Patricia Elliot

Dr. Pat Elliot initially joined the Department in 1988 a year before graduating from the Social and Political Thought programme at York University. Three years later, she was hired as an Assistant Professor in what was then the Department of Anthropology and Sociology and was promoted to full professor in 2012. The Sociology Department has been greatly enriched by Pat’s dedication to improving internal governance and curriculum development with her tireless service as Chair of the Department for three and a half years and her conscientious work on countless committees. She was a generous mentor to new faculty members and supported her colleagues through both good and difficult times. Her kindness and sage advice was much appreciated by many throughout the years.

During her thirty-year tenure at the University, Pat was pivotal to the development, not only to the Department of Sociology, but of the University. She co-founded a women’s caucus to advise the WLUFA executive in the early 1990s at a time when the numbers of female faculty at Laurier were much lower than they are now. She was also a founding member of the Women’s Studies program (in which she taught and served a term as Co-ordinator). In 2007 she was a founding member of the Cultural Analysis and Social Theory MA, a program in which she taught 4 different courses.

Her commitment to the University is matched only by her scholarly accomplishments. She is author of two highly regarded books: *From Mastery to Analysis: Theories of Gender in Psychoanalytic Feminism* (Cornell University Press, 1991) and, more recently, *Debates in Transgender, Queer, and Feminist Theory: Contested Sites* (Ashgate Publishing, 2010). In addition to these, Pat has published widely in very reputable journals such as *Sexualities, Gay and Lesbian Quarterly,* and *Hypatia* and has served on editorial boards, such as Somatechnics.

Of course, Pat’s accomplishments are many and all of them have served to raise the reputations of both the Department of Sociology and the University more generally. The Department of Sociology will be sad to see Pat leave and she will be greatly missed.

Submitted by Glenda Wall and Jeffrey Aguinaldo

Paul Maxim

Paul came to Laurier in 2006 after a 25 year career at Western University in the Department of Sociology. His leadership roles include 3 years as Associate Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at Western, 3 years as Director of the Master’s of International Public Policy (MIPP) Program and 6 years as Associate Vice President Research at Laurier. His most recent research focuses on migration and the socio-economic integration of immigrants into Canadian society. He has also written extensively on the formal labour force experiences of Canada’s Aboriginal peoples and is extending that interest to China’s ethnic minorities. He has taught statistics, research methods, labour, and population economics both in the Economics Department and in the Balsillie School of International Affairs. His career has demonstrated an ability to adapt between institutions (Western, Laurier, Balsillie School), disciplines (Economics, Criminology, Sociology) and leadership roles (Associate Dean, Program Director, Associate Vice President). His wry sense of humour and unflappable nature have served him well through each transition. He now migrates to retirement where sources say that his itchy feet will take him to China or British Columbia where he will continue his research. Paul your life of leadership and purpose have been well and truly appreciated by your colleagues at Laurier. Thank you and Happy Retirement.

Submitted by Steffen Ziss

David Scallen

David Scallen has been a dedicated instructor at the Lazaridis School of Business and Economics for over 20 years. He is a dedicated teacher with a passion for Accounting who has led two decades of business and accounting students to success. David has taught extensively in Accounting – including introductory, advanced and graduate courses. He has proven himself an integral part of the teaching team in our Toronto and Waterloo MBA and our flagship BBA program, often co-ordinating multi-section courses.

David brings Accounting to life for his students, with great stories and a sense of humour, drawing on his background as a CPA and CMA and his many years of business experience. Prior to joining Laurier, David worked extensively in practice in a variety of senior financial positions.

David has made substantial contributions in the area of service at Laurier including serving on ICE boards, chairing the Petitions Committee, serving on the By-laws Committee and the Accounting Area Part-time Hiring Committee. He has approached each of these duties with energy and creativity. David has proven himself as a generous, hard working and supportive colleague, who will be missed.

Outside of the classroom, David is actively engaged in volunteer work including volunteer ski instructor for disabled youth, volunteer at lasser for the “Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas project”, training board members for the United Way and many other activities.

In retirement, David looks forward to having more time to golf, ski, hike, volunteer and enjoy the outdoors with his lovely wife Bev, as well as spending more time with his family and grandchildren.

Submitted by Ling Chu

Bob Sharpe

Bob has been with WLU for 30 years: BES (Urban Planning, UW), 1977; MA (Geography, WLU); PhD (Geography, York), 1990.

Bob teaches a number of courses within the Geography & Environmental Studies department with a specialization in urban geography. These include:

* GESC251 Cartography
* GG465 Capstone Urban Sustainability Project
* CMEG300 Introduction to Community Engagement
* GG265 Experiencing the City

Awards and Achievements:

* 2014 Best Article for Program Development for 2014, American National Council for Geographic Education, Journal of Geography
* 2011 Residence Academic Partnership Award, Wilfrid Laurier University
* 2010 Canadian Association of Geographers Award for Service to the Profession of Geography
* 2009 Appointed Fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographic Society (FRCGS)

He is the coordinator for the Community Engagement Option, which expands and challenges worldviews within an educational setting that blends both classroom and experiential learning. It focuses on social inclusion, local democracy and community enterprise. Bob employs a “walking pedagogy” as a high impact teaching and learning practice of discovery, enquiry, reflection and inspiration. Students experience downtown Kitchener in a new and invigorating way, enhancing the learning process.

Bob was an integral part of the A2U (Access to University) Program, which works in partnership with The Working Centre with funding from the Lyle S. Hallman Foundation of Waterloo Region. A2U gives non-traditional students an opportunity of higher education. This would include new Canadians, Indigenous People, those dealing with disabilities and older, unemployed workers. Participants are fully registered at WLU with access to all resources. The first cohort of 15 students are set to graduate this fall.

Bob was Chair of the GES Department for two terms and has brought a wealth of institutional knowledge to the department and the GES curriculum committee in particular. This committee evaluates the evolution and development of the GES program within a competitive educational system. Thanks to Bob’s efforts, the GES department thrives and continues to make an important impact with students.

Submitted by Susan Lankowski

Gary Cameron

Gary Cameron worked at the Faculty of Social Work at Laurier for 38 years. He created and directed the Centre for Social Welfare Studies from 1986 to 1996. From 2003 until he retired in December, 2018, he held the position of the Lyle S. Hallman Chair of Child and Family Studies. During that fifteen year period, Gary had a continuously funded program of research and had primary responsibility for overseeing about 5.7 million dollars in external research funding; the output from this research included seven books. His research had two broad and related focuses: (1) Defining a positive approach to child and family welfare, and (2) Improving community living outcomes for youth leaving residential mental health programs. His work involved numerous community partners and graduate students over the years.

Gary worked tirelessly to support and mentor graduate students in the FSW. When he retired a group of his former students set up a graduate scholarship in his name to honour the mentorship and support he gave them over the years. In the description of this scholarship, he was described as follows:  *Gary has always been a generous mentor and supervisor of MSW and PhD students, overseeing their thesis work, and including them in his research projects and writing groups in meaningful ways. Gary wholeheartedly embraces the interests of his students and is an advocate and encourager of their unique research interests, even those that challenge social work practice, policy, and/or theory. He encourages his students to be original thinkers and leaders in their respective fields*.

Submitted by Dawn Buzza

Kenneth Harling

Kenneth grew up in Toronto and earned a B.Sc. degree at the University of Guelph. From there he went on to graduate studies at Purdue University, earning both an M.Sc. and Ph.D. there. He mixed graduate studies with several work experiences that included studying the future of agricultural cooperatives, the World Food and Nutrition study at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris. After receiving his Ph.D., he worked at the Pennsylvania State University, The University of Guelph and finally Wilfrid Laurier University.

He worked at Wilfrid Laurier for 30 years, always in the area of strategic management, called business policy in the vernacular of Laurier. Each year he taught the fourth year course in strategic management, BU481, and BU671, an MBA course that dealt with the execution of strategy. In addition he taught management controls for several years. Outside the classroom, he conceived of and ran the Maple Leaf Conference for five years. This was an international conference encouraging the writing of cases dealing with agribusiness management.

Kenneth always felt that Laurier was the best institution he worked for and much appreciated the collegiality of those he worked with. He developed lasting friendships with a number of students and continues to meet with them. Some came back as guest speakers, adding much colour to the MBA course, where they shared their experiences and insights.

On retirement, Kenneth is joining his wife in the United States where she is a professor of management at Purdue University.

Submitted by Kenneth Harling

Susan (Sue) Ferguson joined Laurier in 2005 and has taught in the Digital Media and Journalism, Youth and Children’s Studies and Social Justice and Community Engagement programs. She holds an MA and a PhD in Political Science from York University and is a recognized expert on social reproduction feminism, having published 14 papers in refereed journals and seven book chapters. Before coming to Laurier, Ferguson worked in publishing, notably at *Maclean’s* magazine in roles such as chief of research, associate editor and senior writer. She excelled at translating this field experience into her teaching, helping her students become better researchers and writers. Outside of the classroom, Sue has been valuable mentor to many junior faculty at the Brantford campus. She is a much-loved and widely respected colleague known for her wisdom, resourcefulness and willingness to pitch in and help with any project. She is generous with her time, expertise and energy, having contributed to countless committees and projects, on and off campus, as well as WLUFA. While her absence will be felt deeply by students, staff and faculty in Brantford, we wish her all the best as she transitions from a focus on teaching to a focus on writing, as she is currently at work on a book about feminist theories of labour.

*Submitted by Bruce Gillespie, Associate Professor and Program Coordinator*

**Bio for Rockney (Rocky) Jacobsen**

Rocky joined the Department of Philosophy at Laurier in 1985 after completing his PhD at the University of Alberta, and prior to that, his undergraduate degree at the University of Wyoming. He enrolled at Wyoming on a football scholarship, but his focus would soon turn to philosophy. Rocky’s primary areas of research were in philosophy of mind and philosophy of language. In particular, he was interested in 20th century analytic philosophy, especially Pragmatism and Wittgenstein. He published in a number of different areas of philosophy (philosophy of mind, philosophy of economics, philosophy of sex) but the main focus of his research was on self-knowledge. In addition to peer-reviewed articles, he wrote an introductory textbook in metaphysics and epistemology (currently in use in our first-year classes) and co-edited a collection of essays on the ethics and politics of memory by the late Sue Campbell.

Rocky has been most appreciated, however, in his role as a teacher, mentor, and philosophical colleague. His teaching excellence has long been lauded by his students and former students. Of equal importance, however, is the role that he played as a colleague and mentor. He was generous with his time when helping younger faculty members, and very generous with his philosophical insights with all of us. Former colleague Renato Cristi, who was on the hiring committee when Rocky arrived at Laurier, said, “he was by far the best candidate and made the task of the hiring committee very easy. We voted unanimously in his favour. Right away we all knew he was an extraordinarily eloquent communicator and that he would be a phenomenal teacher. Rocky did not disappoint us.” Rocky’s close friend and colleague, David Checkland, said, “for me personally Rocky has been the source of more philosophical insights than I can count or remember. And the same goes for good advice about teaching… He can be very funny, especially with regard to philosophical humour. One example: his ‘solution’ to the astronomical problem of why the moon looks bigger nearer the horizon: it doesn't look bigger, it just *looks* like it looks bigger!’” Finally, the late Sue Campbell, who was a close friend of Rocky, said in her first book, "to have Rocky's philosophical company is to have a piece of gold in your pocket."

Submitted by Kristine Dyck

Dr. Frédérique Guinel

Frédérique was hired as an Assistant Professor in Biology in 1995. Her journey to that point (and since) has, in her words, involved many peregrinations. She hails from the city of Nantes, France. After an undergraduate degree in Nantes, and a Master’s degree in Paris, she came to Canada where she completed her PhD under the supervision of Dr. Margaret McCully at Carleton University in Ottawa (Dr. McCully was awarded an Honourary degree by Laurier in 2012). Between obtaining her PhD and being hired at Laurier, Frédérique was a postdoctoral researcher at Washington University in St. Louis, Boyce Thompson Institute at Cornell, Brock University, and Mount Allison.

Frédérique is trained as a plant physiologist and has spent much of her career studying interactions between plants and microbes. In particular, she has studied the mutually beneficial symbiotic relationship that exists between the roots of many plants (such as her model system, peas) and fungi, and in more recent years has been studying the impacts of an alternative fertilizer on this relationship, trying to understand how it improves crop productivity. She has supervised 13 Master’s students (several before Biology even had a Master’s program!) and will soon graduate her first PhD student! She has also supervised more than 30 undergraduate thesis students. Together with her students, Frédérique published approximately 50 primary research papers, book chapters and conference proceedings. In addition to being a plant biologist, Frédérique is a very skilled microscopist, and many of her publications featured beautiful microscopy.

Frédérique was not only a successful researcher, but also an incredibly skilled teacher, who worked tirelessly on the preparation and delivery of her courses. As a new Assistant Professor, she was tasked with teaching Introductory Biology - - a tall task for anyone, but especially a new Assistant Professor! She has taught many courses since then, including several plant biology courses. But she is perhaps best known for developing and teaching a 200-level course on Communication and Critical Thinking in Biology. Frederique used this course to emphasize and teach the importance of clear writing – a passion of hers for many years. But the course is perhaps best known for the poster session that the course concluded with each year, where groups of students would present their findings related to a specific biological theme chosen by Frédériques. This became a “can’t-miss” event for the department every April, and it was always inspiring to see the high quality of the student presentations, and how proud Frédérique was of their efforts.

Frédérique devoted an incredible amount of time and energy to her teaching and to the students in her lab. That she found time to make so many significant contributions in service to the department, university and academic community is truly remarkable. To name just a few of the many roles she took on over the years, she was the graduate coordinator for Biology, a frequent organizer and host of plant biology conferences at Laurier, a member of an NSERC grant selection committee for 3 years, the President of the Canadian Botanical Association, and most recently has been serving as the Women’s Faculty Colleague.

Frédérique was a successful academic in every way; her career is something that any academic could be proud of, and the Department of Biology is certainly proud that she was such an important part of our department for 24 years. She always made decisions that were in the best interests of students and the department, and were always based on strong ethical principles. Indeed, ethical decision making is one of her hallmarks; she set an example for all of us in this regard. The Department of Biology has grown and changed tremendously in the last 20 years, thanks largely to Frédérique’s influence. The department is grateful for all she did, and wishes her the very best in her well-earned retirement in Ottawa, back where her Canadian adventure started, and where she will surely enjoy having more time to work in her garden, and continue her peregrinations.

Submitted by Matthew Smith

Robert Milne

Joan Norris

Dorothy French