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IN OUR COMMUNITY *of* ARTS & SCIENCE

WINTER | 08

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THE TABLE

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U of L PhD student Lana Miller conducting research into the health of Alberta's lakes and rivers.

Photo Courtesy: University of Lethbridge.

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Dr. Christopher Nicol, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science.

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN, FACULTY OF

ARTS & SCIENCE

Your hometown, your university…

A message from Dr. Christopher Nicol, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science, University of Lethbridge:

The Faculty of Arts and Science is the founding academic area at the University of Lethbridge, and continues to have a major impact on University activities in this, our forty-first year of operation. Over our history, the Faculty's impact has spread to every corner of the Lethbridge community. In addition to their studies, many of our students work in local businesses, and our academic staff make contributions in all walks of community life.

Our instructors are distinguished teachers, active in basic research, with applications which have implications for our society in Lethbridge, and beyond. As well as contributing to the local community, our students work with our academic staff in the creation of new knowledge. After graduation, our students frequently reflect on the important preparation their University of Lethbridge experience has had on their career opportunities. We offer our students the flexibility of an interdisciplinary education, encouraging the exploration of contemporary issues by providing exemplary degree programs, research opportunities, and facilities. The Faculty of Arts and Science is a leader in ensuring that our students succeed.

Take a closer look at the University of Lethbridge… This is your university.

FINDING THAT *Work-Life* BALANCE

Dr. Muriel Mellow studies how rural professionals find their work-life balance.

Katherine Wasiak

Defining boundaries can be challenging. Where does one's job end and one's personal life begin? How do people sort out the hazy areas around those boundaries? These are just a few of the questions University of Lethbridge sociologist Dr. Muriel Mellow considers on a regular basis. "I'm interested in the intersection of paid work and other aspects of people's lives," she says. "How do people, professionals in particular, define when they are 'at work' and when they aren't? That grey area can have a huge impact on how professionals do their job and maintain a quality of life outside of work."

In some settings, the answers to these questions are less complicated than others. "In large urban centres, professionals can more easily separate work and home life," says Muriel. "However, that separation is much more difficult in smaller communities. The ambiguity and overlap between professional time and private time can lead to stress, burnout, and, ultimately, the loss of professionals in smaller communities." Muriel goes on to note that not all issues related to the multiple and overlapping relationships among people in smaller communities are negative: "In initial interviews, I discovered some professionals felt that because clients knew aspects about their personal circumstances they were seen as more human and approachable. From the professional's perspective, knowing background information about a client enabled them to see the client's condition in a broader context."

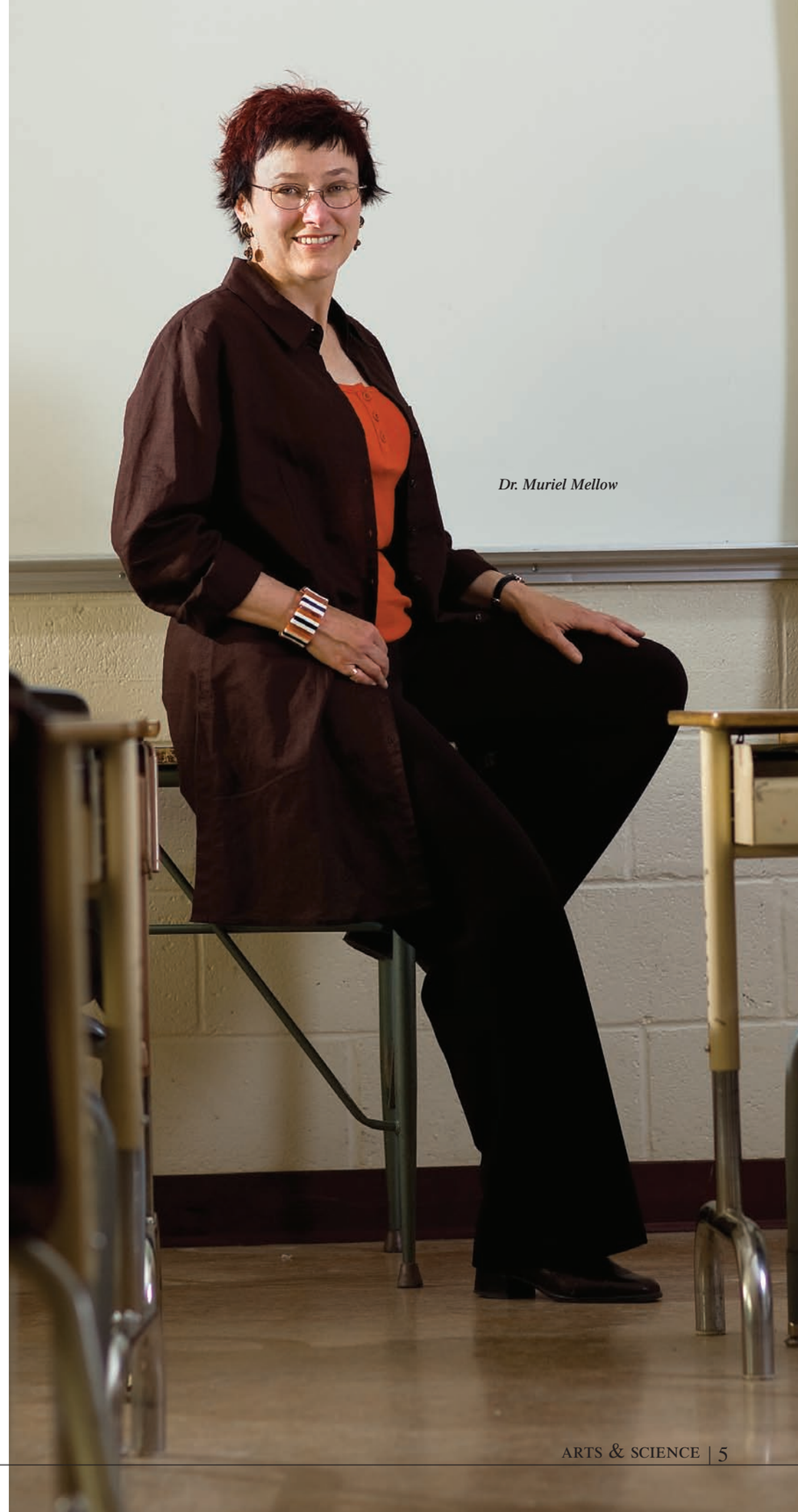
Muriel muses about how many professional organizations have a code of conduct that insists on objectivity, fairness, and confidentiality in dealing with clients. "There is an assumption about the way professional work is organized," she explains. "In urban settings, once professionals leave the office they don't often see clients or have to deal with them in other settings." However, life in a small town just does not work that way. The complex web of interrelated relationships commonly found in smaller centres simply does not allow for a clear separation of occupation from personal life.

In an effort to determine how people make things work and balance the various roles in their lives, Muriel recently conducted a study of clergy working in communities with populations of 3,000 or less. She is now expanding that research to include physicians, nurses, teachers, lawyers, bank managers and accountants who live and work in Southern Alberta communities with populations of 10,000 or less. "My objective is to develop an understanding about how professionals in small communities set boundaries and effectively deal with overlapping relationships," she explains. "I want to know how professionals who live in smaller communities survive and thrive." She is exploring how professionals establish expectations that can be clearly understood by themselves, their families and other community members.

It is easy to see several practical applications for the results of Muriel's research. Techniques that professionals use to deal with work-life balance can be shared to help others. "We all learn from the experiences of others," she says. "We may be able to provide people with tools or methods to more effectively balance their lives and live comfortably in smaller communities. This would be helpful for professionals who are not originally from small communities, but who move there to work." Muriel explains that students could also benefit from the information gathered: "It will help us better prepare students for the challenges they'll face in the future." In addition, the research may be helpful to smaller communities trying to recruit and retain professionals, providing communities with a better understanding of the issues related to work/life balance.

However, before any information can be shared, Muriel must gather, collate, analyze and interpret data to develop an understanding about what is currently happening. "This research project will take several months to complete and involves interviewing as many professionals as I can find," she says. "To develop a complex comprehensive picture of current practices, it is necessary to have in-depth interviews with a large number of people." Muriel plans to talk to about 60 professionals living in Southern Alberta communities with populations less than 10,000. Each interview takes between one and one and a half hours. She must also adjust and adapt the interview questions based on answers from previous interviews. "Sometimes things come out that you would never expect," she says, adding that although she has just started the interview process she is pleased with how generous people have been. "Professionals have been amazingly kind in taking the time to talk with me," she says. "However, I'm still looking for more." If you are a professional (physician, nurse, teacher, lawyer, accountant or bank manager) living and working in a Southern Alberta community with a population of less than 10,000, and are interested in assisting Muriel with her research, please call her at 403-329-2566 or visit her website for details: http://people.uleth.ca/~muriel.mellow/

The complex web of interrelated relationships commonly found in smaller centres simply does not allow for that clear separation of job and personal life. "In large urban centres professionals can more easily separate work and home life. However, that separation is much more difficult in smaller communities. The ambiguity and overlap between professional time and private time can lead to stress, burnout, and, ultimately, the loss of professionals in smaller communities."



Dr. Muriel Mellow

Eric Low

our changing climate

Dr. Adriana Predoi-Cross helps to understand climate change.

Dr. Adriana Predoi-Cross

With applications in analysis of atmospheric trace gases, industrial process monitoring and controlling, and basic investigation of molecular structures, the techniques that Adriana and her team develop will, in turn, contribute to the development of accurate remote sensing instrumentation.

Physics helps us understand how the universe and our world work. It includes the study of principles that we take for granted or aren't even aware of. Many people are afraid of physics because of the math, its complexity, and the myths surrounding the science that suggest that it is difficult, or that it is a pursuit primarily thought of for men. Not so, says Dr. Adriana Predoi-Cross of the Physics Department at the University of Lethbridge: "I had a wonderful female [physics] teacher in junior high school. She mentored us and encouraged our participation in extra-curricular activities." Indeed, some of the female students taught by that enthusiastic teacher went on to have successful careers in physics and engineering, and Adriana attributes their success to the teacher who served as a role model and who built the girls' confidence. As an NSERC Faculty Award holder, Adriana herself is now a role model for young girls and actively pursues ways to get them involved in physics.

In the fall of 2008, Adriana led the Canadian team of participants at The 3rd IUPAP International Conference on Women in Physics. Held in Seoul, South Korea, from October 8–11, the event was organized by the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP). This conference had three purposes: to analyze the current progress being made in promoting women in physics internationally; to provide an arena for international women in physics to share their scientific accomplishments and collaborate on international research projects; and to design and implement changes that improve the numbers of and advancement of women in physics.

In her own research at the University of Lethbridge, Adriana is establishing a research group in molecular spectroscopy for remote sensing applications. Specifically, this group is working to develop spectroscopic techniques to increase their understanding of the atmospheres of earth and other planets. This is a challenging and timely subject. Spectroscopy is a way of measuring the constituents of the atmosphere. Just as light, when refracted, produces a spectrum of colours of different wave lengths, radiation absorbed and reflected by molecules of various elements and compounds in the atmosphere, such as carbon dioxide, produces a spectrum that can be analyzed to determine what kinds of molecules are present and what their concentrations are.

There are several ways of measuring concentrations of gas in the atmosphere spectroscopically. One method is using ground-based instruments looking up. The second method involves instruments on satellites looking down. Refinements in instrumentation and software mean that results can be accurate within 0.3 per cent, which seems remarkable when one is looking at fluxes, sinks, and distribution of gases at various altitudes, geographical locations, and seasonal variations.

Adriana's goal is to increase the accuracy of spectroscopic measurements of greenhouse gases because the quality of the data affects the quality of the conclusions that can be drawn from measurements of their concentrations and other molecules. In a sense, her work involves reinventing the wheel, customizing and improving known technology, and developing software that will help move her research forward. With applications in analysis of atmospheric trace gases, industrial process monitoring and controlling, and basic investigation of molecular structures, the techniques that she and her team develop will, in turn, contribute to the development of accurate remote sensing instrumentation. This includes adaptations to field instruments that can detect leaks in natural gas pipelines or measure concentrations of greenhouse gas emissions from farmers' fields. In the future, the science that goes into the development and building of instrumentation and software to measure gases on very cold planets can be applied to refine instruments so they will work in harsh climates and remote locations on Earth. Essentially, they'll be able to build instruments that work accurately at lower temperatures than ever before.

Current concerns about climate change have made Adriana's work attractive for those who fund research. As climate change continues to attract the attention of scientists, industry, and politicians, better scientific methods to interpret data from Earth's atmosphere can only become more valuable. Considering the issue of climate, change Adriana notes, "We don't have all the questions answered." Decision makers need good science in order to understand what is happening in the atmosphere, and how the atmosphere affects climate. Adriana's goal is to contribute to that good science.

THE ENGINEER of HUMAN LANGUAGES

DR. TIM POPE MAKES USE OF COMPUTERS TO HELP STUDENTS LEARN NEW LANGUAGES.

KATHERINE WASIAK

Combine equal parts linguistic sensibility with "gadget guy" capability and soon you have a recipe for a computer program that helps students to learn a new language. "Computers can handle more than just numbers and computations" says Dr. Tim Pope, of the University of Lethbridge Modern Languages Department. "They can deal with text just as easily, and wonderful possibilities open up when you can create custom computer programs." To prove that point, Tim pored over his first computer manual and, in 1984, wrote a computer program used for record keeping, data searching, and generating standard forms. In 1985, Tim attended a conference on possible uses for computers in teaching humanities and has never looked back. "Language is a system with rules and a standard word order," he says. "So a computer is the perfect tool for modelling language, a task often called language engineering."

When exploring the possibility of using computers to assist in learning a language, many aspects need to be considered. "The computer program must parallel human language, which means syntax is especially important," Tim explains. "You feed the computer a sentence and it must be able to analyze it and determine component parts such as subject, object, and so on. It must be able to determine whether the sentence is grammatically correct."

They say necessity is the mother of invention, and soon Tim began developing programs that did just that. The first step toward programs that analyze grammar was electronic dictionaries and bilingual databases. "In the late 1980s, the ability to link dictionaries through hypertext to verb tables, phrase books, and reference materials was a big step forward," he says. "It's been an interesting process." Tim notes that some languages are easier to model than others. German, for example, has a strong word order and numerous consistent rules. This makes it easier to program than English, which is a language of exceptions.

To get some idea about how far technology has come during Tim's career, he recounts the effort it took in the late 1980s to convince the university to buy an extra megabyte of memory: Then, "one megabyte cost $1,000." Holding up a small memory stick, he says, "I just bought these eight gigabytes for less than $30."

In 1989, Tim's computer programs became a teaching tool in his language classes. "At that time we had to borrow the Management computer lab, computers were not networked, and there was no Windows operating system," he recalls. By the mid 1990s things got really exciting: "We had the Internet and web-based software, sound, images and text, but still only stand-alone programs." Then along came the Internet computer programming language Java and Tim wrote a program that enabled him to network computers in his German class. "I was able to give students four or five interactive exercises, then have them write an online test, which was automatically emailed to me already graded," he says. "This was a convenience to me, and students also enjoyed using it."

"Computers can handle more than just numbers and computations. They can deal with text just as easily, and wonderful possibilities open up when you can create custom computer programs."

Dr. Tim Pope.

Tim has sold several of his programs around the world over the years but his latest, Webgen, has been freely shared with other universities. And although computers make great teaching tools, there is still plenty of work for instructors. "Unfortunately, exercises don't write themselves," laments Tim. "And to be most effective, exercises should have varying levels of complexity and be personalized using local references ? all of which takes work."

Currently, computer assisted language learning (CALL) is valuable for students and professors. "The computer takes students individually through the same steps that would take me hours," says Tim. "And computers are infinitely patient, I'm not." CALL is not like spellcheck, which fixes problems for the user; rather, the program analyzes input and exposes problems from which the student can learn. "The computer reviews individual words, word order and syntax to detect errors, and flags those errors for students, forcing them to think about what needs to be corrected. The computer also provides clues of increasing specificity to help students figure out problems," Tim explains. "My objective is to have students learn and become competent in the language, not to give students a computerized cheat sheet."

CALL gets good grades from students. "It holds their attention, is interactive, and uses multimedia," he says. "Students get immediate feedback and can work at their own pace." CALL has become a significant teaching tool. "By off-loading the repetitive drilling needed to learn a language onto the CALL lab, we have more time in class for other more genuine, oral activities. The lab work reinforces and supports classroom work," he explains.

Currently, Tim is working on expanding Webgen for use in university Japanese classes this fall. "It was far easier than we thought to input and display Japanese," he says. He is also looking ahead to the next challenge ? getting away from the keyboard and mouse. "I'm looking for a more human interface," he says. "Speech recognition is the wave of the future."

politically speaking

Eric Low

Dr. Harold Jansen provides insight into Canadian politics.

Dr. Harold Jansen and Alberta MLAs pictured in front of the Parliament building (1945).

Politicians form governments, and governments make decisions that affect nearly every part of our lives. Dr. Harold Jansen, Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science, has this in mind as he teaches, conducts research, educates citizen groups, and helps publish articles on a respected website called Mapleleafweb. All with the aim of enhancing people's understanding of our political systems and processes.

Harold teaches general courses in Canadian politics as well as specialized courses including Alberta Politics, Canadian Political Behaviour, Representation and Electoral Systems, and Canadian Political Parties. "Teaching is something very important to me, and I put a lot of time and effort into it," he explains. Harold's research activities also support his teaching, enhancing the study of politics and expanding his ability to reach his students.

A particular area of interest for Harold is in Canadian political party and election finance. Harold is part of a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) funded research team, which is looking at the way political parties, candidates, businesses, unions and voters are adjusting to the new fiscal/political reality.

In 2004, for instance, the federal government prohibited Canadian political parties from accepting donations from businesses and trade unions. The new rules also limit individuals' contributions to $1,000. Now, the parties receive generous subsidies from taxpayer money every three months. "We're looking at how this is affecting political party organization internally, how it is helping to shape the pattern of electoral competition between Canada's political parties, and how it is affecting the way political parties relate to society," he explains. Since Canada has had a series of minority governments, and parties have had to be election-ready since the legislation was enacted, it's been difficult to tell precisely how political activity might be affected. However, some parties, such as the Green Party, clearly benefit from the money they get based on how they fared in the last election. The Greens have been able to grow and develop greater institutional capacity because they have a steady annual income of roughly $1.75 for each vote they received.

The legislation also governs relationships between national and local party associations, resulting in more power for the federal leaders in Electoral District Association decisions, and that means centralization of power in a party.

Another area of his research interest involves electoral systems in Canadian provinces, including the history of proportional representation, where the share of seats a party obtains in the legislature is roughly the same as the proportion of the votes it receives. This is especially relevant today with several provinces having considered or considering alternative electoral systems, including the single transferable vote and mixed member proportional representation (or voting). In 2009, for example, British Columbia will be holding a second referendum on adopting the single transferable vote system, which was used in Alberta and Manitoba in the early and mid 20th century. Before the first referendum in 2005, Harold provided educational material about the history, processes, benefits and drawbacks of alternative electoral systems to the B.C. Citizens' Assembly research staff to help their deliberations in that province. Harold notes the importance of discussing electoral reform, particularly in light of the apparent imbalance between votes cast and number of seats gained in recent elections, and says that he's "pleased to see" it is "taking place."

Harold is also interested in how the Internet may be transforming political activity in Canada. He has researched websites that candidates establish during election campaigns, investigating what they do and what difference these websites might have on the campaign.

He's also analyzed the way Members of Parliament use websites to communicate with the general public about politics on Internet discussion boards, and the patterns of political discussion on political weblogs. "So far", he says, "my conclusion has been that the Internet isn't fundamentally transforming the political process." Despite this, Harold concedes that the use of internet technology in political campaigns "is an exciting medium that has a lot of potential."

Related to this work has been Harold's involvement in establishing Mapleleafweb (MLW), a website that has provided information about Canadian politics since 2001. As Senior Editor, Harold ensures that everything on MLW is accurate, fairly presents the multiple sides of political issues, and is comprehensive. The intent is to provide background stories behind what you read in the news to complement media coverage of daily events. While the media does a good job covering the outcomes of the political process, they tend not to provide the background information on the processes in Canadian politics that affect how those events unfold. As Harold explains, "I see MLW as one of the ways I try to make what I do connect to the broader community. I knew we were successful when students started citing MLW articles in their papers, completely oblivious to the fact that I had any involvement in it."

UNDERSTANDING the Invisible

Dr. Stacey Wetmore investigates DNA damage and repair.

Who says chemists don't have a sense of humour? URACIL is the acronym for Upscale and Robust Abacus for Chemistry in Lethbridge. It is also a term for a form of damage to DNA, as well as a natural biomolecule.

Instead of fume hoods, beakers, and Bunsen burners, computational chemists work in rather ordinary looking computer labs… but with a big difference. Imagine the equivalent of 680 home computers all working together 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This cluster of computers, called a High-Performance Computing Centre (HPC), but more affectionately termed URACIL,* is the high-tech workhorse for U of L's Dr. Stacey Wetmore.

Stacey came to the University of Lethbridge in 2006 as a Canada Research Chair in computational chemistry. Several factors attracted her to the University of Lethbridge. "The university had a master's program and was just starting a PhD program," she explains. "I could see the benefits of having graduate students to work with because they are in a position to stay with a project for a year or two, which is a great learning experience for students, and that continuity is advantageous for our research. I really see the U of L as a place of opportunities."

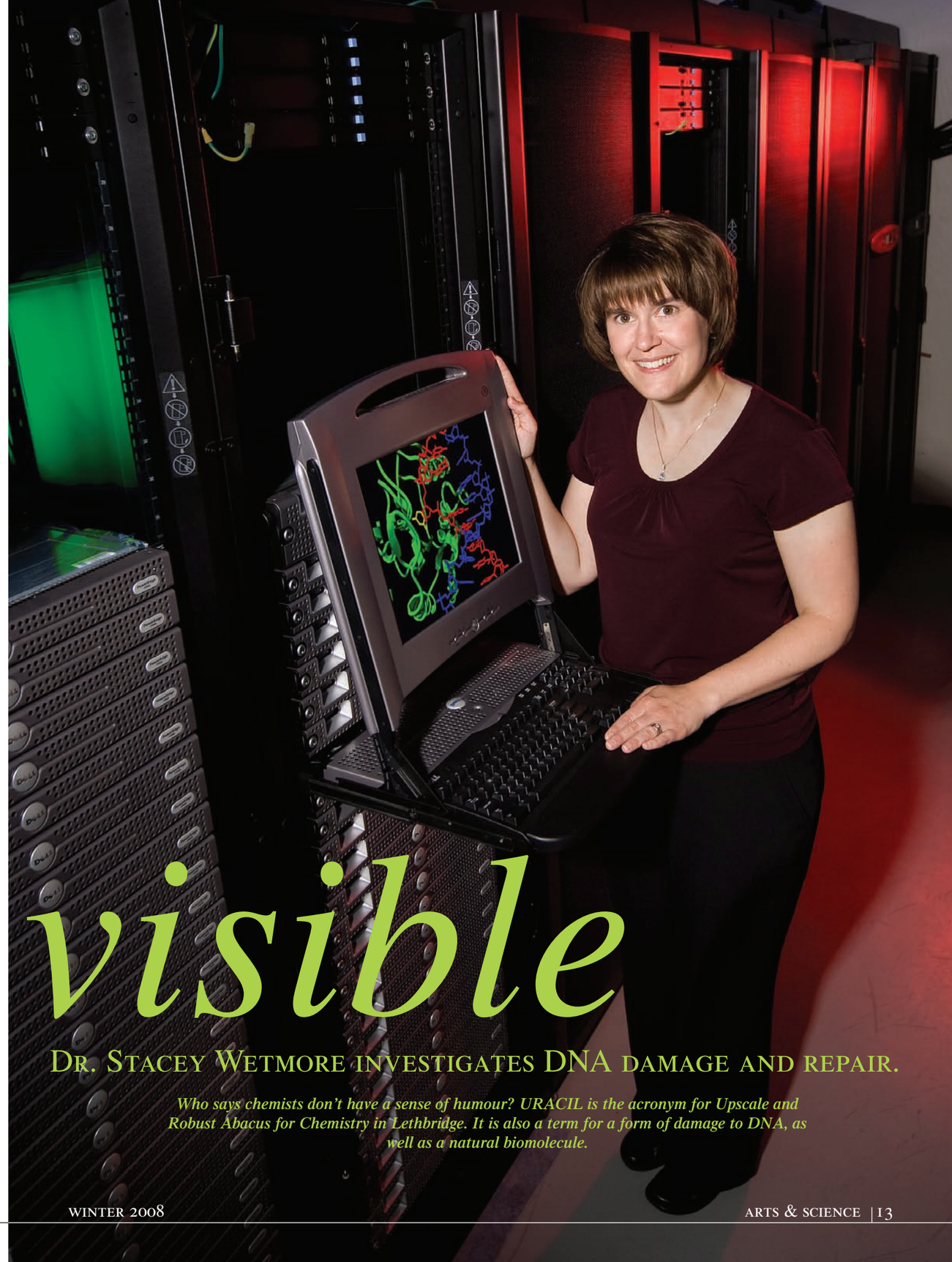
Computational chemistry uses computer calculations to study the structure, properties, and reactions of chemical systems. "At first glance, computational chemistry doesn't sound very exciting to most people," admits Stacey. "But it is an amazing way to acquire information about chemical systems." She explains that any property that can be experimentally measured can be calculated and modelled using computers. "Calculations are particularly useful when information is difficult to obtain using experiments," she adds. Using computers, researchers can explore highly reactive systems safely and relatively easily when compared to traditional lab experiments. "Computer simulations can be thought to slow down the chemical reaction into stages so that the process can be understood step by step," she notes. This field of science has proven to be a valuable tool in speeding up the process of developing new drugs. As Stacey explains, "Computer simulations can narrow down possible chemical combinations, which reduce the number of possibilities that must be further tested. It increases the chances of success and reduces the length of time taken up with unfruitful possibilities."

"Understanding DNA repair and preservation is of growing importance due to our increased exposure to harmful agents such as UV sunlight, radiation, medical X-rays, and environmental pollutants. We are trying to determine which chemicals are harmful and exactly how they affect our DNA. If we know what is harmful and how, we are in a position to make changes to protect people in the future."

As a CRC, Stacey's main focus is on research. She and the nine undergraduate and graduate students who work in her lab are particularly interested in using molecular modelling on the computers to investigate reactions related to DNA damage, the structure of damaged DNA, and the way repair enzymes work. "Understanding DNA repair and preservation is of growing importance due to our increased exposure to harmful agents such as UV sunlight, radiation, medical X-rays, and environmental pollutants," she explains. "We are trying to determine which chemicals are harmful and exactly how they affect our DNA. If we know what is harmful and how, we are in a position to make changes to protect people in the future."

Stacey is also interested in determining how DNA repairs itself naturally: "Again, if we understand what happens in our bodies, in the future we may figure out ways to enhance natural DNA repair or find new ways to repair it." In nature, the body produces enzymes that find the DNA damage and repair it. "Using the computers we can develop images of the enzymes to see where the atoms are and how they work together to complete the repair," she says. "However, this is not a short-term project. I'm sure I'll spend a good portion of my career working on these problems."

For now, Stacey is quite pleased with URACIL. "When our computer cluster was installed about 18 months ago, it was among the top 10 in the country for total power," she says proudly. "The cluster can do in one week what used to take two months to complete. We have eight computers in each box, which can run calculations eight times faster than a single computer. Basically, the more powerful the computer, the larger the model that can be developed. The larger the model, the more accurate the calculations and the more interrelations can be seen at once." Stacey anticipates adding more and faster computers to the cluster in the future. "Research changes as the technology changes," she says. "The current equipment will change purpose, but will be continuously used. Nothing goes to waste." When asked how the vast amount of information that the computer cluster generates is stored, Stacey says with a smile: "We definitely don't print the output, but we do make sure it is stored in multiple places." Holding up a black box about the size of a cell phone, she says, "This alone holds 200 gigabytes."



from local HISTORY *to the* ROMAN EMPIRE

ERIC LOW

Dr. Christopher Epplett, specializing in Roman beast hunts.

Dr. Christopher Epplett teaches in the History Department at the University of Lethbridge and has a broad number of research interests that include ancient military and social history, particularly that of the Hellenistic world and the later Roman Empire. He is not, however, always thinking of the past. Chris believes the study of the ancients is one way of understanding contemporary situations and events. His work with the Galt Museum & Archives, for example, helps him keep an eye to the future.

Chris believes that knowledge of local history can help a community move forward in a direction that's consistent with the direction it has chosen in the past. "I have an interest in local history even though it's not my specialty," Chris says, "it's essential for a community to keep in touch with its roots, to understand where it came from." Awareness of all the accomplishments of citizens in the past builds pride and a sense of community.

At the Galt Museum & Archives, Chris helps develop upcoming exhibits, such as the Medieval and Egyptian exhibits in 2008, strategies for fundraising, and ways to increase awareness of the Galt in the community and at various levels of government. He assists in ensuring that the Galt has a broad appeal for all members of the community.

Since January 2008, Chris has also served as chair of the Galt's Cultural History Collection Committee, which works with the curator to set policy decisions related to acquisition, storage, and de-accession of artifacts. The committee makes policy decisions after considering future exhibits at the Galt, as well as complementary exhibits at other museums, and then brings a plan back to the board. Lucelle Prindle, chair of the Galt's board, feels it is beneficial to both the museum and the U of L to have faculty members like Chris on the board. They bring "valuable expertise and insight," Lucelle says, and the museum provides "opportunities for students to gain experience by working in the archives and exhibits of the museum." As a teacher and a researcher, Chris believes it is important to support and to play an active role in the community. "I think it's the responsibility of the university," he notes, "to ensure that its programmes and its graduates are well-prepared to serve the community and perform a useful function. Those who study history and have a good grasp of it are better-rounded citizens."

Currently, Chris is collecting material for a book on the Roman military frontier in Germany during the early empire. He is also studying military forts constructed east of the Rhine during the occupation under Augustus. These forts didn't last very long, and one aim of his research is to see if occupation and fortification strategies employed at the time contributed to the defeat of the Romans in that region.

Chris's particular interest is in spectacles, such as gladiatorial combats. He wrote his dissertation on the Roman beast-hunts and is currently preparing a manuscript on the hunts and exotic animal spectacles that were popular in the Roman Empire. These started as the parading of animals, such as elephants, captured in warfare during the expansion of the empire.

Over time, the spectacles became more violent and more complex. Many included elaborate settings and machinery, such as elevators and trap doors, to deliver the animals to the arena floor in order to surprise other combatants and to delight spectators. The most popular events were combats between different types of animals or between humans and animals in arenas such as the Colosseum in Rome. Some popular events were based on mythological stories. For example, Chris says there are records of a criminal sent into the arena representing Orpheus, a figure from Greek mythology who could tame any animal with music. He was initially surrounded by relatively harmless animals, until a bear was released. The condemned man was torn apart, to the delight of the bloodthirsty audience.

Writings, vases, mosaics, and coins show that beast-hunts included any exotic animals the Romans could get their hands on. Bears and bulls were readily available throughout the empire. Other animals included lions, elephants, tigers, giraffes, rhinoceroses and, in aquatic spectacles, hippopotami and crocodiles. Chris explains that these spectacles served important symbolic roles, showing Rome's control over the known world, advertising territories that were added to the Roman state, and demonstrating the power of the empire and the emperor. "They were examples of how humans try to dominate the environment symbolically, if not literally," he notes.

As one of a handful of historians studying beast-hunts, Chris has participated in a popular documentary on the Roman spectacles, *Beastly Games*, a program that is periodically shown on the History Channel. He is also one of six experts interviewed for a two-hour documentary on animal spectacles that will air on Animal Planet later this year. "One of the points we discuss in the documentary is our continuing fascination with violence," he explains. "Certainly we don't have spectacles in which thousands of animals are killed in a relatively short space of time, [but] we still have violent animal spectacles on a much smaller scale." Such contests involve a variety of animals, including bulls, dogs, and even roosters.

Motivated by his passion for history and his sense of duty to educate the local and broader community, Chris enjoys finding and fitting together pieces of the historical puzzle. In Southern Alberta, a long way and time from the Roman Empire, Chris is gaining recognition internationally for his research, and contributing to the cultural well-being of the university and Southern Alberta.

Dr. Christopher Epplett

Knowledge of local history can help a community in moving forward in a direction that's consistent with the direction it has chosen in the past. Awareness of all the accomplishments of citizens in the past builds pride and a sense of community.