

## College a “turning point” for Business Woman of the Year

By Brenda Missen

Hilary Caters has always had an entrepreneurial spirit. When she combined it with a Niagara education and future husband and business partner Jeff Hardy, the result was the founding of Caters Hardy Design Studio – a thriving creative agency in St. Catharines. Last fall, Caters' considerable success and contributions were recognized by Niagara Women in Business, which named her 2006 Woman of the Year.

Even as a child, growing up in St. Catharines, Caters never saw herself following the “norm” or having a regular job. At school, she excelled in extra-curricular activities where she had the freedom to run things and make choices – the very qualities of an entrepreneur. But there was no formal academic path to entrepreneurship. At university, majoring in French, she lacked direction. “My life was taking on a mind of its own, rather than me guiding it,” says Caters, who graduated from university in 1993 with no clear idea of a career path.

She had ideas, of course, but didn't know how to put them

into action. Looking back, she realizes that what she lacked was the confidence to turn her ideas into reality.

That confidence came, in part, from an entrepreneurship course she took at the Niagara-based Institute for Enterprise Education. What followed was a bold, first decision, entrepreneurially speaking, to start a design firm with then boyfriend and aspiring graphic designer Hardy.

I felt I got a lot from my community, and so I have genuinely wanted to give back.

The couple bought a computer, rented office space in downtown St. Catharines, and opened their business. Their idea was to specialize in both print and Web – a rarity back in the early 1990s. It meant Caters needed to learn about the Web. Which meant more education.

To get it, she turned to Niagara College and its Interactive Multimedia program (which became New Media Web Design). Enrolling in 1996, Caters found herself in the unusual position of running a business at the same time she was learning it.

Caters calls her time at the College a “turning point” in her life, adding that the program gave her a “great foundation” that she was able to build on. One way she built on it was to pass on everything she learned to Hardy, which allowed for interchangeability with print and Web projects.

In 1999, Caters and Hardy married and now have a 4 year old son, Evan and a baby daughter, Sarah. Their company today encompasses a group of eight and has a reputation for innovative, high-quality design and strong partnerships between designer and client that make it one of the Niagara region's leading design agencies. Its client list spans a variety of sectors, including corporate, education, tourism, wine, culinary, non-profit and health care.



Hilary Caters, Interactive Multimedia Program '98

Caters has ambitions to open an office in New York, or another location in Canada. She has a definite plan for retaining the small agency feel of Caters Hardy, while delivering high-calibre design.

As for working in business with her partner in life, Caters points out that she and Jeff have different skills – and respect them – so that as a team they can accomplish a lot without stepping on each other's toes.

Caters' entrepreneurial spirit is matched by an equally powerful philanthropic spirit: she believes strongly in giving back to the community. “When I was trying to find my way as an entrepreneur, I felt I got a lot from my community, and so I have genuinely wanted to give back.”

She has done that in many ways, particularly helping other aspiring entrepreneurs and mentoring young people. She has been a member of the Women in Niagara (WIN) Committee for Small Business Club Niagara and chaired the judging committee

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Bradley Lomanto, cooking up a career in the kitchen – Page 5

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## First-ever degrees granted at Spring Convocation



Niagara College President Dan Patterson, right, congratulates Erika Aoki, the first student to receive a Niagara College degree. The inaugural class of the Bachelor of Applied Business – Hospitality Operations Management program graduated during convocation ceremonies June 13.

For the first time in its history, Niagara College granted Bachelor Degrees during this year's Spring Convocation Ceremonies.

The inaugural class of the College's Bachelor of Applied Business – Hospitality Operations Management program were among more than 2,000

graduates who received certificates, diplomas and degrees this past June.

The College also conferred a number of honorary degrees, diplomas and awards: Andrea Kriluck, Managing Editor of the St. Catharines Standard, received an Honourary Diploma

in Journalism – Print; Michael D. Scott, Chairman of World Freight Alliance and Vice Chair of the Niagara College Board of Governors, received an Honourary Bachelor of Applied Studies degree; Boyd deWaard, President of Bosch Rexroth Canada received an Honourary Diploma in Mechanical Engineering Technology; David Lindsay, Deputy Minister of Tourism, received an Honourary Bachelor of Applied Studies degree; and Linda Staats, Chief Executive Officer of the Six Nations Polytechnic, received an Honourary Diploma in Early Childhood Education.

This year's recipient of the Governor General's of Canada Academic Award was Jane Bergenstein, who graduated from the Educational Assistant – Special Needs Support program with a 97.29 percent academic average.



## We're 40!

Niagara College marks its 40th year in September 2007.

In this edition of *NCompass*, you'll find special memories

supplied by alumni from different Niagara College programs and eras. Visit [niagaracollege.ca](http://niagaracollege.ca) throughout the year for 40th Anniversary news, events and memories.

# College celebrates Student Satisfaction Three-Peat



Niagara College marked its third-consecutive number-one ranking in student satisfaction with a banner raising at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Campus. From left, first-year Chef Training students Adam Therrien and Jonathan McLoughlin, second-year Office Administration student Amanda Chaisson, third-year Business Administration – Accounting students Jeff Newhouse and Elsie Vrugteveen and second-year Hospitality Management – Hotel and Restaurant student Steve Lewis joined Dan Patterson at the April 19 banner raising.

For the third straight year, Niagara College has scored first in student satisfaction among all Ontario colleges according to the latest Key Performance Indicator (KPI) survey results.

In all, 87.2 percent of students said they are satisfied with the education they're receiving at Niagara College. That's up from 86.4 percent last year, and well above the provincial average of 77.4 percent. The survey was administered at all 24 Ontario colleges this past February.

The results mark the seventh year in a row that Niagara College has been at or near the top in student satisfaction.

"Niagara College has clearly established itself as a leader in student satisfaction among Ontario Colleges," said President Dan Patterson. "This remarkable accomplishment is a reflection of the hard work of our faculty and staff, and an organization-wide commitment to the success of our students."

The survey also shows that students aren't the only ones satisfied with the College. More than 93 percent of employers indicated they are satisfied with the graduates they've hired, and 81 percent of graduates said they're satisfied with the education

they received. The survey results also show that 91 percent of our 2006 graduates were employed within six months of graduation.

The student satisfaction survey measures satisfaction in four key areas of college life. Niagara College scored first in all four "capstone" questions. The results show:

- ▶ 92.6 percent of students said they are satisfied that their program is providing the knowledge and skills that will be useful in their future careers;
- ▶ 87.9 percent said they are satisfied with the overall quality of the learning experiences in their program;
- ▶ 83.7 percent said they are satisfied with the quality of facilities and resources at the College;
- ▶ 84.4 percent said they are satisfied with the overall quality of the services at Niagara College.

System-wide, the KPI results confirmed that Ontario's college graduates have the skills and knowledge required to succeed in the workplace, with 92.6 percent of employers indicating they are satisfied with the graduates they've hired over the past year.

## Expanded facilities the centrepiece of \$3.5 million technology project



Left to right, Welland Mayor Damian Goulbourne, Bosch Rexroth President Boyd DeWaard, Dr. Christine Bradaric-Baus, Dean of Technology, Alan Magnacca of the Niagara College Foundation Board, Vice President of Student Services and Community Relations Sean Kennedy, President Dan Patterson, and Kevin Hewitt, Chair of Technology and Skills Training, cut the ribbon to mark the official opening of the Niagara Technology Centre on November 2, 2006.

The fall of 2006 marked the official opening of the Niagara Technology Centre. The 929 square-metre expansion to the Technology Skills Centre capped off a series of renovations and improvements to the technology facilities at the Welland Campus. The project represents a total investment of \$3.5 million of which \$1 million was raised through the Advanced Technology Campaign, drawing the support of industry, the City of Welland, the Region of Niagara and Niagara College students.

The result of the project is the consolidation of all technology programs at the Welland Campus which, along with equipment and facility upgrades,

provides opportunities for cross-disciplinary interaction between programs and the shared use of equipment and technology – a collaborative approach that mirrors industry.

Boyd DeWaard, President of Bosch Rexroth in Welland hailed the growth of the College's technology programs and facilities, which he said will help the Region's manufacturing sector "rise to the challenge."

Welland Mayor Damian Goulbourne, a professor in the College's Hospitality and Tourism Division, said the project and the skilled graduates it creates will "help the City get back to its manufacturing roots."

## Partnership provides practical learning environment for students



Shown cutting the ribbon to mark the official opening of the Ontario Street Site are, from left to right, Personal Support Worker student Sarina Woods, Practical Nursing Co-ordinator Helen Taylor, President Dan Patterson, Niagara Health System President and CEO Debbie Sevenpifer, Donna Cunningham, Dean of Health and Community Studies, Manager of Continuing Education Health Sciences & Contract Training Martha Allan and Practical Nursing student Esther Brown.

Niagara College held a special ceremony in March to mark the official opening of its Ontario Street satellite site in St. Catharines. This facility is home to the College's Practical Nursing and Personal Support Worker programs, and represents a unique partnership with the Niagara Health System (NHS).

Through this partnership, students benefit by learning in an environment at the NHS Ontario Street Site that mirrors the workplace and provides access to the expertise of the Niagara Health System's healthcare professionals. The NHS, in turn, benefits by having the opportunity to recruit highly-trained graduates.

The College's facilities include the former Intensive Care Unit, which has been converted to a practical learning lab for the students in both programs. The lab includes patient beds, medical equipment and a nurses' station. Program offices are also located on the fifth floor, and two classrooms are on the first floor.

The site is also home to the College's Contract Training and Continuing Education Health Sciences programs.

## Hilary Caters *Continued from Page 1*

for the Niagara Entrepreneur of the Year Award (which she previously won in 1998). She has reviewed business plans and provided one-on-one mentoring for emerging entrepreneurs, and gone into schools to share her experience to help teenagers develop their self-esteem and inspire them to follow their passion.

"I love sharing my experience," she says. "I never felt special, never felt I excelled at anything. So I figure if I can do it, anyone can if they truly believe it. I think it's particularly important to help young people discover their strengths and interests."

Caters also lends her business management and

creative design expertise to many local charity organizations to help them further their causes.

Given her career success, her positive outlook, and her generous community involvement, it's little wonder Caters was named Woman of the Year.

But Caters, one of 23 finalists attending the October awards luncheon, wasn't expecting the honour and hadn't prepared an acceptance speech. If she had, she would have said that women need to truly believe they can do it all – be a mother and a wife and a businesswoman in equally rewarding parts. Caters, who makes it look effortless, is walking evidence that if you believe it, you can do it.

# Environmental Corps receives a boost



Niagara College's Wetland Ridge Trail is among the environmental projects that have drawn the involvement of members of the Niagara Environmental Corps. Above, Niagara College President Dan Patterson and Keith Rae of the Niagara Bruce Trail Club walk the trail. The Wetland and Bruce Trails were linked in the fall of 2006.

Niagara College's Niagara Environmental Corps – a student group dedicated to managing environmental projects – received a boost this summer thanks to the Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation.

Formed last year, the Corps will form the basis of the College's Greenbelt Youth Leaders project, which received a \$25,000 grant from the Foundation.

"We hope to produce tomorrow's environmental leaders, who will help the Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation meet its goals and ensure environmental stewardship in our region," said Marti Jurmain, Niagara College's Director of Research and Innovation. "We will empower students to engage in issues of environmental concern."

The Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation's grant will allow the College to complete the structure for the Niagara Environmental Corps, develop a "Junior Corps" for secondary school students and run at least two environmental projects in Niagara over the next year.

The Corps, which works like

a student council, currently includes close to 70 student members who take on roles and responsibilities for the organization. Members have already been involved in environmental projects, including the College's Wetland Ridge Trail – 18 acres of wetland lagoons that run adjacent to the Niagara-on-the-Lake Campus vineyards and directly along the escarpment.

"The focus of the Environmental Corps has been on long-term volunteer projects outside the classroom that will offer diverse learning, research and networking opportunities to our students," said Martin Smith, Coordinator of the College's Environmental Technician program. "Students can start contributing to environmental stewardship right now."

"The Environmental Corps has opened my eyes to all of the work that needs to be done in the environmental area," said Kasia Zgurzynski, Corps Co-chair. "It has inspired me to get out and do the work necessary. It has helped me to apply what I've learned in my program to real-world projects."

## First-ever Kids College a hit!

Niagara College's Continuing Education department offered kids aged 7-16 a taste of college this summer as part of the Niagara Kids College.

The new program offered a wide range of sessions and programs, including a Tall Ship Pirate Cruise where kids climbed aboard a three-masted schooner and set sail for a three-hour cruise in search of Davy Jones locker. Others set sail for a culinary voyage with Around the World in 10 Days. Other programs include sport nutrition, golfing, sailing, theatre, art, volleyball, basketball, soccer and multimedia mania.

Plans are already underway for next year's Niagara Kids College.

"We're seeing a big demand for this in our community. Parents and children are looking for new, more enriching ways to spend those dog days of summer," said Kim Walker, Dean of Continuing Education.

For the latest Continuing Education course information, visit [www.niagaracollege.ca/ce](http://www.niagaracollege.ca/ce).



## Memories of my Niagara College Years 1970 - 1972

I graduated from the Library Technician Program in 1972 and was employed with Humber College in Toronto for 31 years before taking an early retirement in 2003. Since retiring I moved back to Welland and have become involved with both the Trivial Pursuit Planning Committee and the Alumni Council here at Niagara College.

I have many fond memories of my time at Niagara College, although two stand out. First and foremost were the extra curricular trips made to the Rex Hotel or as we called it the branch campus of Niagara College. Because Niagara did not have an on-site student pub, the Rex was quickly adopted by the student body and became our home away from Niagara College.

The second fondest memory has to be the bus trips sponsored by SAC taking us to watch the hockey team during the playoffs in such places as Toronto and Oshawa. In those days Niagara fielded a very powerful hockey team and had a large and loyal following of fans. The bus trips were a portable pub with the beer flowing freely during the drive there and back. Needless to say if it was a weeknight game not many of us made our early morning classes the next day.

Yes good memories and good times.

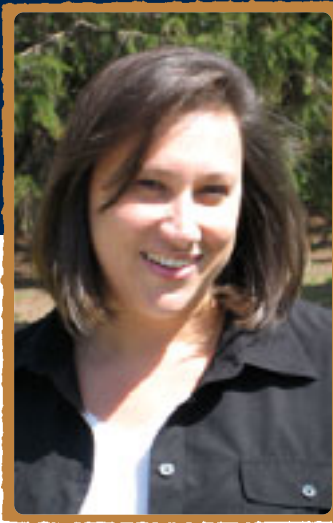
**Doug Willford**

Library Technician Program, 1970-1972



# Niagara graduate Janet Bradley: Single mom embraces electronics engineering

By Brenda Missen



Janet Bradley, Electronics Engineering Technology '97

Motherhood and electronics engineering are words not often used in the same sentence. But Janet Bradley has embraced both. Bradley was raising two children on her own and disenchanted with retail when she enrolled in Niagara College's Electronics Engineering Technology program. Graduation in 1997 led to employment with high-tech firm Gennum Corporation, where she was recently promoted to Marketing Manager, Audio Wireless Division. Inspired by her success, Bradley's children pursued college education too – her son even enrolling at his mother's alma mater.

It was the approach of her 30th birthday that spurred Bradley to seek a change of career: she didn't want to spend the rest of her life working in retail. Through career counselling, she discovered that her key strengths included mathematics and an ability, borne of economic necessity, to take apart electronic appliances and toys and repair them. Electronics engineering was suggested as a possible field.

After seeing a Niagara College program brochure, the St. Catharines native attended an open house to learn more about the College's electronics engineering programs. She laughs when she remembers how out of place she, at 30, felt among the high school students also attending. "I stood at the very back of the room to be as invisible as possible."

But the physical distance didn't lessen the impact of the lab demonstration being given by Niagara professor Paul Kendrick. "I was following everything he was saying," says Bradley, "and I arrived at the conclusion before he got everyone else there. I stood there and a lightbulb went on: 'I get it.' That's when I realized I wanted to give this a try."

Bradley started in Niagara's two-year electronics engineering technician program in January 1995. With two children at home – her son Arthur was then nine and a half, her daughter Sarah, eight – she needed to complete her education as quickly as possible to get back into the workforce. However, seeing her capabilities, Bradley's professors convinced her to switch over to the longer technology co-op program, which they felt would lead her to more fulfilling career possibilities. She was able to take on the longer program by fast-tracking through the terms.

"Going to Niagara was good because I could be in school at the same time of day my kids were in school – I couldn't afford daycare. In the evening,

they would do their homework and go to bed, and then Mom would do her homework."

In fact, Bradley's house became the place to study. She had become friends with her classmates – who were all males a dozen years younger than herself. "They would come over and we'd spread our books all over the living room floor. We had a lot of fun. I was the Mom of the group."

Volunteering at the College's central equipment supply room gave Bradley the opportunity to learn about the test equipment she was using every day in class. It also turned into her first, paid co-op placement. Her final placement, with Burlington-based Gennum Corporation, led to the welcome offer of part-time work (carried out on weekends) when she went back into the classroom for her final term. And then, in December 1997, on her last day of class, she received the ultimate graduation – and Christmas – gift: a full-time-job offer from Gennum.

Over the decade she has been with the high-tech semi-conductor manufacturer, Bradley has participated on many cross-functional teams – developing systems and processes ranging from in-house computer automated testers for thin film hybrids to improved material flow and product quality throughout manufacturing. In her recent assignment as Marketing Manager of the Audio Wireless Division, she is working with the marketing team to facilitate the company's launch into consumer Bluetooth products.

Bradley believes there is a link between the positions she has held and her particular strengths as a woman in a male-dominated company. "I've noticed a trend of getting pulled into areas in the company that need special attention. I think Gennum knows I can bring a different way of solving a problem or a different point of view to a situation."

Acknowledging that not all her male colleagues respect her contributions, Bradley nevertheless has had a more than positive experience in engineering overall, and she's eager to encourage other women to enter the field. A member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) since she was a Niagara student, Bradley has embraced opportunities to speak at high school and college events across southern Ontario to promote the important roles of women in engineering. She currently serves as Canada's Student Activities Chairperson at IEEE and is dedicated

to promoting electronics engineering to students, regardless of gender.

Bradley's interest in young people extends also to teaching. She has previously taught microelectronics courses and supervised student labs at Niagara.

At the heart of it is a desire to give back to the community. "My professors at Niagara were so supportive of me. They gave me a good foundation, and I think it's important for me to give that back somehow. I've kept in touch with the College from the day I got there to today. I've done that because I think it's important for young people to have someone to look at and say, 'She was here at the College and now look where she is.'"

In 2000, Niagara College recognized Janet Bradley's achievements and contributions by nominating her for an Ontario Premier's Award.



## Niagara College honours top athletes at 38th Annual Athletic Awards Banquet

Anthony McAleese of Hamilton, a standout point guard on the Niagara College Knights Men's Basketball team, and Heidi Bench of St. Catharines, an OCAA all-star power hitter on the Women's Volleyball team were honoured as the College's Top Athletes of the Year at Niagara College's 38th Annual Athletic Awards Banquet held April 3 at the Welland Campus.

Phil Ramirez of St. Catharines and Leah Duke of Ottawa were honoured as the College's Rookie Athletes of the year. Ramirez is a rookie guard on the Knights Men's Basketball team, and Duke is an outside hitter on the Women's Volleyball team. Mike Mottola of Niagara Falls and Megan Climenhage of Wainfleet received the Knights Tournament Players of the Year awards. Mottola is on the Men's Golf Team.

All eight varsity teams qualified for the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association playoffs and seven advanced to the Ontario Championships. The men's and women's volleyball teams and men's indoor soccer team captured the OCAA Western region titles. The Knights men's golf team was once again on the podium. Mottola led his team to a provincial bronze while capturing the silver in the individual competition. Bench, who is a 6'1 power hitter on the women's volleyball team, captured her second consecutive OCAA Western Region scoring title, a first in the Knights' varsity program. Men's basketball team captain McAleese was also the leading point producer capturing the OCAA Western Region scoring title.

Longtime Assistant Coach Mike Beccaria has been named Head Coach of the Niagara College Knights men's basketball team, replacing Coach Ralph Nero, who passed away earlier this spring.

Coach Beccaria and the Knights will see a change on the OCAA schedule next year thanks to a realignment of the league that reduced the three regions to two. As members of the West Region, the Knights will face two of the nation's top programs: the Humber Hawks and the Sheridan Bruins.

## Journalism grad captures provincial awards

Greg Furminger, (Journalism – Print '94) won two top honours at the Ontario Newspaper Awards gala held in Waterloo on May 6, 2007. A reporter for the Welland Tribune since 1995, Furminger captured top spot in the municipal affairs reporting

and sport news photography fields, both in the under 25,000 circulation class.

No newcomer to the winners' circle, Furminger also received this award in 2005, and was runner-up for the 2006 Municipal Affairs Reporting award.

While a student at Niagara, he won the *St. Catharines Standard* Journalism award in this first year and E.W.N. Morgan Award for Journalism Excellence in his graduating year.



Greg Furminger, Journalism – Print '94, poses with his 2005 Ontario Newspaper Award. Furminger captured top honours again at the 2007 awards.

# Bradley Lomanto: cooking up a career in the kitchen



Bradley Lomanto, Culinary Management '01

Bradley Lomanto is not a nine to five kind of guy. If he were, he would still be at the well-paying, if unfulfilling, job he landed right out of high school. Instead, in 1999, he enrolled at Niagara College to pursue his real love: cooking. The decision, and Lomanto's own drive, paid off. Today, he is executive chef and co-owner of Room Forty One, an upscale Hamilton restaurant that gives him an outlet for the creativity and self-expression he has discovered are so essential to his well-being.

When he was growing up, in Dundas (where he still lives), Lomanto spent a lot of time hanging out in the kitchen. In high school, he held part-time jobs at restaurants, but after graduating opted for an exceptionally well-paying job in a large corporation. "I knew I had a passion for cooking but I struggled with the irregularity of the hours," says Lomanto.

However, after couple of years of the same monotonous

tasks day after work day, Lomanto realized how much he needed a creative outlet. "I wasn't happy not being able to put forth something that was me, and unique to me – which I can do every day now."

Lomanto credits Niagara's two-year culinary management program with giving him an important boost into his preferred career path. He particularly remembers chef professors Bob Demers and Stan West for their respective passion and practicality. And it was at a College-hosted hospitality career fair the spring he graduated (2001) that Lomanto was offered his first full-time job – after spending 20 minutes with a hiring representative from the Muskoka resort Windermere House.

"People in the industry would never have looked at me if I hadn't gone through the culinary program," he explains.

The same was true of Mark Picone, then executive

chef/director of Vineland Estates Restaurant, who hired Lomanto a year later as an apprentice chef. "Brad exhibited a profile that made me keen to take him under my wing and provide the training ground for him," says Picone. "He had the skills, and also the drive and dedication."

Picone, who is now chef professor at the College, and owner of Mark Picone Culinary Studio, was so impressed with Lomanto he funded a six-month apprenticeship abroad – as he has with other high-performing employees. Lomanto, in Picone's judgement, excelled at Arnolfo, a small Michelin two-star restaurant in Tuscany, Italy, where Picone himself trained.

In turn, Lomanto was impressed with the professional dedication he found in Italy. "We never served more than thirty people a night at Arnolfo, but there were nine chefs, which shows the importance that was placed on perfection. And that was something I found all over the country. It was mind blowing to see what they could come up with in the kitchen."

His inspiring experience in Italy, combined with the

valuable skills he gained at Vineland Estates over the next two years, went a long way towards preparing Lomanto for going out on his own. He began looking for restaurant space and found it in downtown Hamilton in a converted fire hall that already had the kitchen equipment in place (saving hundreds of thousands of dollars in expense).

He found the two other things he needed – investment capital and someone to run the dining room – in Kurt Jensen (now his partner), who had also expressed interest in the property but needed a chef.

The restaurant, named Room Forty One after its street number on King William, opened in April 2005 and does a good business catering to the lunch and theatre crowds.

The most challenging aspect of owning a restaurant, says Lomanto, is "the art of turning your staff into your trusted family, which you need because you spend so much time together."

"I'd always taken this for granted at other places I worked. I'd walk in and it was already in place. But suddenly I was the one driving the process. And it's a difficult one: not everyone who walks through your door is professional. You have to hire ten people to get two you want. I have an exceptional team now. Anyone leaving now would be a huge loss."

The College has proved a valuable source of apprentices and kitchen assistance. Lomanto keeps in touch with his former instructors, who send him students and recommendations when he needs them. In fact, his sous chef is fellow Niagara graduate Jason Canham. The two worked together at Vineland Estates before Canham – and

Mark Picone – let Lomanto "steal" him away.

"When I left to open Room Forty One, Mark asked me if there was anything he could do for me, anything I needed. I told him I'd like to take Jason. It was the best thing anyone could have done for me at the time, because the building of that core staff who you can rely on isn't easy."

As an owner he's not in the kitchen as much as he'd like to be, but he was prepared for that. "The College opened my eyes to the fact that if you want to be an owner/operator you have to have a head for business as well as being able to cook. You're not going to be in the kitchen every night. You're going to be on the phone with customers, banks, suppliers. No chef wants to leave the stove. But already knowing that it's a normal part of the job made it easier to accept that I wasn't going to be cooking as much. And the trade off, of course, is that I'm my own boss."

Lomanto sees himself eventually with a smaller venue focused on relaxed evening dining and showcasing Ontario products and delicacies, as well as an Ontario wine list.

As for the irregularity of hours that once put him off from pursuing the profession, Lomanto is aware he'll probably never be able to balance his professional life with his family life – which now includes his wife Jill and 14-month-old Abigail. But squeezing in precious time at odd hours of the day and on Sundays with a Dad who loves his work is probably infinitely more valuable to a daughter than all the time in the world with an unfulfilled nine-to-five.

And there's no doubt she'll be well fed....

## High school students dish it out at cookoff



More than 50 high school culinary students were at the Niagara Culinary Institute March 1 for the third annual Niagara Invitational High School Cookoff. Students competed in culinary and baking categories, and top performers received Niagara College scholarships. In all, 17 secondary schools were represented at the event.

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# NIAGARA COLLEGE

## A Happening



Left to right, Niagara College President Dan Patterson, Kari Spry, and Neil Chartrand, Dean of Business and Entrepreneurship.

### An award winning year for Niagara College students and alumni

Kari Spry, a first-year student in Niagara College's Bachelor of Applied Business - International Commerce and Global Development program, has been named the first-ever recipient of the Forum for International Trade Training (FITT) National Achievement Award.

The award recognizes a student who demonstrates initiative in promoting international trade in their community, college or university through leadership and academic excellence. Spry, originally from Cobourg, Ontario, has carried her passion for the world of international trade over to many extracurricular activities.

In March, 2006, Spry represented Niagara College in East London South Africa, where she worked as an International Project Manager as part of a Niagara College-facilitated sustainable development project. While in South Africa, Spry facilitated the successful year-round production and marketing of crafts by the Inxili Crafters (an underprivileged women business cooperative). The project, known as Fair Trade Niagara, seeks to raise awareness of fair trade issues and global importing opportunities.

Spry is an active member of Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship (ACE) Niagara, a student-run business club for which she has served as ACE Niagara president since April, 2006. Spry also lead a presentation on Fair Trade Niagara at the National ACE competition in Toronto in 2006.

The Forum for International Trade Training (FITT) is Canada's international trade training and professional certification body and the leading membership-based organization of its kind in the world. Spry received the award at the 10th Annual FITT Conference held in Vancouver in April.



Left to right, Niagara College President Dan Patterson, Wes Beauchamp, Chidi Boma Opara, Mark Hardwick and Joan Homer.

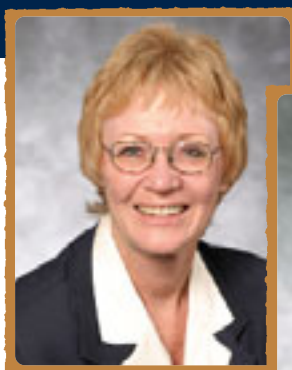
## New Vice Presidents move east from Alberta

In September 2006 Niagara College welcomed two new senior administrators, both of whom made their mark as leaders in postsecondary education in Alberta.

Dr. Joyce Engel, formerly Dean of Student Services and Registrar at Medicine Hat College, joined Niagara College as its new Vice President Academic; and Sean Kennedy, formerly Associate Vice President, Students and International at Red Deer College, became Niagara College's first Vice President of Student and Community Relations.

Dr. Engel has been a teacher, manager and educational leader for more than 25 years. She served as Dean of Health Studies and Chair of Health and Allied Sciences at Medicine Hat College. She also taught nursing at both Medicine Hat College and the University of Lethbridge. She began her career as a nurse, and has also served as Director of Education at the Medicine Hat Hospital. Dr. Engel holds a Master of Education degree from the University of Calgary and a PhD in nursing from the University of Alberta. As Vice President Academic, she will lead all of the College's academic activities and initiatives.

Kennedy joined Red Deer College in 2000 as Dean of Students after holding several positions at the



Dr. Joyce Engel



Sean Kennedy

University of Alberta in the Student Ombudservice, University Student Services and the Faculty of Education. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Alberta and a Masters degree in Public Administration from Queen's University. As the College's Vice President of Student and Community Relations, Kennedy will oversee the College's student services, enrolment and recruitment, marketing and communications departments, and the Niagara College Foundation, including the Alumni Affairs Office.

## Colleges Ontario Hat Trick

Two Niagara College graduates and a current student were honoured for leadership both on campus and off by Colleges Ontario (formerly ACAATO) at its annual conference in Toronto.

Chidi Boma Opara, a third-year student in Niagara College's Computer Engineering Technology program, was the first-ever recipient of Colleges Ontario's Joan Homer Student Leadership Award. Opara's many contributions include working with the International Student Peer Mentoring Program, serving as President of the College's African-Caribbean Club, working as a peer tutor and participating on the College's Students Who Advance Technology (SWAT) team. He's served as project manager for many new initiatives including the College's first Black History Month and the 2006 African-Caribbean Club Calendar, and worked on the College's Leave the Pack Behind smoking cessation campaign – all while excelling academically as a member of the College's Honour Roll. The community-minded Opara also finds time to coach youth soccer in Welland.

Alumni Mark Hardwick and Wesley Beauchamp, both former Student Administrative Council (SAC) Presidents, received the Colleges Ontario Student Leadership Award. As student leaders, both Beauchamp and Hardwick succeeded in enhancing the student life experience at the college through a number of initiatives, including the addition of dental benefits to the local student health plan. Beauchamp and Hardwick also spearheaded the development of new Niagara College scholarships and were active during the provincial "Fund Me Now" advocacy campaign, which called on the provincial government to increase funding for colleges.

Beauchamp graduated from Niagara College's Business Administration – Accounting program in 2005. Hardwick is a graduate of the College's Computer Programmer (2004) and Interactive Multimedia (Graduate Certificate – 2005) programs.

Continue to Discover – visit  
[www.niagaracollege.ca/ce](http://www.niagaracollege.ca/ce)

# Place!

## Business professor Robert Greene wins provincial faculty award

Robert Greene, a professor in Niagara College's School of Business and Entrepreneurship, was honoured this summer with the provincial government's Leadership in Faculty Teaching (LIFT) award.

The awards were developed by the Ontario government to recognize and encourage teaching excellence at the province's colleges and universities. Winners receive a total of \$20,000 over two years.

Criteria for the award include the ability to stimulate students to think creatively and critically, demonstrated caring for learning, enthusiasm for, and innovation in, teaching, fostering development and intellectual growth, and motivating and mentoring students.

Greene joined Niagara College in 2002 and currently teaches courses in entrepreneurship, principles of management and operations management. He is also the faculty advisory for ACE Niagara, the College's Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship chapter.

Greene is popular with his students and is viewed as a mentor who brings an innovative approach to the classroom.

"Mr. Greene has always contributed to a positive college and learning environment, by always looking for meaningful ways to improve the classroom by teaching new skills and providing the students with the opportunity to gain hands-on experience through valuable interactive assignments," said Kari Spry, a student in the College's Bachelor of Applied Business – International Commerce and Global Development program.

Greene earned a Bachelor of Commerce degree at Ryerson University and a Master of Business Administration degree at the University of Calgary. He also spent a year teaching international business in China.



## Province provides \$1.5 million for wine facilities

Ontario government ministers Jim Bradley and Chris Bentley, along with Niagara Falls MPP Kim Craitor, brought good news to Niagara College in February in the form of a \$1.5 million grant in support of the winery and viticulture facilities at Niagara College. The funds will be used to develop a wine education centre at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Campus. At the announcement, from left, are Niagara College President Dan Patterson, Tourism Minister and St. Catharines MPP Jim Bradley, student Tiffany Richardson, Niagara Falls MPP Kim Craitor, Chateau des Charmes Wines Vice President Paul-Andre Bosc, and Chris Bentley, Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities.

## Another fine year for the NCT Winery

The Niagara College Teaching Winery made a splash at the 27th Annual All Canadian Wine Championships in Windsor this past May, bringing home three awards. The 2004 Warren Classic Chardonnay won the Best Chardonnay over \$20, and the 2005 Meritage won the Best Meritage. NCT also took home a Silver Medal for their Silver - 2005 Vidal Ice wine. More than 850 wines were submitted from 140 wineries from Ontario, British Columbia, Quebec, and Atlantic Canada.

The NCT Winery also won a number of medals at the Finger Lakes International Competition, including silver medals for its 2005 Vidal Ice Wine and 2005 Meritage and bronze medals for its 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon, 2004 Warren Classic Chardonnay and 2005 Pinot Noir.

Rounding out the 2007 honours was winemaking professor Jim Warren, who received the Tony Aspler Award at Cuvee 2007.

The NCT Winery is Canada's first and only commercial teaching winery. Faculty and students have consistently produced award-winning wines – most notably the barrel-aged, barrel-fermented Chardonnay that captured the 2002 White Wine of the Year at the Canadian Wine Awards. The winery operates strictly on a non-profit, cost-recovery basis with all revenue from sales re-invested into the winery program.

Combined with the College's teaching and research

vineyard, the winery provides students in the Winery and Viticulture Technician program with hands-on training in all aspects of the wine industry, from vineyard management and winemaking to sales and marketing of the final product.

**NIAGARA  
COLLEGE**  
{teaching winery}



Niagara Falls MPP Kim Craitor, left, and Niagara College President Dan Patterson, right, presented Business Professor Robert Greene, centre, with a certificate and plaque during a ceremony August 1. Greene is the recipient of the provincial government's Leadership in Faculty Teaching (LIFT) Award.

## A cut above

Niagara College Hairstylist Apprentice Kathy Luu has distinguished herself on the provincial stage by capturing the Gold medal at the Skills Canada – Ontario competition held recently in Waterloo.

Luu received a perfect score in the hairdressing competition. In addition to her Gold medal, Niagara College received the Skills Canada Ontario Board of Director's Excellence Award in recognition of Luu's perfect score.

Luu, of Niagara Falls, went on to represent Niagara College as a member Team Ontario at the Skills Canada National Competition in Saskatoon in June. The team placed sixth.

The 18th Annual Skills Canada provincial competition is an opportunity for elementary, secondary and post-secondary students to showcase their skills while promoting trades. Skills Canada-Ontario is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting skilled trades and technologies as viable, first choice career options to Ontario youth. Niagara College was among the hosts of the regional portion of the Skills Canada-Ontario competitions in April.



The Niagara College tradition of honouring its best continued this fall as three members of the College team received the Award of Excellence. With President Dan Patterson (top left) are award winners (clockwise) Colin Fraser (faculty), Jacquie DeForest (support staff, Information Services) and Teresa Quinlin (administration, Director of Finance).



The Casino Niagara/Fallsview Casino Cares Foundation made a significant donation in support of scholarships and bursaries during the Seafood Gala. Greg Medulun, right, of Casino Cares, presented a cheque for \$25,000 to Jim Ryan, left, Chair of the College's Board of Governors and Allan Magnacca, centre, Chair of the Niagara College Foundation Board.

## Seafood Gala generates more than \$300,000 for students

The 18th annual Seafood Gala, which had more than 650 guests "Puttin' on the Ritz" in support of the Niagara College Foundation, raised more than \$115,000 in support of student scholarships and bursaries.

Under the Ontario Trust for Student Support program, the Government of Ontario will match and exceed that amount bringing the total funds generated \$306,000 – a new record for this popular event.

This 18th Annual Seafood Gala took place April 14 at the Fallsview Casino Resort. Gala Chairperson Sandra Patterson led a team of volunteers in creating an "Age of Glamour" atmosphere with a spectacular seafood buffet, live entertainment and silent auction.

More than 2,000 of Niagara College's 6,300 students received financial support in 2006 thanks in large measure to those who support events like the Seafood Gala which generate funds for student scholarships and bursaries.

## NIAGARA COLLEGE {teaching winery}



Niagara College Campus Wine Store  
Niagara-on-the-Lake Campus  
135 Taylor Road, at Glendale Avenue

Sunday to Thursday 11 am – 5 pm  
Friday 11 am – 8 pm  
Saturday 10 am – 8 pm

Wine list, prices, directions and more:  
[nctwinery.ca](http://nctwinery.ca)

## THE TRIBUNE

### Scholarships and bursaries create a legacy

By Brenda Herchmer

Although I lost ground in high school, in my early years I was a pretty good student even though I can't say as I remember working very hard to be one.

Education and good grades were something my grandfather valued highly so I was often on the receiving end of compliments when he reviewed my report cards. Knowing I hadn't invested a lot of effort, I often felt a little guilty and didn't quite understand why it was so important to him.

However, when I was eleven, I clearly recall him telling me I would never have to worry about attending university as he would make sure the money for my tuition was available. Sadly, my grandfather was diagnosed with cancer and died soon afterward. There was no provision in his will for tuition and it never seemed appropriate to bring it up.

Being from a family of seven, money was scarce. And, since education wasn't viewed as an especially high priority by my parents, and because I was paying my own way, I opted for college rather than university. It was a good experience but for me the wrong career path and some ten years later I unexpectedly found myself a single parent with a part-time job, and none-too-rosy prospects. I knew I needed to go back to school.

I fast-tracked through a degree at Brock and graduated with distinction. However, along the way I accumulated debts totalling some \$20,000.

Other than loans and some grants from OSAP (Ontario Student Assistance Program) I wasn't aware of, nor even thought to look for other options. Because the intent of OSAP is to supplement, not to replace, the financial resources of a student and their families, I received assistance for some of the costs of my education and living expenses with the understanding they would be paid back with monthly payments that would begin six months after I graduated. Some ten years later, they ultimately were.

Entering the system as a mature student I never even thought of scholarships as a possibility because I assumed they were awarded for scholastic achievement. However in some cases financial need, as well as community and volunteer involvement, is also taken into consideration.

Niagara College is fortunate to have scholarships established by many citizens, organizations and businesses who invested in education by creating a legacy in the name of a company, service club or association. In some cases it was to celebrate exemplary service, or in honour of a specific individual such as a family member or retiree. In other cases, such as the scholarships established by Canadian Tire Financial Service, General Motors, Sheraton Fallsview, Balfour Greenhouses, or Chown, Cairns Barristers and Solicitors, it was viewed as a way for a company to give back to their community in a meaningful way.

In addition to scholarships, colleges like Niagara also have bursaries available.

Bursaries are grants that are distributed on the basis of financial need.

Although there still is a need for many more, today there are more bursaries available as the Ontario government requires colleges and universities to set aside a percentage of the tuition fees paid by students and use it specifically for student financial assistance. Assistance is provided to students through bursaries as well as work/study programs.

If I was in the same situation today and going to school, I could have applied to receive a First Generation Bursary. These awards are provided by the Ontario government to help students whose parents did not attend post-secondary education to become the first in their family to attend college or university or become an apprentice.

I might also have been considered for a bursary like the one provided by Soroptimist International-Stoney Creek/Niagara that provides support for a woman who is the financial head of the household responsible for herself and her dependents, and is attending a post-secondary program.

As many individuals, organizations and businesses, have done already, investing in education needs to be considered as a strategy that provides a real solution for many of Niagara's challenges.

For anyone looking for a meaningful donation in the upcoming months, there is an added incentive for considering an investment in preparing students to pursue and achieve career success.

The Ontario government has reestablished the Ontario Trust for Student Support (OTSS) that matches private and corporate cash donations used by colleges to set up endowment funds. Investment income generated by these endowment funds will support bursaries in perpetuity for students who are in financial need.

Ultimately what this means is that for each dollar donated, the Niagara College Foundation receives an additional and very significant \$1.67!

By way of example, a donation of \$3,745 becomes an endowment of \$10,000. This amount will result in a bursary that can be named after a company, an organization, or in memory or in honour of an individual. Each year in perpetuity, the interest on this \$10,000 will then be paid out to a student in need of financial assistance.

Ultimately, investing in education not only creates a legacy, it touches and enriches lives.

My own education ultimately led me to a job as a supervisor with the City of Niagara Falls and later to a teaching position and management opportunities within Niagara College. Without the education, the path for both me and my family would never have been as blessed as it has been.

For more information about financial aid and scholarships at Niagara College, see [www.niagarac.on.ca/finaid](http://www.niagarac.on.ca/finaid).

For information about donating to student scholarships and bursaries, call Helen Armstrong at 905 735-2211 ext 7847.

This article originally appeared in the Welland Tribune. Brenda Herchmer is the former Manager of the Niagara College Centre for Community Leadership and the Niagara College Foundation.

# Successful alumni nominated for Premier's Awards



## Congratulations to the honorees!

The annual Premier's Awards honour the important social and economic contribution college graduates make to their communities. Niagara College was pleased to nominate four outstanding alumni for these prestigious Awards in 2006. Our nominees were honoured at a Premier's Awards gala this past February.



**DONNA MOODY**  
(Law and Security Administration –  
Police Foundations, 2002)

Donna Moody was appointed Deputy Chief of the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) in 2000, and at that time was the highest-serving female in the Service's history. Her rise to the Deputy Chief position followed 26 years of police service in which she progressed through the ranks of Cadet, Constable, Investigator,

Staff Sergeant, Inspector and Acting Superintendent within various divisions of the NRPS. Her career in policing has been marked with numerous notable achievements, many of which have been recognized through provincial and international awards. Moody believes that members of the police service are "Gatekeepers of the Community" and as such, she contributes considerable amounts of time to a variety of causes in Niagara.



**MARK LANDRY**  
(Business Administration Financial  
Management, 1977)

Raised by his mother in a low-income family of five children in St. Catharines, Ontario, **Mark Landry** graduated from Niagara College's Business Administration Financial Management program in 1977. By age 30 he had become the youngest vice-president in the history of multinational consumer products giant Unilever. In his 20-year career with

Unilever, he turned around several of its struggling companies. In 2002, he left his high executive position to found his own company, Phoenix Brands LLC, which now ranks among the best consumer products companies in the world. Mark lives in Wilton, Connecticut, with his wife and three children.

**KEN CHERNEY**  
(Journalism, Advertising and  
Public Relations, 1970)

Ken Cherney is President of a communications consulting firm that draws on his 30 years of award-winning experience in communications management, including 23 years at Inco Limited. During this time, Ken helped pioneer the field of modern corporate communications. Rising from Editor to Manager of Corporate Communications, he influenced the transformation of corporate communications to a field with a key role in management and encompassing open dialogue between corporations and their employees and stakeholders. In recognition of his pioneering role in the field, Ken was named Master Communicator in 2005, the International Association of Business Communicators Canada's highest honour.



**RYAN GLAVES**  
(Photonics Technologist, 2004)

A graduate of Niagara College's first class of Photonics Technologists in 2004, **Ryan Glaves** is a rising star in the high-tech world of Photonics. He's never had to look for employment; rather, employers have come looking for him. Just two years after graduation, he was in his third of a series of progressive positions in the industry. Ryan was recruited by Laservall North America before he'd even graduated. After one year as an Applications Engineer, Glaves was recruited by Innova Medical Ophthalmics where he worked in product support and clinical applications for laser eye vision surgeries. Six months later, despite only two years experience, Ryan was appointed Laser Applications & Training Manager at Virtek Laser Systems in Waterloo, Ontario.



## Know an outstanding Alumnus?

Niagara College will submit nominations for the 2007 Premier's Awards this fall. The awards celebrate the contributions college graduates make to their communities. Premiers Awards are given in the following categories:

- Business
- Health Sciences
- Community Services
- Recent Graduate
- Creative Arts and Design
- Technology

If you would like to submit the name of an outstanding Niagara College graduate for consideration, please forward the graduate's name, program, graduating year and contact information, along with a brief description of the graduate's career accomplishments and other achievements to Gordon Hunchak, Director of Marketing and Communications at [ghunchak@niagarac.on.ca](mailto:ghunchak@niagarac.on.ca).

**We Respect Your Privacy:** From time to time the Alumni Affairs Office or our affinity partners may contact you on behalf of the College or Alumni Council with regard to upcoming alumni events or exclusive opportunities available to our graduates. If you would rather not receive information from our partners, please contact the Alumni Affairs Office directly at 905-735-2211, ext. 7775.

## Where Were You in '72? SAC celebrates 35 years with 'Retro Ball' November 17, 2007

Bell bottoms, peace signs, bandanas and chains. All a large part of one of the most exciting and liberating decades of the twentieth century.

The Niagara College Student Administrative Council will celebrate this era – as well as 35 years of students working for students – at 'Retro Ball '72'. This fun-filled event will be held the Brock Plaza Hotel in Niagara Falls on Saturday, November 17. SAC invites all alumni to attend, and in particular all former SAC members who contributed to student life over the past three and a half decades.

This event is in support of the SAC Cares Program which assists students in need with emergency funds, the student food bank and the SAC Student Awards. Funds are also used to support student groups, clubs and community organizations.

This special evening will be a great opportunity to reconnect with old friends, relive the magic of the '70's and help SAC carry on with the important work of helping students as it has for the past 35 years. For more information please call the SAC Office at 905-641-2252 ext. 4225 (Niagara-on-the-Lake Campus) or 905-735-2211 ext. 7659 (Welland Campus).

## Memories of my Niagara College Years 1979 - 1981

Our 2nd year Air Conditioning Refrigeration class entered the Niagara College Touch Football League mostly to have fun, and to kill some time between classes. However when the competitive mentality kicked in, it was hard to stop. We easily handled the regular season games and found ourselves in the Championship Game against the defending Champion "Kuntas" (the Law and Security 2nd year team).

We were definitely the underdogs. I remember our class asking our Math teacher Mr. Corner if he could grant us a "spare" prior to our big game. He said "Sure, we'll just work harder the next day to catch up!" He wanted to watch our game, and I remember him telling us, "in order to be considered the best....you have to beat the best!" We all felt honoured that Mr. Corner took time out of his busy schedule to watch us.

The Kuntas were a good team, but on that cold October afternoon, the ACR-2's (Air Conditioning Refrigeration-Second Year) were a better team and narrowly claimed victory. To see Mr. Corner raise his index finger at us to proclaim, "You're number 1" will always be etched in our team's mind.

We celebrated that evening back at my apartment that I shared with a Niagara Regional Police Cadet. The look on his face when he walked through the door after work was priceless. His first words were "You beat the Kuntas?"

We didn't get any trophy or ribbons for winning, but for 1981, we reached our goal, and I don't recall anybody from that day forward ever missing Mr. Corners Math class. David Rasmussen, Air Conditioning Refrigeration - 1981 Graduate, now resides in Hamilton. He is the Canadian Sales Rep for Delhi Industries Inc.

David Rasmussen

Air Conditioning Refrigeration, 1981

**Did you know that you can stay at any of 15 Residence & Conference Centres in Ontario for a special rate of only \$49.95 per night for a two bedroom family suite!**

Your Alumni Affairs Office is continually working to improve the benefits and services offered to Alumni. Check out [www.niagaracollege.ca/alumni](http://www.niagaracollege.ca/alumni) for the latest updates and information.

## UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

### Niagara College Choir

The choir practices on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Campus. This newly formed ensemble is open to alumni, staff, students and friends of Niagara College and is led by Laura Thomas, the assistant director of the Niagara Symphony orchestra. For further information, visit [www.niagaracollege.ca/alumni](http://www.niagaracollege.ca/alumni) or call 905-735-2211 ext. 7865 for more details.

### Alumni Council

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

The alumni council will have its initial meeting for the upcoming year. Under the leadership of chair Heather Carter, the council has become a vibrant force in forging new alumni initiatives and introducing new benefits, events and e-communication processes. Visit [www.niagaracollege.ca/alumni](http://www.niagaracollege.ca/alumni) for updates.

### New Alumni Website and E-Bulletin Launch

Saturday, September 15, 2007

The alumni website at [www.niagaracollege.ca/alumni](http://www.niagaracollege.ca/alumni) has a new look. Visit the site for information on benefits and services for Niagara College alumni, advocacy, news and events. Sign up for our new E-Bulletin and stay connected.

### Alumni Profiles, Good News and Memories

Ever wondered what happened to your classmates? This month we are launching a new profile page, where alumni can submit their profiles for online viewing. We are also asking alumni to share their good news and memories of Niagara College. To find out more, visit [www.niagaracollege.ca/alumni](http://www.niagaracollege.ca/alumni).

### Niagara Showcase

October 2007

Featuring displays and information about Niagara College programs. Special events will be hosted by the alumni council. Visit [www.niagaracollege.ca/alumni](http://www.niagaracollege.ca/alumni) for event details. Update your alumni profile and have a chance to win a trip to Montreal, an iPod, tickets to a Toronto Maple Leafs game, the Niagara College Seafood Gala, and the Niagara College Golf Classic. The final draw takes place at this event.

### Trivial Pursuit Party @ Niagara College - This Fall

Saturday, October 27, 2007 at 6:00 pm - visit [www.niagaracollege.ca](http://www.niagaracollege.ca) for details

This popular event features hundreds of people all playing Trivial Pursuit with twists such as "Brains or Bottoms" and "Trivial Trivia". This live show is great fun for friends, family or co-workers and is catered by the Niagara Culinary Institute.

### SAC Retro Ball

Saturday, November 17, 2007

The Niagara College Student Administrative Council will celebrate this era - as well as 35 years of students working for students - at 'Retro Ball '72'. This fun-filled event will be held the Brock Plaza Hotel in Niagara Falls on Saturday, November 17. SAC invites all alumni to attend, and in particular all former SAC members who contributed to student life over the past three and a half decades. See page 9 for further details.

## Attention: NIAGARA COLLEGE ALUMNI

**Stay connected to Niagara College by updating your contact information and enter our contest to win a Via Rail travel and hotel package.**

**Other prizes include:  
an iPod, Toronto Maple Leafs Tickets,  
tickets to our Seafood Gala,  
and Golfing prizes!**

**For complete prize listing and contest details visit the Niagara College alumni web page at:**



[niagaracollege.ca/alumni](http://niagaracollege.ca/alumni)



## Alumni - we want to hear from you!

Have you moved? Got married? Had children? Changed jobs? Trekked across a desert? Received a special award? Let us know! Contact the Alumni Affairs Office at [alumni@niagaracollege.ca](mailto:alumni@niagaracollege.ca). We can also be reached at:

Office of Alumni Affairs, Niagara College Welland Campus  
Room S110, 300 Woodlawn Road, Welland, ON L3C 7L3  
Tel: 905-735-2211, ext. 7775 Fax: 905-988-4323

We are happy to include photographs if space permits, and will return them to you if a return address is provided.

Please complete this form and mail or fax to the NC Alumni Affairs Office.

NAME	_____
ADDRESS	_____ _____
E-MAIL	_____
TELEPHONE	_____
YOUR NEWS	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____

# IN THE COMMUNITY



Above: The Head Injury Association of Fort Erie (HIAFE) was the recipient of this year's Many Hands project. Students from Niagara College's Event Management (Graduate Certificate), Construction Techniques and Construction Engineering Technology (Architecture) programs, along with 80 volunteers conducted a one-day renovation blitz at HIAFE's facilities on March 31.



Left: Niagara College students lend helping hands to Habitat for Humanity Niagara. Students and instructors have worked hard to make the dream of homeownership a reality for a local family. A Dedication Ceremony at the Welland address marked the completion of this inaugural build with Habitat for Humanity Niagara, Niagara College and Niagara Home Builders' Association – truly a momentous occasion.



### Beautiful Smiles Highlight Dental Health Month

Niagara College dental students, along with area dentists and the United Way, have partnered to offer a community outreach initiative that provides oral care to local students who don't have access to dental benefits. The Niagara College Smile for a Child Program began in February and wrapped in April in recognition of Dental Health month.

## Memories of my Niagara College Years 1974 – Present

At least 30 years ago, if not longer, nobody knew what was happening when we saw people lying on the floor in different parts of the Simcoe building. Everything looked so real! Some people stopped to help while others just walked by. The makeup and torn clothing made it look so authentic. We were told later that a mock disaster was staged.

Just over 10 years ago, I was among the first class of Library Computer Network Operations Program. After several unsuccessful attempts the program was finally launched. As I tried to keep awake in the rooms of the Voyageur Block I was wondering what I had gotten myself into. At different times our feedback was required to improve the courses. Since 1996, after 13 years of further post econdary education, I now take a seminar or course at Niagara College that lasts either a half or whole day. There are no more tests or assignments to be written.

### Joanna Zalewa

1976 graduate of the Library Technician Program  
1989 graduate of BA at Brock University  
1996 graduate of Library Computer Network Operations Program

## Test your Niagara College Knowledge!

- How many full time students did Niagara have in 1967 when it opened?  
a) 1,027    b) 468    c) 1,438
- Name the 5 people who have been College presidents.
- What are the call letters of the Niagara College Radio Station?
- How many graduates has Niagara College had (2007)?  
a) 41,137    b) 60,102    c) 55,025
- What was the name of the first Niagara College temporary building?

For more Niagara College trivia, visit the alumni website at [www.niagaracollege.ca/alumni](http://www.niagaracollege.ca/alumni)

### ANSWERS:

1. b
2. Dr. George W. Bowen, Anthony Manera, Jacqueline Robarts, John Sasq, Dr. Dan Patterson.
3. CRNC 90.1
4. a
5. Hennepin Hall.

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YEAR  
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*All our plants are grown by students, and all plant sale revenues are used to support the horticulture programs at Niagara College.*



[niagaracollegegreenhouse.com](http://niagaracollegegreenhouse.com)

# Special benefits and savings for Niagara College Alumni Association Members



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