts on personal finance.

**Partners:** Starting in March 2011, Manulife Financial will provide you with discounted insurance products. Watch for more details in future issues of *Humber dialogue* and on our website.

**Need a break?** Come and have fun. Our students are creating delicious meals in our fine dining restaurant, soaring in athletic pursuits and putting on terrific musical and theatrical performances.

## HONORARY DEGREES



Beker



Bowerbank



Chiu



Gordon



Lovett-Reid



Peters

**Humber celebrated eight outstanding individuals, granting them honorary degrees in 2010. Recipient achievements included significant contributions to society, notable professional accomplishments, leadership, and humanitarian endeavours.**

### Jeanne Beker

As host and segment producer of Fashion Television and FashionTelevisionChannel, Jeanne Beker is a national and international fashion icon. She began hosting Fashion Television in 1985 which became the station's most widely syndicated show. Beker is the recipient of numerous awards including the prestigious Crystal Jury Award from Women in Film and Television for her achievements in Canadian television.

### Andrew Bowerbank

Andrew Bowerbank, president & chief strategy officer for EC3 Initiative, is a best-selling author and expert on environmental sustainability. As a member of the United Nations Environmental Programme, he is part of a team whose goal is to deliver a framework for global carbon reduction. Bowerbank is participating in the Birmingham Charter, which consists of "the 100 greatest minds" in the world, creating a new model for defining global sustainability.

### James Chiu

A highly successful restaurateur, James Chiu, president of Mandarin Restaurant Franchise Group, began in 1979 with a small Chinese restaurant. Since then, the business has expanded to include 21 Mandarin restaurants throughout Ontario. His company plays an active role in the communities they serve, including providing scholarships to students in hospitality programs at five Ontario colleges and universities.

### Mary Gordon

Mary Gordon is founder of Roots of Empathy, an organization which promotes family literacy around the world. She is also a social entrepreneur, award-winning educator, best-selling author, child advocate and parenting expert. Gordon has consulted to and given keynote presentations at conferences organized by the World Health Organization and the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development.

### Patricia Lovett-Reid

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 has been recognized by the Financial Planning Standards Council with its Donald J. Johnston Award, honouring those who have made significant contributions to the profession of financial planning in Canada.

### Russell Peters

Russell Peters is an award-winning comic known for his pointed and perceptive comments on race, class and culture. He has performed to sold-out crowds at venues such as Toronto's Air Canada Centre, New York's Madison Square Garden, the Sydney Opera House and London's O2 Arena. In 2009 and 2010, Peters was listed in *Forbes* as one of the top earning comedians in the United States.

## Tell us about you

**What are you up to?** Let us know about your professional successes and they may appear in our class notes section. Send them to [alumni@humber.ca](mailto:alumni@humber.ca).

**Your ideas:** Tell us what other alumni benefits you'd like to access and what kind of articles you'd like to read in this magazine.

We hope to hear from you soon.

**The Alumni Relations team**



Stewart

Swain

### William A. Stewart

Chief William Stewart, chief of Toronto Fire Services, is a 38-year fire service veteran with a demonstrated commitment to the highest standards of professional firefighting. He has served as a member of the Professional Standards Setting Body of the Ontario Fire College in the review of all standards for firefighter training in Ontario. Stewart is the current international president of the Institution of Fire Engineers.

### Diana Swain

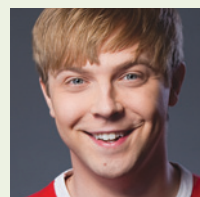
CBC News senior anchor and journalist, Diana Swain, is one of Canada's most recognized and accomplished television journalists. Among a variety of career successes, she was named the anchor of CBC's award-winning evening news program, *24 Hours* and was the first host of CBC's investigative news magazine, *Disclosure*. Swain made Canadian history as the only woman to date to win the Gemini award for Best News Anchor, winning twice, most recently in 2009.

## class notes



**Noelle Carbone** (Film & Television Production, 2006) is currently wrapping up her second season writing for the hit new series, *Rookie Blue* airing on ABC and Global. Carbone helped develop the show – the highest rated dramatic series in Canadian history and the highest rated new drama for ABC. Now a full-time freelance writer, Carbone wrote her first solo script for the second series of *Rookie Blue*, which is slated to air this summer.

**Ajay Fry** (Comedy: Writing and Performance, 2004) currently co-hosts the flagship half-hour talk show/e-news series *InnerSPACE* on YTV. Over the past few years, he has hosted a number of shows and specials for the channel. Some of his most recent notable interviews include Jake Gyllenhaal, Leonard Nimoy and Olivia Wilde.



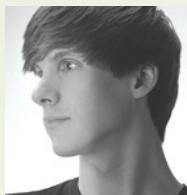
**Marcos Persaud** (Paralegal Studies, 2009) is currently in law school at the University of Birmingham. He has been an instructor at Humber's Business School and has also completed his Immigration Consultant certificate with honours.

**Jay Sharp** (Broadcasting – Radio, 1991) has been hosting radio for almost 20 years, having recently become the morning radio host for 107.9 The Breeze in Cobourg. Past career highlights include creating an alternative music show for The Wolf 101.5 FM and keeping the station's morning show in the #1 ratings for 10 years.



**Frank Spadone** (Creative Photography, 1993) was the host of the *Just For Laughs Canadian Tour* which visited 22 cities last fall. Since taking the stage in 1997, Spadone has become one of Canada's best standup comedians. Spadone has also worked as an actor in films such as *Harold and Kumar go to White Castle* and *Take the Lead*.

**Damian Tarnopolsky** (Creative Writing, 2004) was a finalist for the 2010 Commonwealth Writers' Prize (Canada and Caribbean Region) and the Amazon.ca First Novel Award for his book *Goya's Dog*. He is now working on a new novel, and his short story *Laud we the Gods* has been selected for this year's *Journey Prize Stories* anthology.



**Alan Wisniewski** (Design Foundation, 2003; Industrial Design, 2007) has recently been promoted to creative lead at Umbra in charge of heading up several categories such as frames, wall décor, clocks, impulse and bath. Beginning his career at Umbra as a product designer, Wisniewski received an outstanding achievement award within a year of being with the company.

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



# Alumni OF DISTINCTION

2010

The following four Humber graduates were presented with Humber's 2010 Alumnus of Distinction awards, given to graduates whose professional lives exemplify exceptional success and commitment to the community.

These alumni were also nominated for Colleges Ontario's 2010 Premier's Awards. Presented annually, the Premier's Awards celebrate the outstanding contributions Ontario college graduates make to the province and throughout the world.

## Gabrielle Coe

**Nursing, 1975**

**Current position:** executive director of Hospice Caledon, an organization that provides end-of-life care and support to individuals and their families through its community programs and residential hospice

**Career highlights:** more than 30 years in the health-care industry

- manager of teams of up to 300
- implementer of major transformational changes in a number of hospitals
- initiator of new programs to enhance health-care services in a variety of communities


**Humber's influence:** building self confidence and a strong work ethic

**Greatest contribution:** keeping patients and families as a primary focus

**Greatest accomplishment:** preparing teams to be able to face the challenges of their jobs and seeing those individuals make a difference in their own right

PHOTOGRAPHY: GEOFF GEORGE



A portrait of Jacqueline Edwards, a Black woman with long dark hair, wearing a dark blue coat over a red top and a patterned scarf. She is standing outdoors with a large, ornate building featuring a dome in the background under a blue sky with clouds. The image has a blue color cast on the right side.

**Current position:** program manager,  
Kingston Penitentiary, Correctional Service  
of Canada

**Career highlights:** 15 years in the  
corrections field

- recruitment outreach officer in visible minority  
and aboriginal communities
- project manager at regional and national levels
- past president of the National Council of  
Visible Minorities in the Federal Public Service

**Humber's influence:** receiving a strong  
foundation for pursuing career goals and  
volunteer opportunities

**Community involvement:** youth volleyball and  
basketball coach, chair of Ontario Basketball  
Bantam Development Program

**Greatest accomplishment:** being a parent –  
developing the necessary patience and strength

**Jacqueline Edwards**

**Law and Security Administration, 1994**



**Current position:** music composer, producer, songwriter, guitarist

**Career highlights:** 30 years in the music industry

- composer for television including the hit “tween” animated TV series, *6TEEN*
- writer and producer of a number of top ten airplay songs
- collaborator with several internationally known recording artists

**Humber’s influence:** developing technical abilities from faculty who were top in their field

**Awards:** Emmy, Juno, SOCAN and nomination for a Grammy

**Words to live by:** do your best work on every single job. When you do great work, people notice.

## Anthony Vanderburgh

**Business Marketing, 1980; Music, 1983**





A professional portrait of Enrico Lisi, a middle-aged man with grey hair, smiling. He is wearing a dark blue pinstripe suit jacket, a white shirt, and an orange patterned tie. The background is a blurred office interior with large windows.

## Enrico Lisi

**Architectural Technology, 1982**

**Current position:** founder and president, Elite Construction Inc.

**Career highlights:** 23 years in the design/building business

- creator of Burberry's flagship store in Toronto
- developer of the West Donlands project, creating a flood protection infrastructure for the 2015 Pan Am Games
- builder of two major crimes courthouses in the Greater Toronto Area

**Humber's influence:** learning from supportive teachers who shared their real-world experience

**Community involvement:** youth sports teams and children's charities, volunteer board member of York Region Crime Stoppers

**Greatest inspiration:** recognizing the opportunities in each day. Seizing those opportunities to leave a legacy of perseverance.





> PATRICIA LOVETT-REID

## secrets to success

“Creating wealth is not about doing one thing right, it’s about doing a lot of little things right.”

# Seven steps to financial success

As a financial spokesperson and educator, I have been fortunate to travel our beautiful country from coast to coast, meeting Canadians from all walks of life. Regardless of the city they live in or profession, I have discovered one overarching theme: successful people are simply those who have a winning plan and the discipline to implement it.

Here are my seven simple steps that could help guide you on your journey to financial success.

**1 Become your own CFO** Don’t abdicate your financial responsibilities to others, as only you are responsible for your financial success. Keep a close eye on your monthly income and expenses and manage them through a budget. As Canadians we now owe \$1.46 for every \$1 of disposable income. It is about time we reverse our spending habits and start saving for a financially sound future.

**2 Set realistic goals** Don’t save until it hurts, but don’t spend as if there is no tomorrow. People are always surprised by how much they can cut their discretionary spending. Start developing a financial plan by writing down your short, medium and long-term goals. These have to be goals that matter to you, as you have to get excited about saving in order to make them happen.

**3 Learn more to earn more** As with everything in life, when it comes to personal finance, knowledge is power. Did you know that over the past 25 years, the S&P/TSX Composite Index price return has been about 6.4 per cent per year? But, if you were to let time and compounding work for you by reinvesting dividends, the total return becomes 9.06 per cent per year.

**4 Avoid common mistakes** such as having overconfidence in your investing ability, having a short term view of the financial markets, letting taxes guide your investment decisions and using excessive margin.

**5 Be disciplined** Volatility in the markets can put you through a roller coaster of emotions. From fear and panic to optimism and euphoria, don’t let emotions dictate your investment decisions.

**6 Go beyond** Financial planning is not just about making money in the markets. It’s also about paying less in taxes, ensuring you have the right insurance coverage, estate planning and the list goes on and on.

**7 Savings** Saving has to be habitual. While the personal savings rate has been improving, currently sitting at 5.9 per cent, we can still do better. I like to tell people to save at least 10 per cent of their gross income by setting up a pre-authorized savings plan.

Creating wealth is not about doing one thing right, it’s about doing a lot of little things right. Working with an advisor will give you the tools and discipline necessary to succeed in your journey to financial freedom.

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.

# more for you

## Participate

Cheer on the Hawks at a game. Get \$100 off an annual gym membership with your alumni card. [athletics.humber.ca](http://athletics.humber.ca)

## Experience

Attend a Humber music or theatre performance. [humber.ca/calendar](http://humber.ca/calendar)

## Dine

Come to The Humber Room, our on-campus fine dining restaurant. [thehumberroom.ca](http://thehumberroom.ca)

## Learn

Access the Humber libraries, the Career Centre job portal or continue your life-long learning with our CE courses.

## Shop

Visit our campus bookstores and save 20% on select items when you show your alumni card.

## Relax

Visit The Humber Spa and be pampered by our spa management students. [thehumberspa.com](http://thehumberspa.com)

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For more information, contact us  
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