

# INTOUCH

PUBLICATIONS AGREEMENT 40015801



## THE AI REVOLUTION

Ivey alumni, including Benji Sucher, HBA '05, explain how artificial intelligence is disrupting work and life – and what it means for the future

*Also in this issue*  
**ALUMNI WITH THE BEST JOBS**

+

**HONOURING DISTINGUISHED GRADS & FACULTY**

# Intouch Features

## **GET SMART** | *Page 18*

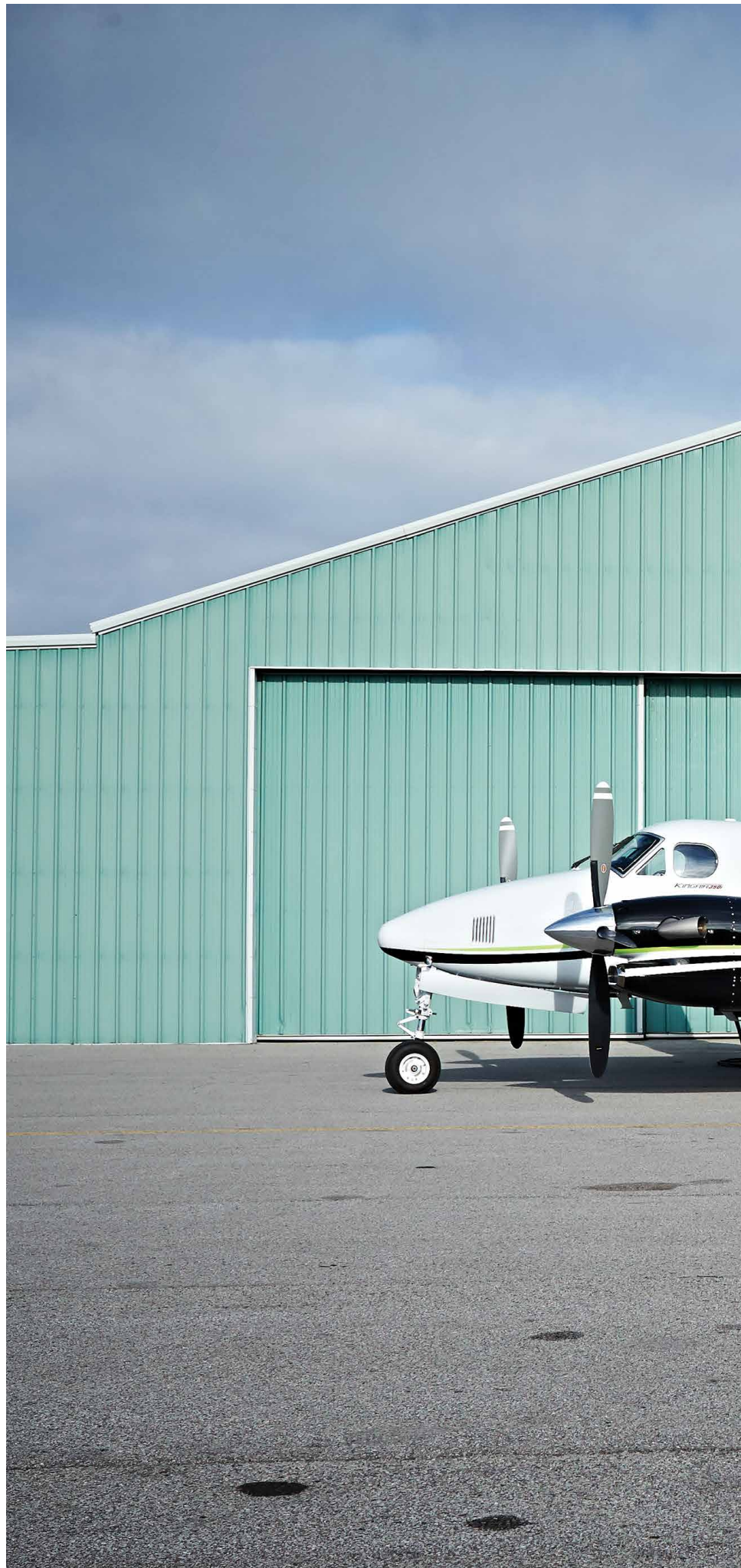
Are you ready for the inevitable changes that are coming? Here's how artificial intelligence is transforming the world.

## **BEST JOB EVER** | *Page 24*

Hear from five alumni who definitely won't be giving up their day jobs.

## **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS** | *Page 32*

Meet 2017's exceptional award recipients – people who have gone that extra mile to positively influence and support the Ivey community.



Ahead of a corporate speaking event, Heather MacLean, HBA '89, Founder & President of ProSpeakers.com, welcomes her client arriving in Toronto.



**LEFT TURN** | *Page 16*

Sarah Sklash, HBA '07, (pictured left) changed career paths from public service to hospitality.

## Intouch Departments

**DUET** | *Page 4*

Professor Alison Konrad and PhD candidate Mirit Grabarski talk workplace diversity.

**THE ART AT IVEY** | *Page 6*

Q&A with Richard Ivey, HBA '72, LLD '15, on the art displayed throughout the School.

**IVEY BUZZ** | *Page 10*

What's trending on social media? Who's making headlines? Here's the latest Ivey news.

**PASSIONS** | *Page 15*

Rosemary Pahl, MBA '84, developed a workbook to ensure loved ones have everything they need – following a death – in one organized place.

**GIVING TO IVEY** | *Page 30*

Delivering on a personal vow, Bill Brock, MBA '65, LLD '05, and his wife Anne provide critical support for PhD students.

**YOUR IVEY NETWORK** | *Page 37*

Returning to school after 47 years; designing a robot that helps people; a marketplace to borrow and lend clothing; and of course, news from your Ivey classmates in Class Notes.



PHOTOGRAPHER: ADELAIDE UTMAN

# Acting Dean's Message



PHOTOGRAPHER: GABE RAMOS/IVEY BUSINESS SCHOOL

Disruption has become an important word in business vocabulary and its meaning is not lost at Ivey.

From our inception, we have been differentiated by our emphasis on connecting learning with real business challenges. That's why we began a School-wide initiative last fall to examine the critical questions leaders face in what has been described as a coming age of disruption.

What will it take to become a successful leader? And how do we incorporate that into our curriculum, our research strategy, and even our own business plan?

Building on the work of our Ivey Advisory Board task forces, we have been exploring these questions in depth through a series of roundtable discussions with prominent CEOs and senior leaders in many parts of the world.

These conversations, which wrap up in April, are providing us with:

- An understanding of the challenges facing leaders today;
- A framework for how next-generation business leaders should be educated and developed; and,
- An agenda for research that is relevant, timely, and forward-focused.

As a complement, a Learning Innovation Initiative at Ivey is also looking at how technology is changing the way we learn and teach, and how we can create new capabilities in the classroom to evolve our experiential-learning model.

Change is not an obstacle; it's an opportunity. The insights we gain on disruption – from technological advances and social change to global structures, competition, and innovation – will provide our next dean with valuable data and a blueprint for transitioning with the times. They will also enable the School and the students we are helping to develop into future leaders to recognize, adapt to, and capitalize on change.

This kind of forward thinking is what it takes to be a successful real-world leader. And that's what we are all about.

**Mark Vandenbosch, HBA '84**  
Acting Dean, Ivey Business School  
Kraft Professor in Marketing

**INTOUCH ON THE WEB**  
[ivey.ca/alumni/intouch](http://ivey.ca/alumni/intouch)

**LETTERS**  
[intouch@ivey.ca](mailto:intouch@ivey.ca)

## INTOUCH

Editor-in-Chief: Terri Garton

Editorial Board: Stephanie Brooks, HBA '93;  
Peter Furnish, HBA '92; Terri Garton; Jay Hamilton,  
HBA '08; Katherine Scarrow, EMBA '16; Luke Sklar,  
HBA '78; Jeff Weiss, HBA '86, MBA '91

Production & Managing Editor: Jessica Uniac

Contributing Writers: Brenda Bouw, Wallace Immen,  
Ivey Marketing & Communications, Declan Kelly,  
Nicole Laidler, Pat Morden, Shelley White

Editorial & Production Assistant: Alex Hawkins

Creative & Art Direction: Greg Salmela, Aegis

Designer: Sabrina Xiang, Aegis

Photographers: Mike Crane, Alan Maudie, Tara McMullen,  
Margo Moritz, Gabe Ramos, Lindsay Siu, Nation Wong

Researchers: Emily Joldersma, Andrea Reed

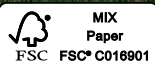
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General Inquiries: Jessica Uniac (519) 661-4101 or  
[intouch@ivey.ca](mailto:intouch@ivey.ca)

Cover Photo: Nation Wong



# Duet

Meet two Ivey academics who work closely together

# Equal Opportunity

*Professor Alison Konrad and PhD candidate Mirit Grabarski talk workplace diversity*

By Nicole Laidler

Alison Konrad, Professor of Organizational Behaviour, is from the American Midwest. Mirit Grabarski was born in the former Soviet Union and grew up in Israel.

A shared interest in gender and diversity in the workplace brought them together at Ivey, where Mirit is entering her third year of PhD studies.

Prior to arriving at the School in 2005, Alison spent 15 years as a Professor of Human Resource Management at the Fox School of Business and Management, Temple University. Mirit holds an MBA from the Open University of Israel and most recently served as a research unit manager and assistant at Ohalo Academic College in Katzrin.

## Why Ivey?

**Alison:** I wanted to learn the case teaching method. Action learning is very powerful. And Ivey has very good scholars. They are very engaged in building the knowledge base. It's great to have such interesting colleagues, as well as the collegiality.

**Mirit:** Israel has a very limited number of universities. I decided if I go abroad to do my PhD, it should be to a good school. Ivey was my first choice. I wanted to work on gender-related issues and thought Alison was the best person to do it with. I don't think I was wrong.

## Why should people care about diversity in the workplace?

**Alison:** It's important that workplaces become more humanistic and encouraging for everybody. There are still places where there are 'in' groups and 'out' groups. That affects career development in an inequitable way.

“It's important that workplaces become more humanistic and encouraging for everybody. There are still places where there are 'in' groups and 'out' groups. That affects career development in an inequitable way.”

—Alison Konrad

**Mirit:** It's just basic justice. And the workplace shapes your view of the world. If you have diversity in your workplace, you may become more tolerant in your life and pass those values on to your children.

## Describe your ideal day.

**Alison:** I had a sabbatical year last year and found that a lovely day is one where I can write for three hours and also have my family time and time to be outside.

**Mirit:** Sleep in. It can't rain. And invite friends over for good conversation and some entertainment.

## What is the most influential book you have ever read?

**Alison:** *Cultures in Organizations: Three Perspectives* by Joanne Martin.

**Mirit:** *The Tao of Pooh* by Benjamin Hoff.

## If you weren't an academic, what would you be?

**Alison:** An accountant. I love money and numbers, and accountants get to work with both.

**Mirit:** I tried it, and it didn't work out.

## If you could give your younger self advice about navigating the workplace as a woman, what would it be?

**Alison:** Be strong in your views. Be positive and cheerful. Open up and let people know who you are. Don't be so compliant, passive, and hidden.

**Mirit:** Look for your role model, someone who will support you and be a good influence.



Alison Konrad (left) and Mirit Grabarski (right) at the C.B. "Bud" Johnston Library, Ivey Business School.

# Editor's Note



PHOTOGRAPHER: NATION WONG

There's no question that the Ivey connection runs both deep and long.

Case in point: this year at Homecoming (see page 44) we had our first-ever 65-year class reunion!

At the other end of the spectrum, we also saw the first 10-year reunion for our 12-month MBA Program.

Ivey alumni of all ages share a common core experience, and a shared sense of pride and loyalty. But the needs of those in the first few years after graduation are quite different from those who graduated in the early 1950s.

That's why we in Alumni Relations are working to develop a new program focused on alumni from the moment they cross the stage at Convocation until their 10-year reunion.

We know it's a busy time in the lives and careers of our graduates. There are often job changes, moves, weddings, and babies. Recent graduates often participate in Global Ivey Day and Chapter events. We want to know if there are other things we can do to add value and build a connection that will last another 50 years or more!

Over the next year, we'll pilot some new programming aimed at serving this group, and then get feedback on what's meaningful, relevant, and valuable to them.

This kind of thoughtful segmentation is part of the legacy of outgoing Chair of the Ivey Alumni Network Michael Bernstein, MBA '96 (see his final message on page 58). Michael has been a strong and visionary leader, focused on a set of truly Big Hairy Audacious Goals! Thanks to his hard work, many of his BHAGs have been achieved, and the rest will continue to be pursued under the incoming leadership.

Speaking of anniversaries, I am celebrating one of my own – it's 20 years since I joined the staff of the Ivey Business School. It's been an exciting ride, and the best part has been meeting and working with so many of you. Thank you for your ideas, advice, and support.

**TERRI GARTON**  
Editor-in-Chief  
Director, Alumni Relations



Join the Ivey Alumni Network and Ivey Business School on your favourite social network. Complete list found at [go.ivey.ca/social](http://go.ivey.ca/social)

# “

I've been passionately collecting contemporary Canadian art for the past 20 years. The walls of my house, my office, and my cottage are full so I am always looking for opportunities to continue to satisfy my passion. Charitable institutions that I am associated with invariably have walls and no budgets for art, so I have turned my attention to them.”

—Richard W. Ivey, HBA '72, LLD '13

# THE ART AT IVEY

PHOTOGRAPHER: GABE RAMOS/IVEY BUSINESS SCHOOL





# Ivey Art

*The collection of Canadian art displayed throughout the Ivey Business School is being built by an Art Committee consisting of Richard W. Ivey, HBA '72, LLD '13, and Siamak Hariri, the Building's architect. All works are purchased for the School by Richard W. Ivey, Richard M. Ivey, HBA '47, LLD '79, and Rosamond A. Ivey, HBA '82.*

## Q&A with Richard W. Ivey:

**Why do you think adding art to the Building is important, and how do you hope the art will impact the students, faculty, and staff?**

**Richard:** Art can inspire creativity, curiosity, and perhaps awe in those people that take the time to contemplate and enjoy it. Business thrives on curiosity and creativity so it's important for the opportunity to be provided.

**Is there an overriding theme to the collection? Anything that ties the pieces together?**

**Richard:** A number of works in the collection appeal specifically to my idea of the intersection of art and a business school. Additionally, each artist represented in the collection is a Canadian; this insistence on Canadian talent is present throughout my personal collecting practice as a whole.

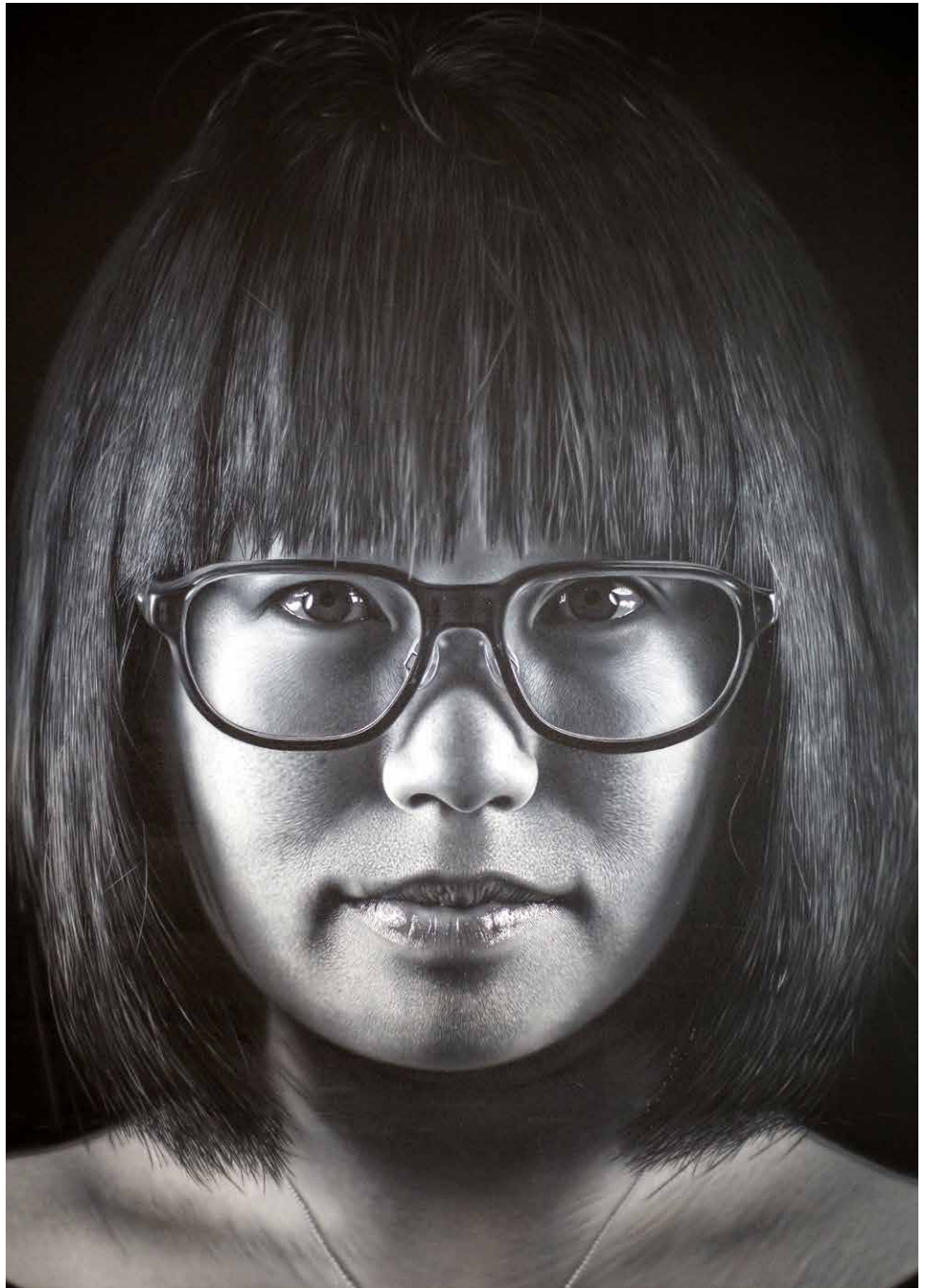
**What were you drawn to when it came to choosing each piece?**

**Richard:** I kept in mind that the predominant population of the Building is young men and women in their twenties and early thirties, so I leaned towards emerging and early-career artists. Consideration was also given to seeking both male and female artists, and artists from a number of different geographical regions in Canada.

**Why a certain piece for a particular space?**

**Richard:** The initial driver for providing great art to the new Ivey Building was scale. The walls are enormous, so I realized I would need large works of art. I also realized that this was the first time in my life I could, or perhaps should, commission a couple of works specifically for the space. That was a brand new experience which I was ultimately very satisfied with.

For more on the Ivey art collection, visit [go.ivey.ca/art](http://go.ivey.ca/art), or peruse the art for yourself on Google's Indoor Street View of the Ivey Business School.



PHOTOGRAPHER: GABE RAMOS/IVEY BUSINESS SCHOOL

“In many ways you could say the Bierks (one of four pictured above) are the most obvious example of the quest for diversity and were meant to represent the student population.”

—Richard W. Ivey



**TOP ON THIS PAGE**

*Greenhouses, Almira Peninsula, Spain* (2013)  
Chromogenic print,  
edition 3, copy 1  
60" x 80"  
by Edward Burtynsky  
Located in London Life Lounge on Ground Floor.

**RIGHT ON THIS PAGE**

*Vieux soleil* (2012)  
Vinyl, latex, and PVC  
72" x 96"  
by BGL  
Located in southeast corridor on Ground Floor.

**ON PAGE 7**

*Heterotopia* (2012)  
Acrylic and oil on canvas  
98.5" x 98.5"  
by Fiona Ackerman  
Located between the BMO Financial Group Auditorium and the main elevators on Ground Floor.

**ON PAGE 8**

*Kar Yan* (2013)  
Oil on canvas  
60" x 70"  
by Charles Bierk  
Located at second floor seating area overlooking the Grand Hall.

PHOTOGRAPHER: GABE RAMOS/IVEY BUSINESS SCHOOL



# Ivey Buzz | @iveybusiness

Ivey's social media feeds are filled with big success stories. Check out these highlights:

**IVEY Ivey Business School** @iveybusiness 193



**Welcome to Ivey, HBA Class of 2019!**  
O-Week welcomed 610 new Ivey students with an Olympics-style competition, social nights, a talent show, and a keynote speech from John Chayka, HBA '14, GM of the NHL's Arizona Coyotes. [IVEY.UWO.CA](#)

**IVEY Ivey Business School** @iveybusiness 83



**Faculty share their favourite cases to teach**  
Fraser Johnson, HBA '82, MBA '92, PhD '95, chose "3M Canada: The Health Care Supply Chain;" Nicole Haggerty, HBA '89, PhD '04, picked "Toybox: Managing Dynamic Digital Projects;" and Michael Taylor, MBA '88, named "Boise Automation: The Lost Order at Northern Paper." [IVEY.UWO.CA](#)

**IVEY Ivey Business School** @iveybusiness 33



**Ivey wears green in support of mental health**  
Student organization myHBA encouraged the Ivey community to wear green for a day, and put together a wellness bag station to remind students to take care of themselves and each other. [IVEY.UWO.CA](#)

**IVEY Ivey Business School** @iveybusiness 100



**How Ivey startup Lending Loop went from classroom to real world**  
Founded by Brandon Vlaar and Cato Pastoll, both HBA '14, Lending Loop shows how academic research in business schools can be applied in the real world. [IVEY.UWO.CA](#)

**IVEY Ivey Business School** @iveybusiness 152



**Paul Mitskopoulos, HBA '14, and partner Sam win The Amazing Race Canada**  
Ivey alum Paul Mitskopoulos (pictured right) took some time off from his career at LinkedIn to compete on – and win! – The Amazing Race Canada. Congratulations, Paul! (Photo credit: Photo courtesy of CTV) [IVEY.UWO.CA](#)

**IVEY Ivey Business School** @iveybusiness 95



**Elizabeth Grasby retires after 39 years**  
Pre-Business Director Elizabeth Grasby, HBA '78, retired last June after an extraordinary career at Ivey. [IVEY.UWO.CA](#)

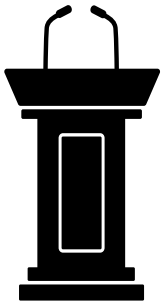
## Leading in a new era

The rise of Asia. Technological innovation. An aging population. Social equilibrium. For the Thomas d'Aquino Lecture on Leadership, Dominic Barton, Global Managing Partner of McKinsey & Company, discussed how these four forces are shaping the future and how business leaders can thrive in this new era.



## Leadership unplugged

Former Ivey dean Carol Stephenson, O.C., shared leadership lessons from her 40-year career as the keynote speaker at the inaugural – and sold out – Women of Ivey Network (WIN) Breakfast in Toronto.



## Empowering women

Ivey has partnered with Forté Foundation to help break the glass ceiling. Forté Foundation is a non-profit consortium of leading companies and business schools dedicated to helping women attend business school and succeed professionally.



## Destination Vietnam



Vietnam typically flies under the radar when it comes to business lessons. But there's a lot to learn from this fast-growing frontier market, as Ivey students recently found out. Ivey and IMD Executive MBA participants headed there for The Vietnam Discovery Expedition, a week-long immersive experience held in spring and fall. Our MSc students had an even more in-depth look while there for the Ivey Global Lab, a 10-week practicum, last summer.

## Eye on Africa

From the Dark Continent to emerging market, there's much to learn from Africa. Just ask Associate Professor Nicole Haggerty, HBA '89, PhD '04. The Faculty Director of Ivey's elective, *Ubuntu Management Education Initiative*, is now also the Acting Director of Western University's Africa Institute, which promotes research on Africa.



# Ivey Buzz | The Big Picture

Katie Newton, HBA '19 candidate, and Emily Newton, HBA '20 candidate, both dual-degree students at Ivey, at the Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Laboratory, Western University.





# Winds of change

A \$5-million investment from Linamar Corp. and the families that founded and operate it will give a boost to women in the HBA and Engineering dual degree. The generous gift from Linamar CEO Linda Hasenfratz, EMBA '97; her husband Ed Newton; and Linamar founder Frank Hasenfratz will provide scholarships for up to 10 female students in the Program each year and a guaranteed paid co-op placement and full-time job offer to graduating scholarship-holders.

PHOTOGRAPHER: GABE RAMOS/IVEYBUSINESS SCHOOL

# Ivey Buzz | By the Numbers

## IVEY HOMECOMING 2017

**1,100**

alumni and friends

**1<sup>st</sup>**

10-year reunion for the one-year Ivey MBA

**\$5.2**

million in gifts

**31**

classes

**Class of '52**

celebrated the inaugural 65-year class reunion

## 39 COUNTRY INITIATIVE

Ivey's International Business Institute shipped a collection of books, journals, and business cases to University of Dar es Salaam Business School in Tanzania in November as part of The 39 Country Initiative. Founded in 2010, the initiative provides educational materials to the world's poorest 39 countries.

**5<sup>th</sup>**  
shipment

**20**  
-foot container

**450**  
boxes of used journals, textbooks, and cases

## STUDENTS WITH A CAUSE

**2**

students: Alex Cazi, EMBA '17, & Victor Lal, HBA '19 candidate

+

**6**

weeks cycling combined

+

**5,000**

kilometres total

=

**wins for two charities**

#SickNotWeak & Ride for Refugees

**58**

EMBA students

+

**\$50,000**

goal

+

**1 charity**

We Movement

=

**two school rooms**

built in Kenya

**22**

MBA students

+

**44**

red high-heeled shoes

+

Walk a Mile in Her Shoes® fundraiser

=

**two thousand dollars**

raised for Anova shelter



# Passions

Rosemary Pahl, MBA '84, knows how important it is to plan for the inevitable. She created a workbook to help alleviate the burdens that so often fall on other family members. TELL US ABOUT YOUR PASSION! EMAIL [INTOUCH@IVEY.CA](mailto:INTOUCH@IVEY.CA)

Interview by Wallace Immen

While working as a registered nurse I heard about the special admission program at Ivey from a chance encounter on a ski lift. Frankly, at that point, I didn't even know what an MBA was. In 1982, I was accepted into the MBA Program and it changed my life. Not only was I positioned for a rewarding and interesting career in various CEO and COO roles, I was exposed to continual learning and entrepreneurship.

For many years, one of my personal goals has been to help spread the word about the advantages of having meaningful conversations before a grim diagnosis, tragic accident, or death makes it impossible to put your personal business in order.

As a CEO at a rehabilitation hospital, I witnessed families struggling with decisions for patients who couldn't speak for themselves. I personally had frustration when I couldn't locate some required documents after the passing of my parents. It became even more important after a friend with an incurable illness made the sad process more painful because of a refusal to plan and an outright denial of the inevitable.

I decided a similar situation was not going to happen to my family and started in earnest collecting all our personal information in a binder. In 2016, when I was organizing educational events for a business group, an executive looked at the binder and was so impressed, he asked to purchase copies of the workbook for his clients. That led to having the binder professionally edited into the *Departing Details Workbook*, a step-by-step guide to leaving your loved ones with the information they need to know when you die.

In order to achieve the goal of making it available in an affordable way for anybody, I partnered with Steve Harris, a young, successful Internet entrepreneur who established us in the world of e-commerce in April 2017. By October, the workbook had sold in eight countries, 14 U.S. states, and eight Canadian provinces.

It's an accidental business that came from a passion and it's rewarding to see it working. It's not a morbid thing. We plan for everything else in life – from insurance to home renovation – and this is just another face to planning. It's a smart thing to do.

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



# Left Turn

Sarah Sklash, HBA '07, left her job as a government worker to become a motelier.

MADE AN INTERESTING CAREER "LEFT TURN?" TELL US ABOUT IT! EMAIL INTOUCH@IVEY.CA

Interview by Brenda Bouw



When I graduated from Ivey, I had interest in two career paths: public service/government and hospitality. I ended up working for the Ontario government for nine years in business analysis and project management. I enjoyed the work and was proud of what I was accomplishing, but I stopped aspiring to climb the ladder. I had a lot of creative energy that I couldn't fully exercise in my roles.

Around the same time, I was watching a lot of *Dragons' Den*. It sparked something in me. Out of school, I had no inclination to be an entrepreneur, but I had a growing desire to set my own course and do things my way. I also often wondered what would have happened if I had taken the hospitality career path.

In the meantime, I had bought a cottage out in Prince Edward County. The area has a burgeoning wine region and has seen incredible growth in tourism. From personal experience, I knew there was a shortage of accommodation in the County during the summer. I got together with a friend of mine, who had also grown dissatisfied with her career, and bought a motel in the area. The only art on the wall was a sign that said "no gutting fish in the room."

For the first year we ran it as The Sportsman Motel, which was a huge learning experience. We then remodelled it into our own brand and experience, and renamed it The June Motel. The experience embraces the retro feel and style of a motel, while adding in many touches found in a boutique hotel.

We were confident going into it that we had a good business model, but the reception has been great. We were sold out from July through September last year, and have been recognized as a top place to stay by major media outlets such as *Vogue*.

I'm so happy I did it. I was also thrilled by the support I received from my Ivey classmates in making the transition. We had many Ivey visitors (including an Ivey honeymoon), words of encouragement, and some potential partnerships in development.

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

# Ivey Buzz | Big Wins



**Patrick Hickey**  
HBA '19 candidate

**Won the Young Humanitarian Award—**  
Hickey received the award from the Canadian Red Cross in Newfoundland and Labrador. He was honoured for his work in raising awareness of mental health in various communities.



**Tima Bansal**  
Professor

**Won the Academy of Management Distinguished Scholar Award—**  
For her scholarly contributions to organizations and the natural environment and corporate sustainability.

**Ranked No. 1 in Canada—**  
Named top Canadian school and 59th globally in *The Economist's* 2017 MBA ranking.



**Diane Ring, MBA '14,**  
and **Beckie Thain-Blonk,**  
MBA '18 candidate

**Won the inaugural Ring it Forward alumni referral contest—**  
Ring knew Thain-Blonk was Ivey material. Thain-Blonk was impressed with the Ivey grads she'd already met. So taking the plunge was easy and both are richer for it. Ring won a \$10,000 travel voucher and Thain-Blonk earned a \$5,000 scholarship.



**Max Mantha**  
MBA '14

**Received a Young Engineer award—**  
Mantha received the Engineering Medal in the Young Engineer category at the 2017 Ontario Professional Engineers Awards. Mantha is currently Vice-President, Area Manager of EllisDon Toronto Civil and Looby Construction, and is the youngest vice-president in any of EllisDon's organizations. Talk about a quick rise to the top!



**Paul Beamish**  
HBA '76,  
PhD '84

**Received the PWC Strategy & Eminent Scholar in International Management Award—**  
For lifetime achievement in international management scholarship. During his 35-year career, Beamish has had a major impact on international business research, the lives of young scholars, and the growth of emerging markets.





# Get Smart

Artificial intelligence is transforming business and life

By Pat Morden

In the classic film *2001: A Space Odyssey*, HAL the computer helps operate a spaceship travelling to Jupiter. HAL can reason and speak and understand speech. He can recognize faces, appreciate art, and interpret emotions. He is an unbeatable chess player. But everything goes awry when HAL begins to make small processing errors and his crew-mates decide to turn him off. To protect himself, HAL turns into a killer.

The 1968 movie is remarkably prescient, seeing ahead both to the incredible advances in artificial intelligence (AI) in recent years, and to the concerns that AI raises for some people. “AI is transformative,” says Benji Sucher, HBA ’05, Chief Operating Officer at Layer 6 AI. “But the idea that you plug in a computer and it thinks and acts like a human is science fiction.” Still, AI is already woven into our daily lives and used by enterprises large and small. Several Ivey alumni are at the forefront in this powerful technology, using AI to disrupt a wide variety of industries. →

Collective intelligence—Benji Sucher, HBA ’05, leads a team meeting at Layer 6 AI.

## The Next Paradigm

Artificial intelligence is about the ability for computers to sense, comprehend, and learn, says Courtney Campbell, HBA '09, Senior Consultant, Digital Strategy and Innovation at CIBC. "With AI, computers can absorb a very large amount of data, model it, use it to make educated decisions and predictions, and then take action based on it." For example, AI is a critical component in self-driving cars. Sensors provide data on the surrounding environment, and the car decides how and where to drive.

Sucher makes a distinction between artificial general intelligence – the near-human capability that HAL was endowed with – and narrow artificial intelligence – the kind that enables a computer to do one thing very well. For Omar Dhalla, MBA '07, Senior Vice-President at Element AI, AI is simply "the next paradigm of computing."

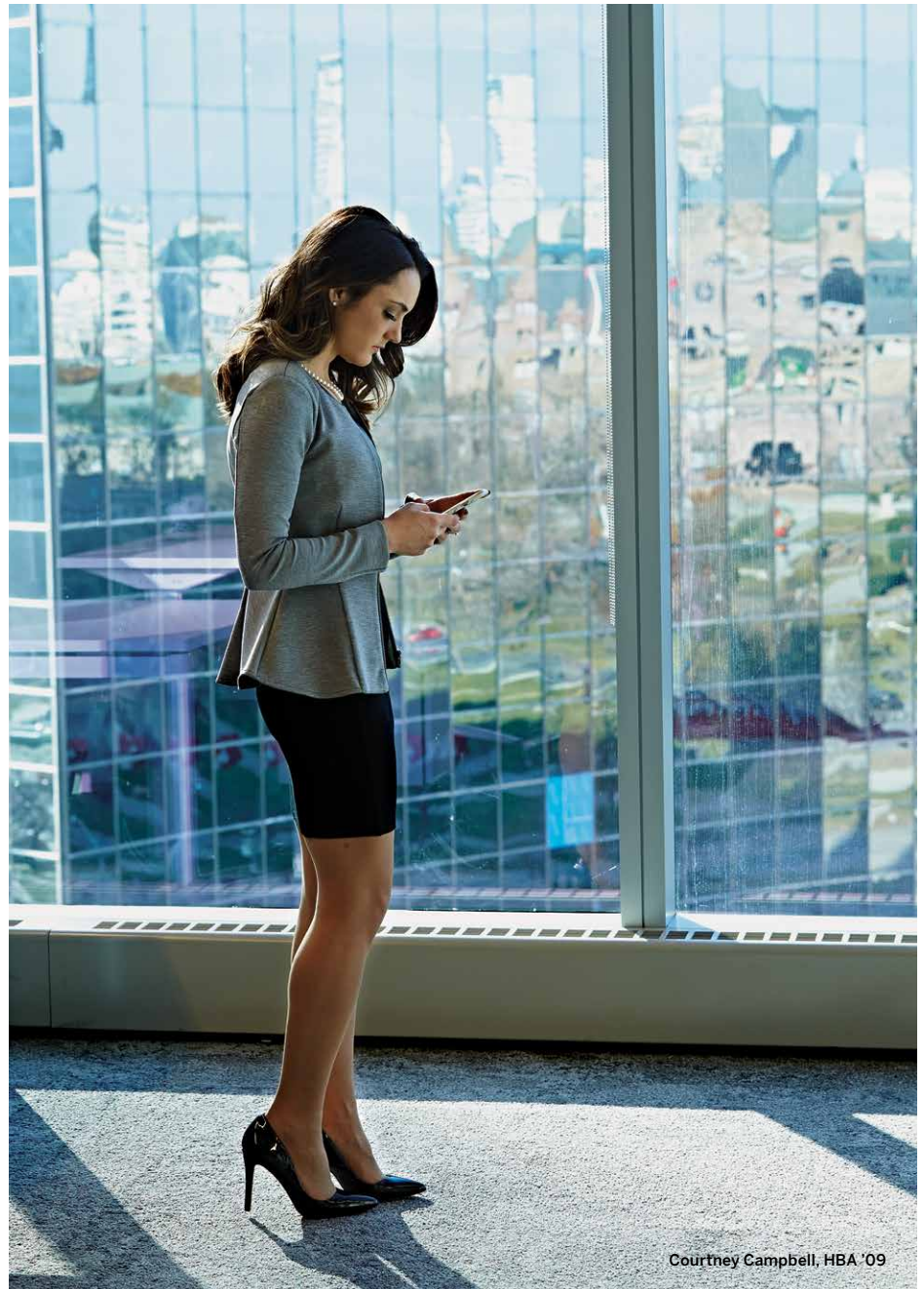
Campbell points out that research around artificial intelligence has been ongoing since the 1950s. But it's only in the past decade, with advances in technology, massive amounts of data, and increased computing power, that it has become a truly disruptive force. It was in Canada that University of Toronto Professor Geoffrey Hinton made the significant research breakthroughs in artificial neural networks that have fuelled AI's growth, and Canada continues to be a leader. By some estimates, the global AI industry is expected to grow to \$70 billion by 2020.

## Transforming the Enterprise

We hear in the popular media about AI-enabled computers who can play Go, write music, and even make Halloween costume suggestions (but not very good ones). But AI isn't a party trick: it's an increasingly important business tool. Sucher's company, for example, is harnessing the power of AI to help financial institutions make predictions and personalized recommendations to their customers. "Banks have a massive amount of data," he explains. "AI creates an opportunity for them to leverage that data for value and to differentiate themselves, enhance their brand, and create a great personal customer experience."

**"Organizations in many industries can find themselves in a position where they have large amounts of data, but it may be difficult to analyze this data efficiently. AI can help."**

—Courtney Campbell, HBA '09,  
Senior Consultant, Digital Strategy and  
Innovation at CIBC.



Courtney Campbell, HBA '09

PHOTOGRAPHER: NATION WONG

Layer 6 AI was working with financial institutions across Canada and the U.S., and responding to inquiries from Asia, South America, and Europe. In part, that's because they won the prestigious ACM RecSys Challenge in 2017. (Chinese behemoth Alibaba won the same competition in 2016.) In January 2018, TD Bank acquired Layer 6. The company retained its brand name and separate office, but TD became its sole client.

Sucher believes there are also significant opportunities in health care, where AI could be used to, for example, diagnose skin lesions or read X-rays. "There will always be physicians," he says, "but AI can augment, improve and enhance what's being done, helping people sooner."



In the financial services industry, Campbell envisions AI applications for everything from anti-fraud and money laundering operations, to credit risk management and even personal financial advising. “Organizations in many industries can find themselves in a position where they have large amounts of data, but it may be difficult to analyze this data efficiently,” she says. “AI can help.” Like Sucher, she is excited about the ability to personalize marketing, offerings, and brand experiences. “If you’re able to understand your customers, you can serve them better and provide them with more products – ones they actually need, or will need.”

Fireminds, a Bermuda-based enterprise software development and managed cloud company, was founded by Michael Branco, EMBA '10. (Fireminds was acquired in 2017 by ATNI.) Branco’s team has been working with reinsurance companies to use big data and machine learning to predict how many hurricanes will hit selected locations in the future, how bad the storms will be, and as a result, how insurance premiums should be priced. “For 20 years reinsurance companies have been using large datasets to predict property and casualty premiums,” Branco says. “AI is put to good use helping with the calculations.”

Branco’s other company, Premier Tickets, is an online ticket service and e-commerce platform. It uses AI to power the website’s live chat feature and customer-

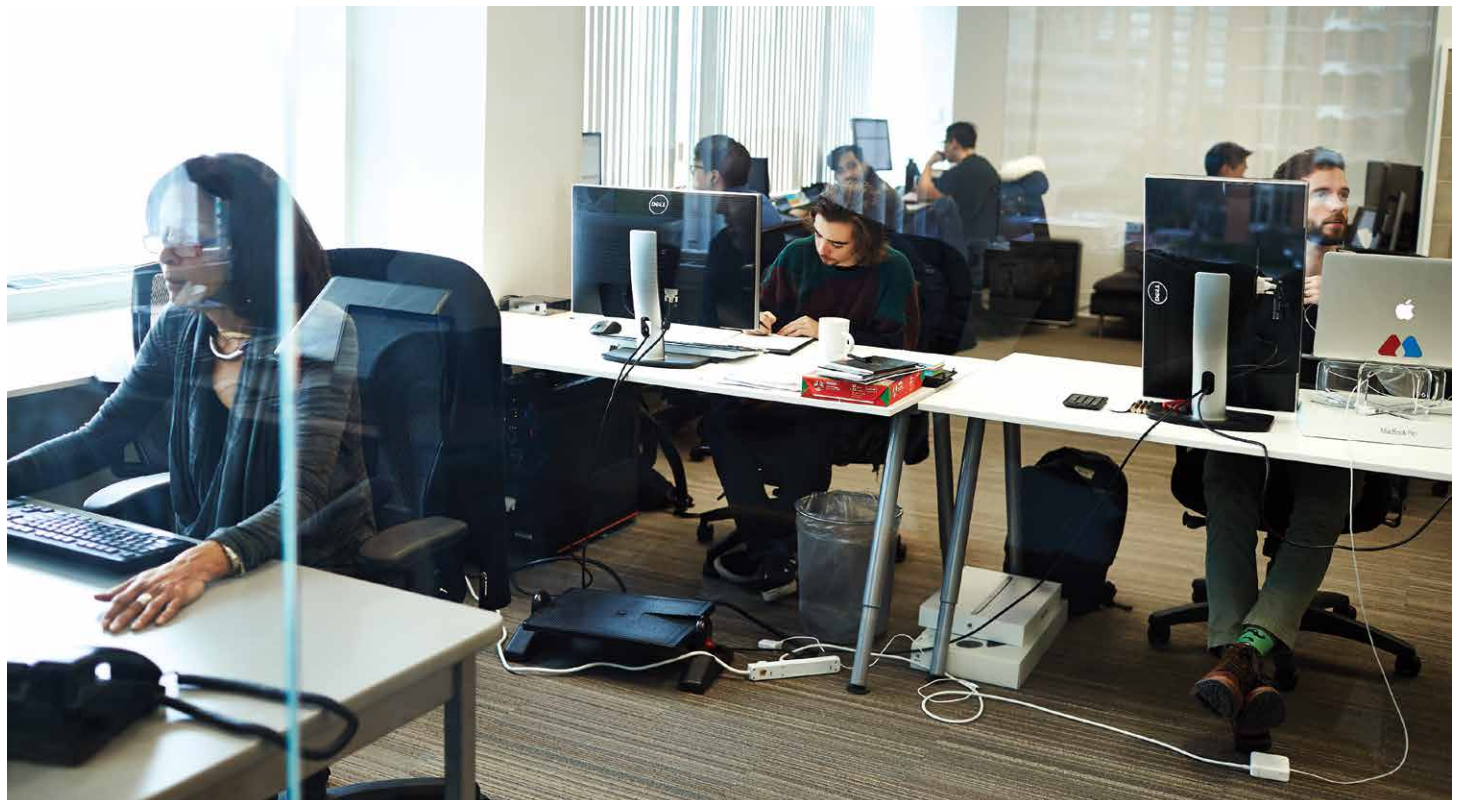
care tools. If the AI chatbot can’t answer a customer’s question, the conversation is seamlessly handed off to a live agent, who can pick up where the chatbot left off. Premier uses Natural Language Processing to do “sentiment analysis” to determine if a customer is unhappy and escalate them to a human agent quicker. Branco sees potential for AI chatbots to handle insurance quotes, too. In fact, he says any enterprise can take a close look at its operations and find ways to imbed AI, using off-the-shelf software to improve processes and where possible, offload standard tasks. →

**“There are significant opportunities in health care, where AI could be used to, for example, diagnose skin lesions or read X-rays. There will always be physicians, but AI can augment, improve and enhance what’s being done, helping people sooner.”**

—Benji Sucher, HBA '05,  
Chief Operating Officer at Layer 6 AI



Benji Sucher, HBA '05



PHOTOGRAPHER: NATION WONG



Colin Lernell, HBA '16

### Brave New World of Work

Colin Lernell, HBA '16, is Lead Product Manager for Student Experience at Udacity, a for-profit educational organization that offers free online courses and intensive online “nanodegree” programs. Ninety thousand students enrolled in Udacity’s first-ever AI course in 2012. The company works with tech companies like Google, Facebook, and IBM to offer courses and programs in artificial intelligence, deep learning, machine learning, and self-driving cars, and is preparing to launch a nanodegree degree in flying car engineering.

The company also uses AI tools to support and provide services to students. “We have many types of human-to-human interactions, from student services to mentorship,” says Lernell. “All of these functions have some AI-assisted components.”

Omar Dhalla got interested in AI while working with Real Ventures, a Canadian seed capital company. He worked with a company using AI for legal research, and another building AI-enabled robotics for industrial environments. Intrigued, he jumped

**“Nearly every digital product you use already has some machine learning or more advanced AI components to it. In future, every digital company will be driven by AI.”**

—Colin Lernell, HBA '16, Lead Product Manager for Student Experience at Udacity

into Element AI when it was launched last year. The company’s co-founder, Yoshua Bengio, is a leading researcher in deep learning. “We help our customers strategize about what their industry will look like five to 10 years out,” Dhalla says. “Then we determine what things we should be doing with AI now to build cognitive muscle.”

So far, Element AI has built everything from recommendation engines to fraud-detection systems. The team is in the process of working with a media company to create an engine that will read articles written by journalists and select appropriate imagery to illustrate them. Another project involves working with a large international bank to envision the future of banking in 10 years and then figure out where to deploy AI solutions now. “We don’t believe in commodity AI,” says Dhalla. “You need insight to understand what it will mean in the context of running your business.”

### Talk to Me

Speech recognition is one area where AI is poised to have a dramatic impact. Niraj Bhargava, MBA '91, is CEO of Fluent.ai, a Montreal-based startup. The company’s proprietary software is “acoustic-only,” meaning that it doesn’t need to translate speech to text to understand commands. It offers high accuracy and works without an Internet connection, so it’s ideal for wearables and smart devices. Moreover, it can be quickly trained to understand any language, making Fluent.ai a global company out of the blocks. “We believe that voice is the ideal user interface for any technology,” Bhargava says. “Our technology enables that.”







PHOTOGRAPHER: MARGO MORITZ

Colin Lernell, HBA '16

Fluent.ai software is already being used by several customers. One is producing a smart watch that can be used by children to get in touch with their parents in emergency situations. Another is a telecommunications company using AI in its call centre. The company is working to develop business in China, which Bhargava says is "... a fast-moving, hungry market that recognizes the validity of our differentiation."

So, what does the future hold? Certainly, AI will be an increasingly important business tool, and an integral part of everyday life. Lernell points out that it's already baked into many products, even if consumers don't recognize it. "Nearly

every digital product you use already has some machine learning or more advanced AI components to it. In future, every digital company will be driven by AI."

But will AI become smart enough to replace humans? Researchers have found that Google's AI has an IQ of about 47, putting it slightly below that of the average six-year old. "Computers have lots of advantages – they can analyze, interpret, and learn incredibly fast. They run 24/7, and they aren't influenced by emotions," says Campbell. "But they're not perfect, and they haven't mastered creativity, intuition, and empathy. Instead of looking at AI as competition, I think we should see the opportunity for collaboration." ■

## Is There a Downside?

Elon Musk says AI will cause World War III, and autonomous weapons will ensure it is fought on an unimaginable scale. Vladimir Putin says the country that leads in AI will rule the world. Do the benefits outweigh the risks? Here are a few thoughts:

"People are looking at AI as completely disruptive, changing the way we live. But we've been living through disruption, and evolving and adapting, for centuries. Focusing on the dangers of AI distracts us from all the positive benefits that come from it."

—Benji Sucher, HBA '05

"There will be changes in the labour market, in the same way robotics took over car assembly lines in the 80s. AI will replace many jobs 20 years from now. If I was mentoring someone, I'd say become a subject matter expert first and then bolt technology onto that."

—Michael Branco, EMBA '10

"There are upsides and drawbacks to everything. But if you can identify the risks, and weigh them against the benefits, you can make educated decisions about how and when to embrace AI in your business. As an individual, the same applies – learn how AI can be used to help you, or how it may impact your job, and plan accordingly."

—Courtney Campbell, HBA '09

"I think the world is a little blind to how much power Google, Amazon, Facebook, and Apple have. It doesn't mean they're going to do bad things, but there's a centralization of power created by data plus insights that we've never seen before."

—Omar Dhalla, MBA '07

"Talking about the dangers of AI in the future distracts us from all the positive benefits – increased productivity, improved quality of life, reduced income disparity, the ability to cure disease and feed the world. A lot of people think *Terminator*, but I'm more optimistic."

—Colin Lernell, HBA '16

"Could AI be used in areas that aren't moving society forward? Sure, there's a risk. But we believe there are strong opportunities for socially responsible technological advances with AI, so let's get on with it!"

—Niraj Bhargava, MBA '91



**Carving the slope—Ben Thomas, HBA '96, has made his favourite sport the centre of his business.**



# BEST JOB EVER

These five alumni definitely  
won't be giving up their day jobs

By Shelley White

Ever wished you could spend your workday cutting first tracks through powder on the ski slopes in Whistler? Hanging out with famous astronauts and Canadian sports legends? Or playing fetch with a bevy of energetic dogs?

While an Ivey education is excellent preparation for any job, some alumni have opted for unique careers that allow them to pursue their passions and make a living at the same time.

These five Ivey grads are the kinds of people who often hear, “You have the best job ever.” And they can’t help but agree:

**Ben Thomas, HBA '96**  
*Founder, VIP Mountain Holidays*  
*Whistler, B.C.*

When Ben Thomas graduated with an HBA from Ivey in 1996, he landed his first job with a Canadian bank, trading commodities in London, England. It was a fast-paced, exciting opportunity for a new grad, but after two years on the trading floor, Thomas decided to pursue another ambition he had long dreamed of fulfilling.

“I had always wanted to do a full season of skiing,” says Thomas, an Ottawa native with snow in his veins.

Thomas convinced a university friend, Matt Ball, to take a “gap” year in skiing



mecca Courchevel, France, where they would work as ski guides and spend all their time on the slopes. The two had a blast, and cooked up the idea to offer a high-end, private concierge service to tourists in Whistler, B.C. – a way to extend the fun into a second season of skiing.

“I had no intention of staying here as long as I have. The plan was still to go back to school and do an MBA,” says Thomas. But their fledgling business, VIP Mountain Holidays, was a success and Thomas was hooked. He’s been living the ski lifestyle ever since.

“We provide hassle-free, full-service private concierge-style trips to Whistler,” he says. “I love my job because I get to live the lifestyle of a ski bum but keep the challenges and the intellectual stimulation of running my own business.”

The typical day starts early, facilitating getting the clients’ kids off to ski school at 8:30 a.m. Then they “chill out for coffee” and go skiing with the clients for the rest of the day. Thomas says he relishes the freedom his business affords him.

“When it’s really good skiing, we drop everything and just go skiing,” he says. “I’m sure I would have made more money on Bay Street, but I’m happy to be able to live in Whistler. It’s living the dream.”



When it’s really good skiing, we drop everything and just go skiing. I’m sure I would have made more money on Bay Street, but I’m happy to be able to live in Whistler. It’s living the dream.”

—Ben Thomas, HBA '96

“

If you had told me 20 years ago I'd be doing this, I'd say, 'That's the most ridiculous thing I've ever heard.' But when I started working with these dogs, I just loved them all."

—Gail Kassie, MBA '85



PHOTOGRAPHER: NATION WONG

**Gail Kassie, MBA '85**

*Co-Owner & CFO, Bow Wow Country Club Schomberg, Ont.*

“If you had told me 20 years ago I'd be doing this, I'd say, ‘That’s the most ridiculous thing I’ve ever heard,’” says Kassie of her canine-filled business. “But when I started working with these dogs, I just loved them all.”

Kassie is the co-owner and CFO of the Bow Wow Country Club, a luxury facility on a sprawling property in Schomberg, Ont. Kassie and her team host an average of 25 dogs a day – some come during workdays to exercise and socialize, while others board for a week or more.

“We return a tired, happy dog at the end of the day,” says Kassie. “And when people are going away on vacation, the dogs get pampered and supervised in all their daily activities.”

Running a doggie hotel wasn't something Kassie expected to do after completing her Ivey MBA in 1985. She spent 21 years working in the banking industry, but after an unexpected stroke at age 45, she decided to switch gears.



Kassie started boarding dogs in her home, and her husband – a seafood entrepreneur – soon joined her in the new business. They expanded after finding the Schomberg property.

“What makes us different from other places is some of the dogs actually board in our home,” says Kassie. “So if I’m sitting on the sofa watching TV, they’re sitting with me cuddling.” Dogs who aren’t suited to spending their time in the home sleep in a comfortable, climate-controlled hotel steps away from the house.

Kassie says that though she wouldn't have guessed this career path, she's found her true calling.

“My brother, who’s a senior executive in the financial industry, said to me, ‘I’ve never seen you so passionate about anything in my life.’”

**Norm Deska, HBA '79**

*EVP, Intellectual Property, Ripley Entertainment Inc. Orlando, Fla.*

At Norm Deska’s workplace, you might find employees working on a book about the world’s oldest bodybuilder, the highest jump on a pogo stick, and the largest collection of teddy bears. Down the hall they might be designing a jellyfish habitat, or tracking down the world’s most expensive dress.

“It can’t get any stranger than this,” says Deska with a laugh.

He’s been working at Ripley Entertainment Inc. for 35 years, currently as Executive Vice-President of Intellectual Property. The company’s properties include some of the most exciting and →

unusual attractions in North America, like Ripley's Believe It or Not Odditorium, Guinness World Records Attraction, Ripley's Mirror Maze, and Ripley's Haunted Adventure.

"I've had a lot of different jobs within the company and I've loved it," says Deska. "I'm an analytical type of guy, but I like that here you can use the right and left sides of the brain."

After graduating with his HBA in 1979, Deska went to work in accounting, but found it didn't suit him. He joined Ripley's as a controller and went on to VP roles in finance, operations, franchising, and publishing. As EVP of Intellectual Property, he's in charge of third-party uses of the trademark, plus he runs the digital marketing side of the company.

Deska says he's most proud of Ripley's three aquariums in Toronto, Myrtle Beach, S.C., and Gatlinburg, Tenn. "They're spectacular," he notes.

He's also proud of the series of kids' books that they produce, like *Ripley's Believe It or Not – Shatter Your Senses!* "Teachers and parents say, 'I couldn't get my son to read anything, and he just loves your book and devours it,'" says Deska. "It's really rewarding for me to hear all these stories. We educate through fascination."

**Mark Chrusciak, EMBA '14**

*Managing Director,  
Treleavens Luxury Cornish Ice Cream  
Cornwall, U.K.*

Mark Chrusciak works with two of the world's favourite consumables: ice cream and beer. "Both products bring joy," he says, a master of understatement.

Chrusciak is Managing Director for Treleavens Luxury Cornish Ice Cream and Non-Executive Director for Harbour Brewing Company, both headquartered in Cornwall, U.K.

"We offer ice cream made the way it should be," he says of Treleavens' tasty product. "Natural flavours with a low air content."

Running a luxury ice cream company and a craft brewery might seem like dream jobs, but Chrusciak's path to his current positions wasn't a straight one.

A U.K. native, Chrusciak did an engineering apprenticeship for the British government's foreign office after secondary school, and then spent over a decade travelling the world, doing technical installation and maintenance for the British embassies and consulates in 65 countries. A three-year posting in Hong Kong spurred him to take his



**Every day, I pick up the phone and something different is going on. Some days it's challenging, but it's always fun. Never a dull moment."**

—Heather MacLean, HBA '89

EMBA at Ivey in Hong Kong.

"I wanted to learn the language and get the skill set to manage things in a more senior setting," he says.

After the birth of their first child, Chrusciak and his wife decided to move back to the U.K. A conversation with his wife's stepfather, who owned of a group of companies in and around Cornwall and Oxfordshire, convinced Chrusciak to join the family business.

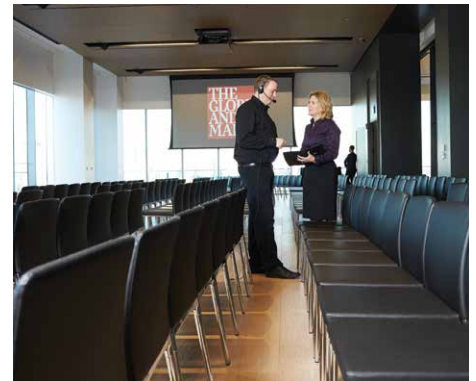
With both the ice cream company and

the brewery in growth mode, Chrusciak says he has ample opportunity to get in-depth, hands-on experience in many different areas of the business. He's even been able to draw on his previous experience building embassies by constructing a 10,000-square-foot warehouse for the rapidly expanding brewery.

Treleavens is planning to open a new distribution centre in the next six months as well, he says, so they can "bring great ice cream to the masses."



PHOTOGRAPHER: NATION WONG



agencies in Canada. MacLean works with political leaders, CEOs, Olympians, and reality stars, connecting them with the world's top brands as speakers and influencers.

A typical week can include meeting a client's private plane prior to an event; discussing programs over breakfast with leading Canadian economists and business leaders; a conference call with *Real Housewives of Toronto* reality star Jana Webb; overseeing the set-up for a presentation at *The Globe and Mail*; and attending an evening networking event with Olympians, NHL players, and coaches.

"I always knew I wanted to inspire people and transform organizations," says MacLean of her decision to pursue her dream job. It's the freedom and unpredictability that she appreciates the most.

"Every day, I pick up the phone and something different is going on. Some days it's challenging, but it's always fun. Never a dull moment." ■

**Heather MacLean, HBA '89**

*Founder & President, ProSpeakers.com  
Toronto, Ont.*

Few people get to work not one, but two dream jobs during the course of their career. Heather MacLean is one of those fortunate few.

Shortly after graduating with her HBA from Ivey in 1989, MacLean got a job working in sponsorships at Labatt Breweries of Canada and their subsidiary,

Anheuser-Busch. In that role, she was lead strategist for major sponsorships with the NHL, NFL, Olympics, Toronto Blue Jays, and more.

"I was travelling the world, going to sporting events, and working in the beer business," says MacLean. But when she found herself out of a job after a maternity leave, she decided to strike out on her own.

In 2008, MacLean purchased a speaker agency, rebranded it as ProSpeakers.com, and built it into one of the top speaker

Giving to Ivey

# Delivering on a Vow

Bill Brock, MBA '63, LLD '05, and his wife Anne provide critical support for PhD students

By Declan Kelly



PHOTOGRAPHER: GABE RAMOS/IVEY BUSINESS SCHOOL



Long before the global financial crisis, Bill Brock was thinking of new ways for Canadian higher education to not only survive but thrive in the face of changing financial realities.

In a 2005 interview with *The Globe and Mail*, the former deputy chairman of TD Bank Group discussed “a need

for universities to build independent pools of capital.” Brock concluded the interview by vowing that he would “keep looking for things I can do to make an exceptional contribution.”

At that time, Brock was in the midst of a four-year commitment serving as Chair of Campaign Western, which was seeking to raise \$275 million. The campaign was a huge success, due in part to Brock’s efforts. It raised \$526 million, creating a new large pool of funds for Western University.

With his family’s latest major gift in support of the PhD Program at Ivey, Brock and his wife Anne are once again delivering on that vow.

In November, the School officially announced the Brocks’ \$1-million gift toward the existing Brock Scholarships, resulting in an award fund totalling \$2 million. The Brock Scholarship Fund enables Ivey to offer students in the PhD Program an award valued at \$120,000 over four years.

“The Brock Scholarship Fund will continue to offer critical support to Ivey’s PhD students,” says Acting Dean Mark Vandenbosch, HBA ’84. “This will further enhance our ability to attract exceptional scholars who will conduct valuable new research and ensure a bright future for management education.”

One such student is current Brock Scholar Sampath Bemgal, a third-year PhD candidate in information systems. Bemgal’s research focuses on how organizations can more fully benefit from adopted information systems, while also exploring practices that improve interactions between employees and information systems.

Bemgal says the support of the Brock Scholarship provides extra motivation as he approaches each new phase of his research.

“Receiving this scholarship again signifies that my academic efforts from the past year have been appreciated,” Bemgal says. “It definitely increases my determination to do quality research in my field and become more focused in my goals.”

Fellow Brock Scholar Nahyun Kim is a third-year PhD candidate in sustainability. Kim’s research has explored how the Fukushima nuclear accident in March 2011 influenced energy policy worldwide and how firms respond to such policy changes by taking social and environmental actions to reduce uncertainty.

Kim says the support of the Brock Scholars Program has reinforced her sense of purpose in pursuing academic research in sustainability, while also boosting her long-term career and research prospects.

“It has enabled me to view social phenomena in diverse ways and think about my role as an academic researcher, in addressing real-life issues and concerns effectively,” she notes.

The powerful impact of Bill and Anne’s support shows that their contributions – to Ivey, its students, and the future of business education – have been exceptional indeed. ■



Bill Brock, MBA '63, LLD '05, and wife Anne chatting with current Brock Scholars at the Ivey Business School in November 2017.

**“It has enabled me to view social phenomena in diverse ways and think about my role as an academic researcher, in addressing real-life issues and concerns effectively.”—Brock Scholar**

Nahyun Kim, third-year PhD candidate in sustainability

# 2017 Distinguished Service & Alumni Faculty Service Awards

Ivey is a community of strong bonds, lasting relationships, and ongoing connections between the talented individuals that pass through its doors. Each year, the Ivey Distinguished Service Awards recognize remarkable graduates who have provided extraordinary service to the School over an extended period of time. The Ivey Alumni Faculty Service Award honours an outstanding faculty member who has played a key role in mentoring and supporting students, and partners with alumni to foster lifelong achievements.

Meet 2017's exceptional award recipients – people who have gone that extra mile to positively influence and support the Ivey community.

By Shelley White

To hear more from the honourees, visit: [go.ivey.ca/alumni-awards-video-2017](http://go.ivey.ca/alumni-awards-video-2017)



Anthony Ostler, MBA '97,  
with his family at Homecoming 2017.

“I feel like I have a legacy because of my volunteer work. At the end of the day, if I’ve helped people advance in their careers or solve problems or open doors or get the counselling they need to get their life back on track, that’s rewarding for me personally.”

**Anthony Ostler, MBA '97**  
*SVP, Investor Services Americas,  
State Street Corporation  
2017 Distinguished  
Service Award Recipient*

**On his time as a student at Ivey**

“It was the most fun academic experience I ever had in my life. I came into Ivey as a history undergrad, eager to learn about business. Once I met the faculty and the fellow students, I was amazed and energized by the talent around me, and I was away to the races after that. I wouldn’t have anything that I have without Ivey.”

**On the importance of maintaining Ivey relationships**

“I’ve seen people come back for a 50-year reunion to Ivey and you talk to them about their stories and it’s amazing what they’ve done together and how deep those friendships are. They took time to invest in each other to still be buddies. And that’s pretty magical. But that takes work and you shouldn’t take that for granted. Those relationships are worth investing in.”

**On what he learned from his father**

“Being a partner at Price Waterhouse, my father spent a lot of time mentoring and recruiting and developing people. He also did a lot of volunteer work and had skills that could benefit other organizations. He wasn’t just focused on his own career or advancement within the firm. Even though he died prematurely of cancer, he left this world knowing he had made the world a better place. So that’s often what I’ve tried to focus on for myself: How can I leave this world a better place?”

“The Ivey classroom experience gives you some of the professional skills to help you be considered for positions, but it also develops your life skills to have the judgment to think about, and take, the opportunities that are thrown at you.”



**Mark Shuper, HBA '92**  
*Co-Founder &  
 Executive Director,  
 The Sprouts Foundation  
 2017 Distinguished  
 Service Award Recipient*

**On how he ended up spending most of his career in Hong Kong**

“Ivey had a great deal to do with it. I had done a student exchange while at Ivey, to Italy – I hadn’t been there before and didn’t speak the language, so it was going to be completely new. Going to Hong Kong fell into that same category. There was also an HBA alumnus in the Toronto office of Morgan Stanley who had just come back from doing his third year in Hong Kong, and he raved about the experience.”

**On going from a career in finance to co-founding The Sprouts Foundation, a Hong Kong-based NGO providing educational programs for under-privileged children in Asia**

“I had always expected to do something philanthropic, and especially as related to

education. Both of my parents were refugees who came to Canada after WWII, and I grew up in a household where I saw how important education was to our family. You go to school, you work hard, you get a better job, and generation by generation you make progress.”

**On maintaining ties with alumni through service at Ivey**

“It’s sometimes easy to think when you leave school, ‘I’m getting into a certain industry, my network will be the people in this field.’ But increasingly, it’s very rare that someone stays on a linear career path for 10 or 20 years. As an Ivey grad, you already know the high calibre of the people you attended school with, and keeping in touch helps you see what else might interest you ‘out there.’”



Mark Shuper, HBA '92,  
 pictured with Ivey classmates  
 and friends at Homecoming 2017.

“When I got into Ivey, I didn’t know a debit from a credit because I’d taken all arts courses before that. But I loved it. I didn’t realize it at the time, but now I know that next to marrying my wife, it was the best decision I ever made.”



**Steve Suske, MBA '77**  
*President & CEO,  
 Suske Capital Inc.  
 2017 Distinguished  
 Service Award Recipient*

**On finding his calling as a kid**

“I’ve always been entrepreneurial. I think you’re born with that. When I was a boy scout, I always sold the most apples on apple day. I would position myself around the bus terminal in Woodstock, Ont., hop on the bus and get everybody to buy apples. I won every year because I knew where to hang out.”

**On being a judge for the IBK Capital-Business Plan Competition**

“I’ve done it for 10 years and I always leave so exhilarated because the kids are so smart. It inspires me. Not only seeing the great ideas of business schools all across North America, but spending a couple days with

the fellow judges who have all got great stories and are great successes in their own right.”

**On Ivey being a Suske family affair**

“My whole family has gone to Ivey – my daughter and my son-in-law have MBAs, my niece has an HBA, one of my brothers has an MBA, another has an HBA. My daughter is an Entrepreneur-in-Residence now at Ivey too. I’m at the stage in my life where I’m 67 and this really is the best part of my life, because I have all my kids around me and I’m mentoring them and helping them be part of the family business, and Ivey plays a big role in that.”



Steve Suske, MBA '77,  
 with his family at Homecoming 2017.



Craig Dunbar at Homecoming 2017.

“Objectively, teaching might seem to be like the movie *Groundhog Day* – every year it’s déjà vu all over again. But what’s particularly true about Ivey is that every time you step into the classroom, there’s always some incredible new insight someone brings, a connection someone has made based on their past experience. I always learn something new when I teach.”



**Craig Dunbar**  
Associate Professor, Finance,  
Ivey Business School  
2017 Alumni Faculty  
Service Award Recipient

**On joining the faculty at Ivey**

“I think the biggest thing about Ivey is the kind of support I’ve received from other faculty members. Coming here, there was a real sense of a team, where we all want each other to succeed – succeed in research, succeed in the classroom. That kind of collegiality really made a difference for me and shaped the kind of person I wanted to become. In my career, I’ve tried to model myself after the great examples I’ve seen here.”

**On how going to Ivey impacts students**

“We have a bunch of high achievers coming in and they have very strong personal aspirations and a strong sense of competition, but I think we

do a good job in emphasizing the cooperative elements – that you get more out of it if you work together. We have lots of ways to force people to work together in a positive way and I think it has a big impact in the long term.”

**On why interacting with and supporting the Ivey community is valuable**

“I think the real importance of maintaining connections with classmates and with other alumni is that all of these touchpoints are learning opportunities. Anything you can do to continue learning is positive, and finding the time to learn and engage with whatever opportunities pop up with the Ivey community is, for me, a great way to do that.” ■

OCT 19-21 / 2018

2018

OCT 18-20 / 2019

2019

OCT 16-18 / 2020

2020

OCT 22-24 / 2021

2021

OCT 21-23 / 2022

2022

**HOMECOMING**



# Your Ivey Network

**Homecoming 2017**  
A celebration to remember, with more than 1,100 alumni and friends attending

page **44**



## Ivey Lives Remembered

Gwen (Carlson) Anders, HBA '47, MBA '48 1924-2017

page **41**



## Back to School

Industry disruption pushed Rick Gleed, EMBA '16, to step back into a classroom for the first time in 47 years

page **42**

## Ivey Lives Remembered

Dick Sharpe, HBA '50 1925-2017

page **47**

## Revolutionary Robot

Jon Morris, MBA '84, is helping people with developmental disabilities maintain their independence

page **49**



**Fashion for a Fraction**  
Chris Cundari, HBA '15, co-founded Boro, a peer-to-peer marketplace to borrow and lend clothing

page **50**



## Ivey Lives Remembered

John Carroll, HBA '56 1933-2017

page **51**

# Ivey Class Notes

Tell us where you are, what you're doing, who you care about, and how you're staying in touch with your Ivey friends. Celebrate your achievements, activities, and interests. Let us know about the latest matches and hatches – these are your pages.

Submit your notes and photos for the next issue to: [ivey.ca/alumni/classnotes](http://ivey.ca/alumni/classnotes) or email [intouch@ivey.ca](mailto:intouch@ivey.ca)

Please note: all submissions may be edited for content and length.

## 1947

**Gwen (Carlson) Anders, HBA '47, MBA '48,** is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 41.

**Richard M. Ivey, HBA '47, LLD '79,** is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 6.

## 1948

**Gwen (Carlson) Anders, HBA '47, MBA '48,** see note under 1947.

## 1950

**Dick Sharpe, HBA '50,** is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 47.

## 1956

**John Carroll, HBA '56,** is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 51.

## 1958

**Ross Archibald, HBA '58,** writes, "Hello Biz '58 classmates – again I want to use the Class Notes section of the Spring *Intouch* to alert you for a second time of our

60th Homecoming which is scheduled for October 19-21, 2018. It certainly does seem that the time since our 55th has passed rather quickly. We are all getting older and as time passes, we may not feel healthy enough to travel to Homecomings beyond our 60th. I strongly urge you to seize this opportunity to join in the celebration of our graduation 60 years ago. I hope as many of you as possible will come. We expect to follow similar Homecoming patterns as in previous years. For instance, Gail and Ted Browne, HBA '58, have offered to host an informal gathering at their home on the Friday evening. On the Saturday morning at 9 a.m., Ivey will hold a continental-type breakfast prior to other planned events. At 12 p.m., Ivey will also provide lunch and a classroom for us where we can gather to meet our classmates and enjoy the meal. The private dinner for our class and guests will be held on Saturday night. I called the Ivey Spencer Leadership Centre about this

Continued on Page 39 →

A MESSAGE  
FROM MICHAEL  
BERNSTEIN,  
MBA '96  
*Chair, Ivey Alumni  
Network Board*

As my term as Chair comes to a close, I find myself reflecting on many wonderful moments. Leading the Pledge Ceremony at Ivey's graduation and seeing the pride of many old friends as they celebrate their children's graduation. Talking to enthusiastic young alumni at Global Ivey Day events. Watching the reaction of older alumni when they visit the new Richard Ivey Building for the first time. Making new Ivey friends and contacts. Working with a highly engaged, fun and accomplished group of board members to make great things happen.

And of course, celebrating Homecoming with hundreds of fellow alumni. This past year, more than 1,100 joined the party, and more than \$5.2 million was raised in reunion giving. It was a spectacular fall weekend, and to cap it all off, the Mustangs won, sending them on their way to a Vanier Cup victory.

I'm proud of what the Ivey Alumni Network (IAN) Board has accomplished in the past three years: the growth of Global Ivey Day; a revitalized Ambassador Program; and the launch of the Women of Ivey Network, among much else. I was delighted that the IAN was recognized by the *Economist* in the top 10 alumni networks globally.

There is, as always, much more to be done. For example, a new alumni mentorship program is in the works, and we are also planning the roll-out of an Ivey app.

I'm sure the incoming IAN Chair, Scott Vanderwel, HBA '98, Senior Vice-President of Corporate Strategy and Transformation at Rogers, will have exciting new ideas to add to the mix. Scott is an experienced board member and a talented business leader – the IAN is in very good hands.

Looking ahead, my hope is that the IAN will continue to work with the School to ensure it remains Canada's top business educator, grows in global relevance, and adapts to the dramatic changes happening in business and society. I am confident that Ivey alumni will continue to provide value to one another, to the School, and to incoming students. I thank all alumni for the honour of serving in this role and wish you all continued success and happiness.



PHOTOGRAPHER: NATION WONG



on November 15, 2017 to determine if we can book there again because it was a popular venue when we ate there for our 50th gathering. They will be pleased to take care of us if we number 25 to 30. The last dinner was excellent, offering choices of chicken, fish, and beef. The cost would be \$40 each. Spencer would also set aside a block of their rooms where we could stay Friday and Saturday nights. These rooms are very close to Ted and Gail's home where we'll gather Friday evening. It is important that you email me at [rarchibald@ivey.ca](mailto:rarchibald@ivey.ca) to inform me if you plan to be at the Saturday dinner, with or without a guest. It is also important for me to know if you would like to stay at a Spencer room so that I can pass all this information on to the people who organize our dinner and rooms. The weekend will finish with a Golden Alumni Brunch on Sunday to be held by Ivey in the Brock Pavilion. I also have a suggestion. I would like you to consider a donation to Ivey this Homecoming year as we did for **Jack J. Wettlaufer, HBA '50, MBA '51**, at our 50th Homecoming. Walter Thompson certainly deserves a donation in his memory. He was the leading light in the development of the Western Business School based on the case method. He also instituted and directed the first Management Training Course in 1948 with many more to follow. These courses very much helped in putting the School on the map, aided by the enthusiasm of the managers who attended the courses. On November 17, I had a fruitful discussion with Justin Pilon, Associate Director, Major Gifts. He wrote me the following note: 'The Walter A. Thompson HBA Award would be a wonderful place for you and your classmates to direct your contributions in honour of your 60th reunion. This \$1,800 Award is granted each year to an outstanding

student entering the HBA Program, and was established as a tribute to Walter some years ago.' It strikes me that if each of us were to contribute \$100 we would make a meaningful contribution in honour of Walter and that would allow the Award to continue to support outstanding HBA students. As a reminder, there is a tax break in Canada for such a contribution. The passing of our classmates was noted for the first time in the Fall 2017 edition of *Intouch*. I plan to continue reporting these sad events. There were three additional classmates who passed away for whom we did not have the appropriate information. This has now been supplied by the preparers of The Ivey Class List. They are **Bernie Dumont, Gerald McComb and Marion (Balmer) Moffitt, all HBA '58**. Recently we were notified of the passing of **Robert White, George Gilvesy, and Mike Tague, all HBA '58**. Even more recently we learned of the passing of **Bill Britton, Lou Sage, and Brian Barker, all HBA '58**. We had started with a class of 63 and have now lost a total of 19 individuals. We still have 70 per cent of the group remaining. We look forward to seeing as many classmates as possible in October 2018. Cheers, Ross."

## 1962

**Martin Farnsworth, MBA '62**, writes, "You might be interested in the following photo which was taken in southern Spain in July when **Mike Fernandez and Tom Bailey, both MBA '62**, crossed paths on their travels. They both look great and are having a good time at lunch."



## 1963

**Bill Brock, MBA '63, LLD '05**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 30.

## 1967

**Rod Jack, MBA '67**, writes, "On October 20, 2017, 33 members of the MBA class of 1967, most with significant others, gathered at the Delta Armouries Hotel for a few days of celebration. Fifty-six strong, we enjoyed the company of classmates from across Canada and throughout the United States. A few hadn't attended a reunion in over 20 years. Some of those significant others went back to the days of Biz Wives. Those long-suffering mothers, homemakers, wage earners, and after-hours report typists often made the grade difference between a 3, a 4, or even the Dean's Honor List. For their herculean efforts, they all received a PHT, a degree that could no longer be awarded today. We were particularly delighted with the arrival of **Peter Quail, MBA '67**, our eldest classmate, along with his wife Pat and son Nick (pictured right). Peter turned 93 in 2017. The historic stone architecture of the Delta Hotel made the perfect backdrop for our mature set. The fun began with a bang-up cocktail reception in the Hotel's Elgin Room that lasted into the wee hours; until the last stalwarts conceded that some sleep might be a good idea before tackling the weekend. Saturday was spent mostly at the School with a welcome by Acting Dean **Mark Vandenbosch, HBA '84**, and a briefing on the current MBA recruiting activities plus other aspects of the academic program. A buffet lunch was served at the School followed by the traditional football game. The less sports-minded visited old London haunts or just relaxed in the company of friends. That evening a formal dinner dance was held in the Gunnery Room of the hotel

which obviated driving since everyone was booked at the Armouries. On Sunday, Ivey held an elegant brunch at the new School building to honour those who had graduated 50 or more years ago. The reunion weekend was the greatest success in a long line of these events. The organizational support provided by the School was exceptional. It was executed with great skill by Sara Fischer, Alumni Relations Associate. She worked tirelessly on our behalf, particularly on the production of our 50-year reunion Celebration Book. So, 'thanks for the memories' made possible by the unflagging work of Sara and our committee of six: **Ron Dooley, Vern Hall, Rod Jack, Gerald Peterson, Allan McKenzie and Steve Weir, all MBA '67.**"



## 1969

**Paul J. Hill, MBA '69, LLD '12**, and wife Carol Hill received the 2017 Regina Humanitarians of the Year Award.

## 1972

**Richard W. Ivey, HBA '72, LLD '13**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 6.

**Pierre Morrissette, MBA '72, LLD '10**, received the Order of Canada on November 17, 2017.

**John Purkiss, HBA '72, MBA '77**, writes, "Great catching up at Spencer on Friday night and at breakfast Saturday morning. Most of us attended the football game and watched the Mustangs trounce the uOttawa Gee-Gees 63-10! Then dinner at Church Key. Debbie and **Bob Schram, HBA '72, MBA '73**, showed up

for Sunday brunch. Of 90 still kicking, we had 10 per cent turnout. Had dinner with a 40-year attendee on Saturday and they had 50 show up. Here's hoping more show for the 50th!"

**David Stiles, HBA '72**, writes, "Thanks to **John Purkiss, HBA '72, MBA '77**, for organizing our reunion; Irene and **Dennis Romanson, HBA '72, MBA '76**, for crossing international borders to attend; **David Cross, HBA '72**, for waiting patiently for 45 years before coming; Judy and **John Thompson, HBA '72**, for preserving the quiet atmosphere on the 4th floor at Spencer by moving to the 6th; **Douglas Hurley, HBA '72**, for offering one year's free postage for all attendees (the cheque's in the mail); Debbie and **Bob Schram, HBA '72, MBA '73**, for sneaking in under the wire on Sunday morning; and **Carr Hatch, HBA '72**, for not asking any one question more than 16 times. Really good to see everyone again. Let's stay in touch and start making some noise for #50."



## 1973

**Bob Schram, HBA '72, MBA '73**, see notes under 1972 (John Purkiss and David Stiles).

## 1974

**Greig Clark, HBA '74**, will be inducted into the Brockville Collegiate Institute Hall of Excellence.

**Prem Watsa, MBA '74, LLD '12**, has been named Chancellor of Huron University College.

## 1975

**Barrie Cliff, HBA '75,** writes, “Hello Biz '75 classmates! Now in my fifth year of retirement and after travels through Europe, Mexico, Belize, and Costa Rica, my wife Christine and I were ready for something a bit longer and more adventurous while we are still healthy and ‘vertical!’ We left November 2 for seven months, backpacking Southeast Asia including Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Bali! Getting all the required vaccinations was not the highlight of my planning but everything else looked good. The planning is certainly a lot easier these days with the Internet than it was in the late '60s when all you had was a copy of *Europe on 5 Dollars a Day* and a few American Express travellers’ cheques! One planned stop was to an area north of Bangkok, in a very rural farming area where we were able to provide the funds for the re-building of the water system for a local school, in honour of my father who had passed away. I often wonder about my fellow classmates and how your lives have progressed and where everyone ended up! They are all fond memories and particularly the celebrations at the Ceeps after finally dropping off a project on Saturday mornings after two ‘all-nighters’ and mad rushes to the typist to have things re-done! No laptops and laser printers for us! Please drop a note to Class Notes with an update on your lives... I’d love to read your comments! All the best, Barrie.”

**Ian McSweeney, HBA '75,** has been appointed Chair of the Commission and the Tribunal of the Financial Services Tribunal.

## 1976

**Paul Beamish, HBA '76, PhD '84,** is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 17.

**Chris Laubitz, HBA '76,** has joined CEO Global Network as CEO Group Leader in the Greater Toronto Area.

**Dennis Romanson, HBA '72, MBA '76,** see note under 1972 (David Stiles).

## 1977

**Lise Casgrain, MBA '77,** writes, “The MBA '77 class celebrated our 40th reunion back at Ivey this past fall.”



**Lois (Elliott) Fraser, HBA '77,** writes, “Forty years is a long time ago... two thirds of our lives (so far)... a precious time when we all went to Ivey. Sometimes, it seems like yesterday – but mostly, it feels like a lifetime ago. Travelling to London, Ont. to walk around campus and see some buddies from ‘those days’ was the reason for going... to reminisce and celebrate our youth... the time when I thought I knew a lot. Everything in London is eerily familiar to me... the street names, the buildings. I find my way around without a GPS because I instinctively know how to get places. Wow... did I really pay \$40 a month in rent there? Yup, and the roof fell in one summer. I didn’t care at the time. I almost quit the first week of Ivey. It was too hard and things usually come easily for me. I ran away to downtown London... a shopping trip to Fairweathers (where else?) for some retail therapy, and then on to see a tear-jerker movie (*The Other Side of the Mountain*); sitting there like some loser, crying my eyes out. The heroine dies, but I don’t. I go back to the biz school and dig in. Miraculously, 140 of my original 150 classmates graduate. A

graduating class of 30 women and 110 men. And... what was I thinking when I chose to have a boyfriend for those two years?! We have a great turnout: 47 classmates, and one professor, Russ Knight. They come from as far away as Hong Kong and as close as London. Some of us come every five years. Two brave souls were there for the first time in 40 years. Thanks for coming! We eat, drink, laugh, and suck in our tummies. We reflect on the good times and we regret the loss of nine classmates whom we have lost to disease and accidents since then. The new building sure is snazzy, but it is the old place we really want to see. Three of us go back to the old building. The electricity is off, but the building is open. We go down to the basement, to the Section 1 and 2 classrooms. We sit in our old seats and feel weird and powerful all at the same time. The mail slots for reports is still there and it fills us with dread, just like they always did. THE DEADLINES! We look for the computer that took up a whole room... ‘Magic Science’ we called that course. Of course, it isn’t there, but we remember it. The library upstairs looks identical. It reminds us of our good intentions to study that never came to pass because it was so much more fun to talk to friends. The ‘bottom line’ (for there is always a bottom line in any business case) for our visit in 2017... an appreciation of a great education, less hair, less bragging, more wrinkles, more caring. See you in 2022, if not sooner. It has been an honour and a pleasure to see you all.”

**Bruce Hynds, HBA '77,** and wife Janice became grandparents to Morgan on September 28, 2017.

**John Purkiss, HBA '72, MBA '77,** see notes under 1972 (David Stiles).

**Elaine Stanley, HBA '77,** writes, “The HBA class of 1977 celebrated their 40th reunion

at Homecoming October 20-21, 2017. In 1977, there were only two sections and only 20 per cent were females. Our classrooms were in the basement of the old Richard Ivey Building. I guess that small space allowed us to bond, as we had a fantastic turnout with 47 classmates attending out of the 140 who graduated. One of our professors, Russ Knight, also attended. Many travelled a great distance to be there, from as far away as Uruguay, Hong Kong, Vancouver, New Jersey, Winnipeg, Trinidad, Atlanta, Calgary, and Montreal. The reunion celebrations started on Friday evening at Lynne and **John Leitch’s, HBA '77,** house. Several of us attended the Saturday events at the new Richard Ivey Building. Three of us even managed to sneak into the old biz school and walk down memory lane. On Saturday evening, there was a dinner at The London Club where we raised a glass to our classmates who are no longer with us: **Jeffery Bertrand,** June 2, 1992; **Charles Atkinson,** November 5, 1997; **Jack Farrell,** February 1, 2002; **Howard Teall, MBA '84, PhD '87,** May 11, 2004; **Stuart Sinclair,** August 1, 2012; **George Sweeton,** November 27, 2013; **Paul Robertson,** September 2, 2014; **Michael Kuta,** January 28, 2016; **George Kaigas,** April 11, 2016, **all HBA '77.”**



**Stephen Suske, MBA '77,** is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 32.

## 1978

**Elizabeth (Grainger) Grasby, HBA '78,** was recognized as Professor Emerita at the Spring 2017 Convocation for her exceptional contribution to Ivey and

Western, as she retires as Pre-Business Director after 39 years at Ivey. She is also featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 10.

## 1979

**Norm Deska, HBA '79,** is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 24.

**Rob Glen, HBA '79,** joined OgilvyRED as a Global Partner, providing innovation and growth strategy consulting to large- and medium-sized global companies looking for pathways for brand evolution to greatness and market disruption through digital transformation.

**Mike Hajnik, HBA '79,** writes, “Reaching out to all my classmates! In less than two years, we will be celebrating our 40th Homecoming! I am requesting every HBA '79 grad who is reading this right now, to immediately go to your smartphone, open up your Outlook calendar to October 18-20, 2019, and block out the time to prioritize our 40th Homecoming Weekend. Make it a special note to not make any other plans. By the way, if we are not yet connected, please send me a LinkedIn invitation to ensure we stay in touch... Talk again later!”

**Richard M. Ivey, HBA '47, LLD '79,** see note under 1947.

## 1980

**Stephen Dunn, MBA '80,** has been appointed to the Board of Western Troy Capital Resources.

## 1981

**Stephen Gunn, MBA '81,** has been selected by Excellence Canada to receive a 2017 Canada Award for Excellence.

**Richard Rooney MBA '81,** has been appointed to the Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation’s Board of Directors.

## Ivey Lives Remembered



### Gwen (Carlson) Anders, HBA '47, MBA '48 1924-2017

By Declan Kelly

When Susan Roberts thinks of her mother, Gwen Anders, one phrase comes to mind: “I am woman, hear me roar!”

Anders certainly made her voice heard when challenging how business practices and societal norms of the late 1940s placed unfair demands on women, while offering them limited opportunities. In one classroom debate in what was then Western’s Department of Business Administration, Anders questioned why families of business executives weren’t afforded more say in when or where an executive might be transferred.

“I remember saying, ‘This is nonsense. I don’t think it’s right. I think there should be a choice,’” Anders recounted to *The Globe and Mail* in 1999.

Anders became Ivey’s third alumna when she completed her HBA in 1947, and the first to go on to graduate studies. When she completed her MBA the following year, she was the School’s first female MBA alumna and one of the first female MBAs in Canada.

She competed for a scholarship with the MBA Program’s only other student at the time – her future husband, Ben Anders, MBA '48.

Following a career that included positions with Great-West Life and the federal government, Anders still looked back with pride on the pioneering role she played for women in management education.

“I considered myself a liberated, independent-thinking woman long before it became fashionable,” she told *The Globe*.

Following Ben’s death in 2004, Gwen would go on to help pave the way for future female students at Ivey, by establishing the Gwen and Ben Anders HBA Award. She is survived by her children Susan, Ben, and Paul, seven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

### 1982

**Roz Ivey, HBA '82,** is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 6.

**Fraser Johnson, HBA '82, MBA '92, PhD '95,** is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 10.

**Christine (Bishop) Magee, HBA '82,** has been selected by Excellence Canada to receive a 2017 Canada Award for Excellence.

### 1985

**Christine (Morgan) Hand, HBA '83,** was named one of Canada’s Top 100 Most Powerful Women for 2017 by Women’s Executive Network.

**Tim McGuire, HBA '83,** writes, “I retired in September after 28 years at McKinsey & Company, the last 15 years as a senior partner and leader of the global retail practice. Having watched the successful launch of our three children (an engineer, a surgeon, and a chef), I’m planning to spend my post-retirement time with a mix of business (including

as Board Chair at Mobile Klinik, Canada’s largest and fastest-growing network of smartphone and tablet repair shops), travel, non-profit work, and an attempt to write the mystery novel that’s been rolling around in my head for the last 35 years!”

**Michael Monette, MBA '83,** is now working for the leader in enterprise information management, OpenText, with HQ in Waterloo, Ont. As a business development manager focused on the Americas, he would be pleased to work with any alumni businesses seeking to digitally transform their organizations to succeed in the new digital economy. Michael and his wife Ruth continue to reside in Ottawa.

**Jay Switzer, MBA '83,** will receive a special honour at the upcoming Canadian Screen Awards on March 11, 2018. Please see In Memoriam on page 52.

### 1984

**Paul Beamish, HBA '76, PhD '84,** see note under 1976.

**George Cope, HBA '84, LLD '12,** has been selected as a 2018 Canadian Business Hall of Fame inductee.

**James Heaton, MBA '84,** is the President of Vox ISM in Toronto. Vox ISM is a two-time Microsoft Partner of the Year Award winner (#1 of 12,000 Microsoft Partners) and its affiliated company, Shop 9000, was previously Infor’s worldwide Partner of the Year (#1 of 400 Infor Partners). Vox ISM supports more than 750 customers across Canada, with local offices in Toronto and Calgary, specializes in NAV Dynamics Software, Microsoft CRM, SharePoint, and business intelligence software. It is focused on manufacturing and distribution for the mid-size firm (50-500 employees) industry.

**Ruthann (Rennie) McConkey, HBA '84,** was named one of Canada’s Top 100 Most Powerful Women for 2017 by Women’s Executive Network.

**Betsy Bell McKimm, MBA '84,** writes, “Happy in Mississauga practicing and teaching art and yoga. In 2016, I received Yoga Teacher Certification from Ashram Yoga, New Zealand with further specialization in Yoga Nidra in Toronto. My goal is to help others age with agility, strength, grace, and joy through personalized and accessible yoga practices. Please see more about my journey at pilgrimstudio.ca”



**Jon Morris, MBA '84,** is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 49.

**Rosemary (Schauf) Pahl, MBA '84,** is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 15.

**Mark Vandenbosch, HBA '84,** is featured in three articles in this issue of *Intouch*. See pages 3, 30, and 44. Also see note under 1967 (Rod Jack).

### 1985

**Lloyd Cooper, MBA '85,** writes, “I am Vice-Chairman at Cushman & Wakefield. Thirty-three years with the same company... nobody does that anymore!”

**Mary (O'Brien) Crossan, MBA '85, PhD '91, and Larry Crossan, LLB/MBA '86,** write, “Our son Matt just moved to the U.K. for the job of a lifetime. Selected as one of seven engineers from 12,000 for a one-year internship with Renault formula racing and Infiniti.”

**Lorne Cutler, MBA '85,** writes, “In June 2017 I received an Order-in-Council appointment from the Ontario government to the Governing Council of Professional Engineers Ontario. This is the licensing and discipline body for Ontario engineers. My undergraduate degree was in chemical engineering and while I have not practiced engineering since receiving my MBA, I have always maintained my P.Eng status and have taught an ethics and law course to foreign-trained

Continued on Page 43 →

## Different Path



PHOTOGRAPHER: NATION WONG

# Back to School

Industry disruption pushed Rick Gleed, EMBA '16, to step back into a classroom for the first time in 47 years

By Nicole Laidler

At an age when most people are anticipating a leisurely retirement, Rick Gleed decided it was time to go back to school. At 64 years old, he hadn't set foot in a classroom since high school and had already enjoyed more than 25 years as one of the top commercial real estate brokers in London and Southwestern Ontario.

"I love the business. It's very social, which I enjoy. Why would I stop doing that?" he asks. "Slowing down is not in my make up."

But Gleed – who spent his youth

working as a commercial plumbing contractor in remote areas of Alberta and northern Canada before transitioning into real estate to be closer to family – recognized that the brokerage industry was ripe for disruption. In order to keep up, he knew that he needed to learn new skills.

"The bricks-and-mortar model of our business is broken," he notes. "People can go online and pick out a warehouse if they want. You have to be able to add more value."

Gleed first considered doing his MBA 10 years ago when he was President and Broker of Record at DTZ Barnicke, London Windsor Sarnia Ltd. But the timing just wasn't right, he says.

In 2012, Gleed and his wife founded Gleed Commercial – an independent boutique brokerage – and in 2015, he stepped into a classroom for the first time in 47 years.

The first week at Ivey's Spencer Leadership Centre was "intense," says Gleed, but he soon learned how to



juggle the demands of running his own business, his course work, and a busy family life.

"You learn to focus on what's important," he says.

The analytical skills he learned at Ivey have been well worth the effort, he adds.

"Now when I meet a client, I go in and study their strategy and goals so I can understand where they are going. It's not just about selling real estate and making a commission," says Gleed. "It allows me to add value in a constructive way, which is quite powerful. It helps build lasting relationships."

engineers seeking their Ontario professional accreditation for the past several years. I am very honoured to have received this appointment and I look forward to serving the Ontario engineering community and the Ontario public in this role.”

**Pierre Gagne, MBA '85,** writes, “I have three amazing adult children, all doing well. I got married at the age of 60 this summer to the most amazing and beautiful woman. Still a Bay Street business address in real estate working with my wife (gagnerealestate.ca). We travel, attend artistic performances of all types, ski, do canoe tripping, work from the cottage in August, dance, see our friends, and enjoy our kids. Health is good and life couldn't be better.”

**Warren Gilman, MBA '85,** has been appointed to NexGen Energy's Board of Directors.

**Jay Grewal, MBA '85,** has been appointed President and CEO of Northwest Territories Power Corporation.

**Michael Heath, MBA '85,** and **Brian Piening, MBA '85,** friends from Section 3, spent 25 days this past fall trekking in Nepal, again. Additional classmate **Bill Stewart, MBA '85,** will join this pair for two weeks of trekking in Peru next spring. The joys of retirement.



**Gail Kassie, MBA '85,** is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 24.

**Steve Kirstiuk, MBA '85,** writes, “I have been with a family-owned business for the last 15 years that has been successful in expanding internationally. My son Robert Kirstiuk was named a 2017 Thiel fellow for his entrepreneurial efforts. He and his partner were just selected for the 30 Under 30

for retail and e-commerce by *Forbes* as well. His company, Coastline Market, is focused on providing seafood direct from commercial fishermen to restaurants.”

**Allen Morrison, MBA '85,** was appointed CEO and Director General of the Thunderbird School of Global Management, Arizona State University, in December 2014. He resides in Glendale, Ariz.

**Paul Thomas, HBA '85,** has been named Chair of the Huntsville Hospital Foundation.

## 1986

**Larry Crossan, LLB/MBA '86,** see note under 1985 (Mary Crossan).

## 1987

**Dino DiCenzo, HBA '87,** has been appointed to the 2021 Canada Summer Games Host Society Board of Directors.

**Mary-Caroline (Edwards) Tillman, MBA '87,** has joined Russell Reynolds Associates as Co-Leader of its Global Financial Services Practice.

## 1988

**Elizabeth (Sarna) Brims, HBA '88,** is now the Manager, Ontario Works Transformation for the Regional Municipality of York.

**Mike Taylor, MBA '88,** is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 10.

## 1989

**Bob Ford, HBA '89,** writes, “I've traded the parka for surf shorts, and accepted a position as Managing Director and Legal Affairs at Concordia Pharmaceuticals Inc. in St. Michael, Barbados. Anyone coming down to Barbados, please look me up.”

**James Gardner, HBA '89,** writes, “Having survived a first stint as an adjunct professor at Boston's Northeastern University, I'm back this fall with a new graduate-level course on social media and brand implementation. Find me on #socialmedia to learn more. On a separate note, birthdays and other life events brought us (from left to right, **Jim Foote, MBA '95,** **Kevin Rosen, Michael Hunter, Mark Hoogeveen, MBA '96,** and **James Gardner, all HBA '89**) to Michael's home near Philadelphia for the weekend. Golfing and HBA memories ensued.”



**Nicole (Dias) Haggerty, HBA '89, PhD '04,** is featured in two articles in this issue of *Intouch*. See pages 10 and 11.

**Heather MacLean, HBA '89,** is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 24.

## 1990

**Lois Nahirney, MBA '90,** was named one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women for 2017 by Women's Executive Network.

## 1991

**Niraj Bhargava, MBA '91,** is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 18.

**Mary (O'Brien) Crossan, MBA '85, PhD '91,** see note under 1985.

## 1992

**Scott Irvine, MBA '92,** has joined GES as General Manager of Toronto.

**Fraser Johnson, HBA '82, MBA '92, PhD '95,** see note under 1982.

**Tim Kuepfer, HBA '92,** writes, “25 years goes by far more quickly than I thought. After graduation, I moved to Toronto and there I met my lovely wife Micheline. I acquired my CFA designation and sold quantitative software and data to institutional investors for 20 years, while raising three beautiful daughters now aged 12, 14, and 16 and living in Don Mills. Along the way I ran triathlons, adventure races, and climbed mountains in my spare time. Then I decided to finally do something entrepreneurial. We bought some land, planted some vines, and launched a winery. Now I'm the grower/winemaker/proprietor at Broken Stone Winery in Prince Edward County. Follow our blog at brokenstone.ca”



**Stephannie Larocque, HBA '92,** writes, “Notes from a 25th reunion: You might find yourself in a bar just south of the Ceeps after 11 p.m. on a Saturday night, having a tequila shot with the girls whom you used to go dancing with, while the guys play pool. You might find yourself chatting with one of your former favourite professors. You might find yourself reminiscing over 48-hour reports with some of your study group members. You might find yourself thinking, ‘Wow, s/he hasn't changed a bit.’ You might find yourself debating the merits of the Myers-Briggs test you took way back when. You might find yourself cheering on a classmate who is being honoured as a distinguished alumni, someone with whom you once competed for grades. You might find yourself hugging the classmate whom you bunked with on that trip to Spain. You might find yourself mourning the classmate you've

all lost, who died too soon. You might find yourself, stopped in your tracks, when you hear the unforgettable laughter of a classmate. You might ask yourself, ‘Was I in Section 1 or Section 2?’ You might stop and pinch yourself, and remember that you are a very lucky person, having graduated from HBA.”

**Mark Shuper, HBA '92,** is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 32.

**Sukhinder Singh Cassidy, HBA '92,** has been elected as Director of the Board of Urban Outfitters.

## 1994

**James Paterson, HBA '94,** has been appointed Senior Vice-President and Business Development Officer of PNC Bank.

**Andrea Poptsis, HBA '94,** writes, “Very proud to be wrapping up my stint as the CFO of the Invictus Games Toronto 2017 Organizing Committee. It was an incredible experience that resulted in an inspirational week-long event that brought awareness to the challenges facing our military men and women and veterans, and quite frankly, all people living with a visible or invisible disability. It was also great to meet up with fellow alum **Laurence Applebaum, HBA '94,** and his wife Jen at our golf competition at Royal St. George's.”



## 1995

**Jim Foote, HBA '89, MBA '95,** see note under 1989 (James Gardner).

**Fraser Johnson, HBA '82, MBA '92, PhD '95,** see note under 1982.

## Homecoming 2017

Ivey's Homecoming Weekend is one of the most successful events of its kind in Canada. Check out what took place at our 2017 event below. To see all 2017 photos and learn more about Homecoming, visit [ivey.ca/alumni/homecoming](http://ivey.ca/alumni/homecoming)

Saturday

### 9 a.m. Welcome Back Open House

A record-breaking 1,100 alumni and friends returned to the School and enjoyed a complimentary breakfast while touring Ivey's award-winning facility, guided by student volunteers.



### 10 a.m. Lecture Series

Alumni learned how Ivey's Programs have strategically evolved over the years to remain highly competitive. Executive Director, Masters Programs, J.D. Clarke, EMBA '10, and Director, HBA Recruiting & Admissions, Amy Bryson, answered their questions.



### 10:30 a.m. Pledge Ceremony

After reciting the Ivey Pledge to act honourably and ethically, alumni received a unique, individually numbered Ivey Ring.



### 11:30 a.m. Dean's Welcome

Acting Dean Mark Vandembosch, HBA '84, hosted all attendees in Ivey's BMO Financial Group Auditorium. Mark, alongside Ivey Alumni Network Chair Michael Bernstein, MBA '96, honoured this year's award recipients (see page 52), and announced that an incredible \$5.2 million was raised by reunion classes.



Next Ivey Homecoming:  
October 19-21, 2018.

Special reunions  
planned for classes  
ending in '3 and '8.

## 1 p.m. Case Study

Participating in a case study with Professor Rob Austin, alumni explored “Neurodiversity as a Competitive Advantage” in the workplace.



## 6 p.m. Private Class Celebrations

Personalized events with classmates were attended at restaurants, venues, and houses throughout London.



## 12 p.m. Lunch with Classmates

A complimentary lunch was enjoyed by all, gathering with classmates in designated classrooms. As the time neared 1 p.m., some guests headed over to TD Stadium to watch the Western Mustangs face-off against the Ottawa Gee Gees – and win!



## Sunday 9:30 a.m.

### Golden Alumni Brunch

More than 160 alumni and guests celebrated 50+ years since graduation at this special brunch honouring their remarkable milestone.



**Ted Lawson, MBA '95**, writes, "My family and I have returned to Canada from Australia after two years. Our time in Melbourne was a great experience for all and I especially enjoyed building a consumer goods business for Saputo as GM, Marketing. My next adventure is well under way in Canada as I lead our Canadian business through a new ERP implementation. If you are in Montreal, feel free to reach out."



**Alexa Nick, MBA '95**, writes, "On July 1, 2017, my firm BottomLine Group joined Optimus | SBR. Since 2002, BottomLine Group has grown from six consultants to over 80 and has evolved into a diversified boutique management consulting firm with expertise in strategy, enablement, transformation, sourcing and risk. By joining Optimus | SBR we are now seven partners strong with over 200 people and growing, and we are able to offer clients in-depth data analytics, process improvement, and project and program management. We can now claim the top spot as the largest independent consulting firm in Canada! I am excited about the next phase of my professional journey as a partner in the firm, as a leader in our strategy and organizational enablement offerings, and as we continue to develop our learning solutions through our unique virtual platform, myPractice."



**Christina Maco, HBA '95**, writes, "I have moved back to my hometown, London, after spending many years in Toronto working with Deloitte. I am in my second year of teaching in the DAN Management and Organizational Studies Program at Western, and loving it!"



**Chris Marschall, HBA '95**, writes, "After more than six years in Hong Kong (five of which working for a leading Asian investment bank) and 22 overseas in banking, I am entering the next phase of my career and am looking to announce the next move in early 2018. Family is doing great — boys are growing up quickly (12 and 10 now) and Mrs. M continues to dazzle and amaze with her culinary career!"



**Martin Stapleton, HBA '95**, writes, "I'm now living in a parallel universe — this one being the OTHER London (the U.K. variety), where we've been for 15 years (the "we" being my wife Kelley and our three kids, and dog). While London, Ont. seems like another world and time, I miss my classmates and wish whomever is reading this well. Please don't be a stranger if you find yourself here (living or visiting). Work-wise I'm at a hedge fund (long/short equity), and what has NOT changed, at least since HBA, is I continue to learn about new companies and industries which at least keeps life interesting."

## 1996

**Roger Beharry Lall, HBA '96**, writes, "Two quick updates — personal and professional. Last year, I finally got around to tying the knot! Married a woman all the way from France (guess I still have that international travel bug!) and we just celebrated our first anniversary in July. Professionally, lots of change there as well, having just joined Think Research as their Senior Vice-President, Marketing. This fast-growing, Toronto-based "scale up" develops software for the very challenging (but very rewarding) health-care sector. If you're in Toronto... look me up!"

**Michael Bernstein, MBA '96**, is featured in three articles in this issue of *Intouch*. See pages 6, 38, and 44.

**Mark Hoogveen, HBA '89, MBA '96**, see note under 1989 (James Gardner).

**Will Meijer, HBA '96**, writes, "Many will remember me as Molson Will, starting with the brewery after my second year at Western. Well, after 22 years in various roles with Molson Coors, and most recently leading its craft subsidiary, the Six Pints Specialty Beer Company, I have made the decision to leave and start the new chapter of my career. I have joined Arterra Wines

Canada as Senior Vice-President, Sales. Arterra was formerly Constellation Brands Canada and was recently purchased by Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan. We are in the process of standing the company back up as a 100 per cent Canadian-owned winery and Canada's largest maker and marketer of wines. Cheers!"

**Ben Thomas, HBA '96**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 24.

**Kevin Williams, HBA '96, MBA '01**, has been elected to the Board of Directors of Organic Garage.

## 1997

**Sandra Bosela, HBA '97**, was named one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women for 2017 by Women's Executive Network.

**Linda Hasenfratz, EMBA '97**, has been named to the NAFTA Council, a negotiation advisory group. She has also been named to *Financial Post's* Power List, and was named one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women for 2017 by Women's Executive Network. Linda is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 12.

**Danylo Klufas, MBA '97**, writes, "Moved with wife and three children (10, 8, and 6) from Toronto to Barbados for a two-year financial services contract. Likely to be extended!"



**Anthony Ostler, MBA '97**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 32.

## 1998

**Brian Astl, HBA '98**, has been awarded Canada's 2018 Clean50 award for his work in driving the success of Lind Equipment's proprietary

LED Jobsite system of LED lights for the construction industry. His leadership and vision at the company has created a product that is changing the face of construction site lighting, saving electricity, labour, and materials.

**Scott Vanderwel, HBA '98**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 38.

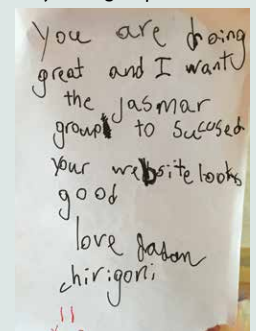
## 1999

**Thomas MacInnis, MBA '99**, has been appointed Director of Claim Post Resources Inc.

**Nishit Shah, MBA '99**, joined the digital services team at the Canadian Cancer Society in August 2017. He's hoping to connect with alumni that are working in the non-profit space. Feel free to send him a note at nishit.shah@cancer.ca

## 2000

**Sylvia Apostolidis, MBA '00**, writes, "After 12 years working as a diversity and inclusion consultant (with a focus on women in the workplace), I recently launched my company, The Jasmargroup. I spent most of this year digging into the question, "How can we make faster progress?" and learning the ropes of being an entrepreneur! I'm pretty excited to bring a more innovative approach, based on science and design thinking, to help companies with this complex and important issue. The company incorporates the names of my twin boys, Jason and Marco, now 10 years old and huge advocates for equality. (They also are my strongest supporters!) Visit thejasmargroup.com"





## Ivey Lives Remembered



## Dick Sharpe, HBA '50 1925-2017

By Declan Kelly

By the time Dick Sharpe began his business career at Simpsons in 1950, he was already a decorated RCAF veteran and widely considered a war hero. Having flown many of his combat missions in South East Asia using only astronavigation, Sharpe would show similar instincts in navigating his successful professional life. Starting as a young mail order management trainee, he soon rose to leadership roles within the firm and its various iterations, en route to becoming Sears Canada Inc.

Appointed Chairman and CEO in 1979, Sharpe transformed Sears into a dominant force in Canadian retail over the following decade. He was awarded the International

Retailer of the Year in 1987, and Distinguished Canadian Retailer prior to retiring as CEO in 1989. He remained as Chairman until 1995, and as “Honorary Director” until 2005. Sharpe shared his experience and business acumen with many community and business associations including the Ivey Advisory Board (IAB) from 1979 to 2000, when he received the Ivey Distinguished Service Award, and remained an emeritus IAB member.

Sharpe’s obituary in *The Globe and Mail* quotes his longtime friend and fellow Order of Canada recipient Lynton (Red) Wilson, who said that Sharpe “represented the very best of Canada.” The piece goes on to describe Sharpe as a “wartime hero, business leader, community supporter, and dedicated family man.”

He is survived by his wife Peggy, and his children Lisette, David, Kate, and Sarah.

**Dominic Atkinson, MBA '00**, lives in Toronto with his wife Cathy and four kids (James, 16, Ben, 14, Maggie, 11, and Craig, 9). On the work front, he co-founded Dig Insights in 2010. Dig has almost 50 employees, a global client base, and in 2017 was named to the Profit 500, a list of the fastest-growing companies in Canada based on five-year revenue.

**Patrick Brady, MBA '00**, writes, “After 16 years of sales and trading life in Tokyo (I don’t remember any liver management classes at Ivey), Emi and I packed up our two boys, Jack and Ben, and moved the family to Honolulu and purchased a Great Harvest Bread franchise. As small business owners, we took a huge pay cut and a big increase in workload, but it was just the challenge we needed as technology and Dodd-Frank weaned those of us with a little smarts and slightly more personality to find another way to make an honest living. Drop us a line if for some reason you find yourself in the middle of the Pacific.”

**Allan Carl Buitendag, MBA '00**, writes, “I continue to live in midtown Toronto with my wife, three kids, two cats, and a dog. Happily still working at PwC Canada where I am a partner, and lead the national insurance practice.”

**Rory Capern, HBA '00, MBA '04**, has joined Pelmorex Corp. as Vice-President of Partnerships.

**Suzanne Gouin, EMBA '00**, has been appointed to the Canada Revenue Agency Board of Management as Chair.

**Jodi Kovitz, HBA '00**, was named one of Canada’s Top 100 Most Powerful Women for 2017 by Women’s Executive Network.

**Patrick Mitchell, MBA '00**, writes, “It’s been many years since my last Class Notes submission and much has transpired. After working for Deere and Sandborn in Alberta, I took a lesson from *The Seven Laws of Money*: be very good at what you can do and don’t focus on money. In a holistic way, it has worked. Having settled on the West Coast in 2010, I share my time

between Whistler, Vancouver, and Squamish doing what my wife – and a few others – tells me to do. This has innumerable rewards, not the least of which is sleeping soundly every night. For leisure, our family skis in the winter and plays tennis in the summer, though free time is not our strong suit. It will surprise a few of my friends to learn I’m active with the school’s PTA and our homeowner’s association, proving I do actually care about my neighbours. What I’m really excited about however is serving as the Class Liaison for MBA 2000 because I have always had a soft spot for Ivey, my classmates, and the years I was there. You allowed me to live a dream. A big thanks to all the people who have already shown keen interest in HOCO 2020. We’re going to put on a show you will not soon forget!”

**Francis Pun, MBA '00**, had the pleasure of reuniting with his section head, Professor Jim Hatch, during the China Study Tour stop in Hong Kong in December. He was a

guest speaker who shared his thoughts on data analytics and innovation program management from his work at TE Connectivity – a company that specializes in industrial electronics design and manufacturing.

**Dongxu Qiu, EMBA '00**, writes, “Since receiving my MBA degree, I moved to Toronto and joined MDS Capital for five years before I moved back to China. Then I founded CanSino Biologics Inc. with three other partners in 2009. Since then I have helped the company to raise \$120 million (USD) and received \$20 million (USD) from various governments. Currently, we have one product approved for marketing (Ebola vaccine) and two products in late phase III studies.”



**Tauseef Riaz, MBA '00**, writes, “I returned to Canada after spending 11 exciting years abroad working in emerging markets in Asia, Africa, and South America, building and investing in digital businesses. I also recently joined the Industrial Research Assistance Program at the National Research Council of Canada, providing growth funding and advisory services to high-growth tech SMEs.”

## 2001

**Alysia Borsa, MBA '01**, named Chief Marketing and Data Officer at Meredith Corporation.

**Zainul (Rajan) Mawji, MBA '01**, has been appointed to the Edmonton Public Library Board of Trustees.

**Matthew Ng, EMBA '01**, writes, “Taking the advice of our beloved MAC professor and then EMBA program director Murray Bryant, I switched careers from being a practicing engineer to join Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO) to be their Manager, Chapters in 2007. The photo here is my 10th

Continued on Page 48 →

work anniversary at PEO and the person on the left of the picture is the Registrar of PEO. Really, it is 10 years! Time flies when you are having fun, but I am still improving on my emotional intelligence every day!”

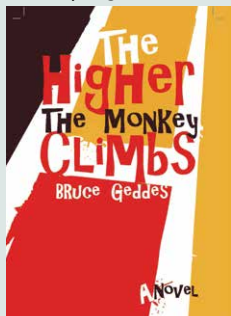


**Dalip Puri, MBA '01**, named Vice-President and Treasurer of AMETEK, Inc.

**Kevin Williams, HBA '96, MBA '01**, see note under 1996.

## 2002

**Bruce Geddes, MBA '02**, writes, “My novel, *The Higher the Monkey Climbs*, will be released by NON Publishing in the spring of 2018.”



**Nick Kuzyk, HBA '02, MBA '08**, writes, “On May 20, I married my beautiful wife Lori Cutler in Kelowna, B.C. After a fantastic party in Canada’s paradise, we enjoyed Disneyland, Tahiti, Moorea, and Bora Bora for our honeymoon. Ain’t life grand? I’m a very lucky guy.”



**Rebecca McKillican, HBA '02**, has been named to National Bank’s Board of Directors as a member of the Human Resources Committee.

**Harvey Naglie, EMBA '02**, has been appointed to the Investor Advisory Panel of the Ontario Securities Commission.

## 2003

**Rohan Belliappa, HBA '03, MBA '10**, has been appointed President of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Singapore.

**Sanjiv Gupta, MBA '03**, has been appointed President and Managing Director of General Motors India.

**Indervir Shergill, MBA '03**, writes, “I’ve been looking after my farm near the foothills of the Himalayas (not far from Nepal). I’ve recently inherited a cottage in the hills and I’m in the process of refurbishing it. I’d be glad to host my Ivey friends. The cottage overlooks the Rajaji National Park, home to leopards.”

## 2004

**Vanessa Aiello, MBA '04**, writes, “Paolo and I welcomed our second child, Olimpia Berenice, on September 10. Her big brother, Winston, is totally smitten. If ever in Lausanne, please look us up.”

**Dan Benoit, MBA '04**, has been appointed Executive Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Equispheres Inc.

**Rory Capern, HBA '00, MBA '04**, see note under 2000.

**Larissa Chaikowsky, MBA '04**, has been appointed to the American Red Cross of Chicago and Northern Illinois’ Board of Directors.

**Daniel Fanaberia, HBA '04**, writes, “We moved to Montreal, my hometown, with our sons, Dylan and Nolan. I’m building cloud commerce marketplace partnerships for AppDirect, and still find time

to perform in television shows, including recent roles on *Dark Matter*, *Haven*, and *Forgive Me. Stay in touch!*”



**Dan Freiheit, LLB/MBA '04**, recently became a Certified Specialist in Corporate and Commercial Law by the Law Society of Upper Canada, a designation held by only 26 Ontario lawyers in this specialty (among 49,000 lawyers). His firm, Lion Law, recently celebrated its 11th anniversary. Dan lives with his wonderful wife and four children in Toronto.

**William Gradin, MBA '04**, writes, “Currently Vice-President of Product Management for IOT at Salesforce after a brief stint at Google.”

**Nicole (Dias) Haggerty, HBA '89, PhD '04**, see note under 1989.

**David Itzkovits, MBA '04**, writes, “All is well in Boston with the family. I have been made CEO of Sanlam Global Investment Solutions (SGIS). SGIS is a subsidiary of Sanlam, a 17,000-person, \$104B South African life/investment company. SGIS utilizes an artificial intelligence, machine learning investment engine to deliver better investment outcomes for clients. It’s the most interesting work I have done in financial services in my career. If ever in Boston, let me know!”



**Richard Robarts, MBA '04**, writes, “This past year I moved to a new role in TD Securities as Head of U.S. Global Financial

Institutions after about 11 years in corporate banking. More interestingly, my team and I won the Shark 24 Sailing World Championships at RCYC in July. We had 47 boats from four countries including four former world championship boats, several professionals and former Olympic sailors. We’ve had the boat for nine years, but finally had the right team (all comes back to OB class).”



**Matt Simpson, MBA '04**, writes, “I have started a new role as Vice-President, Ontario Region for Raintree Financial Solutions. We marry traditional investments in public stocks and bonds as a portfolio manager with alternative investments, such as private equity and real estate. We underwrite and raise capital for established private businesses looking to expand.”

## 2005

**Bill Brock, MBA '63, LLD '05**, see note under 1963.

**Nick Dean, EMBA '05**, has been appointed CEO of Emblem Corp.

**Mike Fizzell, HBA '05**, has joined Atlas Partners as Principal.

**Benji Sucher, HBA '05**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 18.

## 2007

**Omar Dhalla, MBA '07**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 18.

**Graeme Jennings, MBA '07**, has been appointed Vice-President, Corporate Development and Investor Relations of Wellgreen Platinum Ltd.

**Josh Silvertown, MBA '07**, writes, “I was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) by Her Excellency, the Right Honourable Julie Payette, Governor General of Canada in December 2017, recognizing the work I did in creating and developing e-mentoring programs for northern Canadian youth.”

**Sarah Sklash, HBA '07**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 16.

**Darcy Tkachuk, EMBA '07**, was appointed as Vice-Chair of the Yukon Capability & Consent Board.

**Ashley (Thompson) von Martels, HBA '07**, writes, “I am excited to announce the launch of my new business – Summerhill Naturopathic Clinic. After six years in corporate banking at CIBC, I decided to switch careers and become a naturopathic doctor. It took forever – I spent four years back in school and one year completing board exams. I have now launched my clinic in Toronto and I’m accepting patients! Have a look at my website: [summerhillnaturopathic.com](http://summerhillnaturopathic.com)”



## 2008

**Bonnie Brooks, EMBA '08**, has joined Smooth Commerce’s Advisory Group. Bonnie also received the Order of Canada on November 17, 2017.

**Jamie Hyodo, HBA '08**, writes, “After pursuing a post-HBA PhD at Penn State University, I was hired by the University of Nebraska and just completed my first year as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Marketing.”

**Nick Kuzyk, HBA '02, MBA '08**, see note under 2002.

Caregiver Support



# Revolutionary Robot

Jon Morris, MBA '84, is helping people with developmental disabilities maintain their independence

By Brenda Bouw

Jon Morris says he graduated from Ivey “feeling very entrepreneurial.” After three years working for a heavy equipment company in Edmonton, Alta., Morris got married and moved to Vancouver, B.C. to start his own management consultant business. The work snowballed and, in 1996, a custom software development company, JDQ

Systems Inc., was formed.

JDQ has since helped a wide range of companies manage software, automation, and IT projects, but one of its most ambitious projects to date is a collaborative service robot that helps people with developmental disabilities maintain their independence.

The robot, named Aether, uses

facial recognition and other technologies to interact with people and to provide some basic needs such as scheduling activities, providing information, and even telling jokes when prompted. It can also navigate autonomously throughout a home, recognize emotions, and monitor activities, including if a resident were to fall or even have a seizure.

Aether is part of the JDQ 3Spheres Robotics Project, launched in 2015, and is being tested at several group homes in the Vancouver area. It’s a partnership between JDQ and the Developmental Disabilities Association, together with post-doctoral students at the University of British Columbia and Simon Fraser University, funded by Mitacs and NSERC.



PHOTOGRAPHER: LINDSAY SIU

Morris wants to be clear that the robot wasn’t created to replace humans, but instead to offer support for caregivers, especially as the population ages and more people are in need of care.

“It’s not a companion. It’s a concierge,” Morris says. “It helps to facilitate more human contact, rather than eliminate it.”

He says the robot, which is still in the development stage, is a continuation of the entrepreneurial drive he developed at Ivey more than 50 years ago.

His company is hoping to commercialize the robot in the near future and expand its use into eldercare and other types of caregiving facilities.

Share  
& Wear

# Fashion for a Fraction

Chris Cundari, HBA '15, is the co-founder of Boro, a peer-to-peer marketplace for women to borrow and lend clothing

By Wallace Immen



PHOTOGRAPHER: NATION WONG

Chris Cundari says he never imagined he'd go into the business of renting designer fashion. But an exchange program experience in Barcelona during his final year at Ivey started him thinking about how to become part of the sharing economy. "I used Airbnb and Uber extensively while abroad and idolized their business models: finding assets that were underused and create incredible value from it. I wanted to be part of this new wave of business."

After Cundari graduated, he helped a suit business that was having operational issues. "I ended up staying for a year and got a fascinating introduction into the fashion business," he says.

He later met Natalie Festa, who became his partner in Boro. "She experienced firsthand the issue women have of needing outfits for events and always having to look different. They can end up with a closet full of expensive dresses

they've only worn once and yet always feel they have nothing to wear."

They decided to create a marketplace for women to rent dresses, bags, and accessories for a fraction of what they'd cost to buy new. "My Ivey degree was essential because it educated me on the principles of thinking strategically,



encouraged me to be curious about the world, and taught me how to use business to turn ideas into action," he says.

Launched in May 2017, the business received strong support in the media and word of mouth. Boro's website allows customers to shop without coming into their showroom in downtown Toronto, and a stylist can help pick outfits from a growing inventory that match the clients' needs. Every time someone rents a piece, the lender makes 50 per cent of gross revenue.

"A lot of what Boro stands for is freedom from the burden of ownership. If you don't need to spend all that money for a single event, you can use that capital for something that's more valuable. But there's also the environmental side, where fashion is one of the biggest sources of waste. What you wear should leave you looking killer without killing the planet."

**Ivey Lives Remembered**

## John Carroll, HBA '56 1933-2017

By Declan Kelly

In the late 1980s, John Carroll was tasked with turning around the fortunes of Canada's oldest brewer, to enable Molson to better compete in a changing North American marketplace. His remit as President and CEO of Molson was as concise as it was challenging: overtake longtime rival Labatt for top spot in market share in Canada's increasingly competitive brewing sector.

Carroll embarked on an ambitious strategy of merging with the country's number-three brewer, Carling O'Keefe, coupled with a revamped marketing program. The complicated merger resulted in the new Molson Breweries controlling more than 50 per cent of the domestic market by 1991,

while delivering savings and efficiencies that helped solidify its new position as Canada's largest brewer.

Throughout his high-stakes plays at Molson, and at previous leadership roles at Proctor & Gamble and Warner-Lambert, Carroll's guiding principle was that "people are more important than products" in building or transforming businesses, which led many colleagues and friends to seek his advice and mentorship. Carroll was the 1992 recipient of Ivey's prestigious Business Leader Award.

He is survived by his wife Barbara and children Jennifer, Suzi, and Lisa, along with four grandchildren.



→ Continued from Page 48

**Shaun Schwarz, HBA '08**, writes, "I'm still living in Israel and loving every day! I work as Manager of Marketing Infrastructure for a marketing services company called Nu Mark Innovations. My wife Kaila and I will be celebrating our 10-year anniversary this December, just in time for the expected arrival of our fifth child."

### 2009

**Mary-Jane (Mastrandrea) Burkett, HBA '09**, and **Sean Burkett, HBA '09**, welcomed their first baby, Andrea, in September 2017. Watch out HBA class of 2039!



**Courtney (Allen) Campbell, HBA '09**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 18.

**Wayne Kreppner, EMBA '09**, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Impopharma Inc.

### 2010

**Rohan Belliappa, HBA '03, MBA '10**, see note under 2003.

**Michael Branco, EMBA '10**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 18.

**J.D. Clarke, EMBA '10**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 44.

**Jeff Detz, HBA '10**, see note under 2011 (Shazia Ladak).

**Emily Du, HBA '10**, writes, "My daughter, Kayley Yuhan Ding, was born on May 17, 2017. She lives in Boston with her mom and dad, and aspires to be part of the Ivey HBA Class of 2039!"



**Charles Korn, HBA '10**, has been honoured as one of *Forbes* 30 Under 30 Class of 2018 in the category of finance. Charles is a partner at Pershing Square Capital Management, LP.

**Maheen Memon, MBA '10**, was recently promoted to Director of Customer Success at Nulogy.

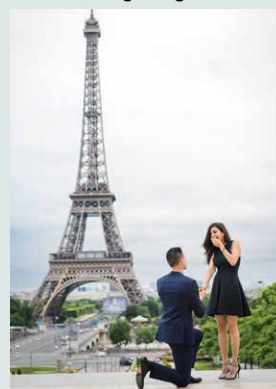
**Pierre Morrissette, MBA '72, LLD '10**, see note under 1972.

**Jonathan To, HBA '10**, writes, "Practicing dispute advisory, litigation support, and forensic accounting at KPMG LLP in Toronto. Always seeking the next adventure – culinary and/or travel!"



### 2011

**Shazia Ladak, HBA '11, MBA '15**, and **Jeff Detz HBA '10**, who met in HBA Section 4 back in 2008, are getting married!



**Kevin Yuen, HBA '11**, has been named one of 2017's Top 30 Under 30 in Sustainability by *Corporate Knights*.

### 2012

**George Cope, HBA '84, LLD '12**, see note under 1984.

**Paul J. Hill, MBA '69, LLD '12**, see note under 1969.

**Kyle Maclean, HBA '12, PhD '17**, see note under PhD.

**Prem Watsa, MBA '74, LLD '12**, see note under 1974.

### 2013

**Sébastien Bourassa, EMBA '13**, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Savaria Corporation.

**Oliver Dempsey, HBA '13**, writes, "Congrats **Matt Page** and **Jessica Carducci**, both **HBA '13**, on your engagement from your Section 3 class!"

**Neil Hetherington, EMBA '13**, has been named CEO of the Daily Bread Food Bank.

**Richard W. Ivey, HBA '72, LLD '13**, see note under 1972.

**Shalyn Orange, HBA '13, MSc '14**, writes, "I decided to give up corporate work life to open up my own custom cake studio and bakery. And whilst it was probably one of the most frightening moments of my life, I've never been happier! I am now the proud owner

Continued on Page 52 →

of The Canadian Cupcakery (canadiancupcakery.nl) in The Hague, Netherlands and I've already had the chance to work with some amazing clients, including The Embassy of Canada, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and Air Canada."



## 2014

**John Chayka, HBA '14**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 10.

**Mark Chrusciak, EMBA '14**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 24.

**Max Mantha, MBA '14**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 17.

**Paul Mitskopoulos, HBA '14**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 10.

**Shalyn Orange, HBA '13, MSc '14**, see note under 2013.

**Cato Pastoll, HBA '14**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 10.

**Diane Ring, MBA '14**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 17.

**Brandon Vlaar, HBA '14**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 10.

## 2015

**Chris Cundari, HBA '15**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 50.

**Shazia Ladak, HBA '11, MBA '15**, see note under 2011.

**Dawn Laing, EMBA '15**, was a part of the team that launched a modern twist to traditional manufacturing, Notion Manufacturing (notion.ca), in January 2017. The B2B tool allows creatives, brands, and bands to sustainably run their online stores with on-demand manufacturing and

fulfillment out of the Notion studio (located in Toronto) with no minimums. The Notion team has successfully launched their beta API and their services are now being used locally and internationally to support online stores from acclaimed artists to internationally renowned brands. Prior to her Ivey EMBA degree and entrepreneurial endeavors, Dawn was working as an executive for the federal government at Environment Canada.



**Jyoti Lamba, MBA '15**, married Kiranbir Sodhia on August 5, 2017 in Jasper, Alta. She writes, "I have also moved to the San Francisco Bay Area. If you're in the area, please reach out! Always great to connect with fellow alumni."



## 2016

**Rick Glead, EMBA '16**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 42.

**Vanessa Hasse, PhD '16**, was the recipient of the 2017 IM Division D'Amore-McKim School of Business, Northeastern University Dissertation Award at the AOM Conference.

**Colin Lernell, HBA '16**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 18.

**Fahad Tariq, MBA '16**, travelled to Pakistan in September to visit remote villages where his recently launched non-profit, Shift,

operates (shiftwastenow.com). Shift builds energy domes that convert cow manure into clean cooking fuel, providing free energy to those who lack it.



## 2017

**Alex Cazi, EMBA '17**, is featured in an article in this issue of *Intouch*. See page 14.

**Colin MacDonald, HBA '17**, has been named Assistant General Manager of the London Knights.

**Guillaume Vulliez, EMBA '17**, has joined Tier1CRM, the Capital Market CRM Vision Leader, as Quality Release Manager. A few weeks later, he organized a corporate team of volunteers to participate in the charity CN Tower Climb on November 5, 2017 and raise funds for United Way, Toronto and York Region.



**Charlie Wall-Andrews, EMBA '17**, has been named one of 2017's Top 30 Under 30 in Sustainability by *Corporate Knights*.

## PhD

**Ramzi Fathallah, PhD '17**, successfully defended his thesis entitled "Before Exit: Three Essays on Business Exit in Politically and Economically Adverse Environments" on August 2, 2017. He has accepted a position as Assistant Professor in Management at the

Olayan School of Business – American University of Beirut.

**Salar Ghamat, PhD '17**, successfully defended his thesis entitled "Three Essays on Incentive Problems of Parties with Potential Conflict of Interest" on September 7, 2017. He has accepted a position as Assistant Professor, Lazaridis School of Business & Economics at Wilfrid Laurier University.

**Kyle Maclean, HBA '12, PhD '17**, successfully defended his thesis entitled "Essays in Entertainment Analytics" on June 21, 2017. He has accepted a position as Assistant Professor at the Ivey Business School.

## In Memoriam

Gwen (Carlson) Anders, HBA '47, MBA '48  
Dick Sharpe, HBA '50  
Dick Carr, DBA '51, MBA '52  
Hugh Macpherson, DBA '52  
Douglas McCord, DBA '52, MBA '54  
Thomas McNulty, HBA '52  
Vance Ward, DBA '52  
Hugh Morris, HBA '53  
William Matheson, MBA '55

John Carroll, HBA '56  
David Gallagher, DBA '56  
John Mitchell, HBA '56  
Raymond Moreault, MBA '56  
Ron Sumner, MBA '57  
Bruce Billings, HBA '59  
Fred Deacon, HBA '59  
Bruce Johnson, MBA '61  
Dick Chaffe, MBA '62  
Arthur Paul, MBA '62  
David Livingston, HBA '63  
Bill Magyar, MBA '64  
Ed Prevost, MBA '64  
David Hockin, HBA '65  
Fraser Lindsay, MBA '66  
David Ker, MBA '67  
Bob Luba, MBA '67  
Mati Lehela, MBA '69  
Gerald Woodburn, MBA '69  
John Church, MBA '70, PhD '78  
Stewart Kennedy, MBA '71  
Daniel O'Malley, MBA '73  
Harold Wotten, HBA '73  
Mary Anne (Carrières) de Kergommeaux, MBA '74  
Adrian Herschell, HBA '74  
Nina Cole, MBA '78  
Jay Switzer, MBA '83  
David Weiner, MBA '85  
Charles Blair, MBA '88  
Marc Koyanagi, MBA '91  
Sandeep Dhiman, MBA '06

# Share your news with fellow alumni

Submit your notes and photos for the next issue:

**Online:** [ivey.ca/alumni/classnotes](http://ivey.ca/alumni/classnotes)

**Email:** [intouch@ivey.ca](mailto:intouch@ivey.ca)

**Mail:** *Intouch* Class Notes  
Advancement Department  
Ivey Business School  
1255 Western Road,  
London, ON N6G 0N1

Please note all submissions may be edited for content and length.

All original photos will be returned by request.



# RING IT FWD CONTEST

No one knows better what it takes to be an Ivey MBA than an Ivey alumnus. Share your experience with someone in your network and **ring it forward!** You could be eligible to win\* a trip anywhere in the world worth up to \$10,000 and the candidate you refer will be eligible for a \$5,000 award towards their MBA tuition.

[go.ivey.ca/ringitfwd](http://go.ivey.ca/ringitfwd)



\*See rules and regulations for full contest details at [go.ivey.ca/ringitfwd](http://go.ivey.ca/ringitfwd)



We shared the experience.

We share the network.

We share the pride.

Let's celebrate our own... again!

# Global Ivey Day

May 3, 2018

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