

the insider

A newsletter published for everyone in the Athabasca University community

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COVER IMAGE »

Filmmakers and environmentalists Albert and Pirkko Karvonen have donated \$250,000 to Science Outreach – Athabasca. The Karvonens are passionate about the environment and education, and their vision is to have students read and understand more about science. Science Outreach – Athabasca is a subcommittee of the Centre for Science. Its volunteer members (scientists and people interested in science) strive to promote all forms of science to children and adults in the Greater Athabasca Area and beyond.



Karvonens Support Science Outreach



Posted on The Landing:
<https://landing.athabascau.ca>

Athabasca University

Building on AU's Expertise in Educational Technologies

WITH SUPPORT FROM THE NATIONAL Research Council, AU is putting its expertise in online education and in using technology to facilitate and enhance learning to use in assisting other organizations to develop and use e-learning technologies.

In collaboration with **TRLabs**, a not-for-profit consortium that assists in fast tracking innovation to the marketplace, AU will provide expertise in educational technology to small and medium sized enterprises. The goals of the initiative are to produce enhanced learning technologies, provide employment to local graduates and create additional research and collaborative developmental opportunities for AU faculty and staff.

According to Brian Stewart, vice-president (information technology) and CIO, AU hopes to facilitate a dialogue with small businesses that will benefit both them and the university. The initiative will allow AU to play a greater role in the development of new educational and technological products and services, he said, and provide opportunities for AU employees to access and influence cutting edge technologies.

The educational technology category includes a broad range of technologies that touch on education. Learning management systems such as Moodle or Blackboard are obvious examples, but many others including assessment, content management, student support, information literacy, and even enterprise resource planning systems (such as Banner) that contain student information systems fit into the category.

Generally, small and medium sized enterprises that develop such technologies do not have access to a disinterested third party with whom to discuss their innovations and are reluctant to risk sharing them with potential competitors. Through this new initiative, Stewart said, AU will play the role of an honest broker, allowing businesses to share their ideas in a safe environment and to potentially access experts to assist with technological development.

Through this and other initiatives, AU will

AU hopes to facilitate a dialogue with small businesses that will benefit both them and the university. The initiative will allow AU to play a greater role in the development of new educational and technological products and services

play an increasing role in the development of education technologies, Stewart said, and become an important resource, in both theory and application, for innovators and entrepreneurs. AU has a better grasp of the potential for educational technologies than many small and medium sized enterprises, he said. "In addition, validating a product with potential access to piloting is not really practical or possible for SMEs and is something that AU can provide and benefit from in the process."

Stewart sees adapting AU's expertise in educational technologies to this broader application as a natural extension of the university's position in the online and distance education community, one that will benefit AU students through access to enhanced learning technologies, AU researchers through opportunities for advanced knowledge development and Alberta generally through the development of a vibrant educational technology sector.

The services available from AU through this initiative will include access to researchers and to expertise in learning design, pedagogy, course management, product assessment and validation, piloting, and information technology. The exact details are still in development. "This is very much a research/technology transfer initiative, and we want to be as flexible as possible for all parties," Stewart said.

Over the coming months, Stewart said, AU will continue building relationships with small and medium sized enterprises and pursuing prospects with organizations, both in Alberta and in other parts of Canada, that provide opportunities to use technology enhanced learning directly or to apply AU's expertise in a research or advisory capacity.

Hiromi Goto Becomes AU's Third Writer in Residence

HIROMI GOTO HAS BEEN NAMED AU'S Writer in Residence for 2012-13, the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and the Advancement Office announced earlier this month. She is the third writer to hold the position after Joseph Boyden (2010-11) and Tololwa Mollel (2011-12).

Goto is an award-winning author of fiction for young adults (*Half World*, *Darkest Light*), poetry, short stories and nonfiction. An experienced writer in residence, writing instructor and editor, she brings a rich background to her new position at AU and will be available as a resource to developing writers, both staff and students.

Born in Japan, Goto grew up in British Columbia and Nanton, Alta., the setting of her first novel, *Chorus of Mushrooms* (1994). Her second novel, *The Kappa Child* (2001), was nominated for the Commonwealth Prize for Best Regional Book and received the James Tiptree Jr. Memorial Award. Her work often combines references to Japanese folklore and contemporary urban life.

AU's Writer in Residence Program aims to nurture the art and practice of writing by giving developing writers an opportunity to learn from accomplished authors

AU's Writer in Residence Program aims to nurture the art and practice of writing by giving developing writers an opportunity to learn from accomplished authors who have established their voice. In keeping with AU's commitment to diversity and inclusion of underrepresented groups, the program focuses on authors who explore northern, rural and aboriginal perspectives.

Additional information on the Writer in Residence Program is available on the [WIR website](#). Information on how to contact Goto and on the manuscript submission process and submission guidelines is also available on the website. She will accept submissions beginning October 1, 2012.

AU's Writer in Residence Program is supported by the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Zoomer Media and the CARP Writer for Health Project.

Water Management Alternatives for Alberta

DR. JEREMY SCHMIDT, THE UNIVERSITY OF Western Ontario Trudeau Water Scholar and a Harvard University postdoctoral fellow, will present "Water Management Alternatives for Alberta" at noon on Tuesday, October 2, in Room 2000 of the ARC at AU Athabasca. The presentation is being sponsored by the Athabasca River Basin Research Institute, the Crooked Creek Conservancy Society of Athabasca and the Keepers of the Water, Athabasca Basin Council.

Schmidt's presentation will explain the historical context in which land and water were divided for the purposes of resource governance in Alberta. He will begin by delineating what the respective treatments of land and water were designed to accomplish:

to support a particular conception of the political community claimed to underlie the Canadian state. That conception, which gradually eroded over the course of the twentieth century, excluded alternate conceptions of social organization and of the land-water system itself.

In this context, the presentation will consider two contemporary challenges to effective governance of land-water systems in Alberta: shifting from policies where water is instrumental to land, such as in presumptions that water in situ is not in use (taken up in the context of federal changes to inland water protection passed in the 2012 federal budget) and recognizing the broader community dependent on effective land and water governance

(taken up in the context of federal signals affecting legislation of private property on First Nations territory which, depending on such changes, could have significant effects on water rights). These two federal changes present Alberta's ongoing reforms to water policy with an opportunity to cultivate a broader and more equitable ethic for land and water governance.

AU employees and members of the general community are welcome to attend this free presentation. Those attending can bring a lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided.

AU Donates Laptops to Indian School for Girls



TWENTY-FIVE REFURBISHED AU COMPUTERS have found a new home at the Shankar Prasad Singh Girls School in Dallipur, a small rural town in India.

On September 4 at AU Edmonton, Dr. Mohamed Ally of the Centre for Distance Education presented the laptops to the **Durga Shankar Prasad Singh Development Society**, which runs three schools in the town. The laptops will go to a solar-powered computer lab at the society's school for girls, which provides education to children from poor families and minority groups, girls who might otherwise have no opportunity to attend school.

Dr. Saraswati P. Singh, president of the society and an emeritus professor in the University of Alberta's Faculty of Business, described

computers as a vital source of information and education for the school's students. "We are in dire need of laptop computers," he said. "I want to express my gratitude on behalf of the society for this donation. Athabasca University has been very kind and very forward-looking to have done this."

This is the second time this year that AU has donated laptops to a remote Asian school. In January, Ally and one of his doctoral students, Susan Bainbridge, delivered 48 refurbished laptops to the Mansingh Darma School in Kathmandu, Nepal, creating the first ever computer lab in a Nepalese public school.

For Ally, an expert in mobile learning, the donations support one of his passions: making education more accessible to students

Dr. Mohamed Ally (centre) presents laptops to representatives of the Durga Shankar Prasad Singh Development Society.

everywhere through laptops, smartphones and other mobile devices that provide access to the Internet and online learning. "These donations are another way that AU helps to break down barriers to learning," he said. "I'm proud that we're helping students this way."

Understanding Oil and Democracy in Alberta

OIL AND DEMOCRACY ARE EMERGING AS two overarching themes in the contemporary global political economy. An AU project spearheaded by Dr. Lorna Stefanick and Dr. Meenal Shrivastava in Centre for Social Sciences gave students the chance to discover first-hand how Alberta's dependence on oil affects democratic participation and governance in Alberta and across Canada.

The genesis of the project, Stefanick said, was a phone call from Shrivastava shortly after she was asked to staff a **Community Service Learning** course at the University of Alberta. "Meenal called me thinking that I might be interested in teaching this course," she said, "but I talked her into team teaching it. The course morphed into a project that included collaborative interdisciplinary research, five AU papers presented at the Canadian Political Science Association's annual meeting in Edmonton and AU program students taking a class in person at the U of A with guest lectures by AU faculty."

The project was grounded in Oil and Democracy, a six-week, six-credit, cross disciplinary CSL course at the U of A. Students in the course engaged with a wide variety of literature on democratic institutions and the structures of resource-based economies while doing placements with one of five community partners: Public Interest Alberta, the Pembina Institute, Alberta Workers Health Centre, amiskwaciy Academy or Fruits of Sherbrooke.

In the placements, students experienced first hand how local groups address and reorient the possibilities of democracy in the context of the energy economy. Students considered the concepts they had learned in the context of the reality of Edmonton's non-profit and public sector organizations.

Five AU program students participated in this class. "The youthful energy of the U of A students was wonderfully complemented by the maturity and experiential insights that AU students brought to the class," Shrivastava said "Judging by their unwavering enthusiasm throughout the course, I think this mix benefitted both types of students."

AU professors Dr. Jay Smith, Dr. Joy Fraser, Dr. Manijeh Mannani and Dr. Paul Kellogg delivered guest lectures during the course. Other lecturers were Dr. Trevor Harrison and Ricardo



Some of the Oil and Democracy participants from AU, (left to right) Heather Sawchyn, Lorna Stefanick, Akimi Fukaura and Tim Isberg, take part in the Stalk Exchange, an annual plant and seed exchange, at Fruits of Sherbrooke in Edmonton.

Acuna from the Parkland Institute and Dr. Sara Dorrow of the Department of Sociology at the U of A. A Thursday night public speakers series, co-sponsored by the Parkland Institute and the CSL Program, was attached to the course. One of the series speakers was AU professor Dr. Bob Barnetson, who spoke on labour in a natural resource economy.

AU students Tim Isberg and Doug Lermeyer said that they were attracted to course partly by the "quick win" of earning six credits in six weeks, but both found the experience intense, interesting and very worthwhile. They were also impressed by how little they knew to begin with about a resource on which all Albertans rely so heavily.

Lermeyer's placement was at amiskwaciy Academy. "We were able to connect with some kids and teachers that didn't live and breathe social movements like the other placements," he said. "We had the ability to explore oil and democracy more than any other group, in terms of its impact on youth, schools, aboriginal people, etc. I feel I have made a strong connection both with my classmates in the group and also with amiskwaciy Academy."

Isberg's placement was at Fruits of Sherbrooke. "I was a little anxious about applying oil and democracy to a placement that rescues fruit and makes jam," he said. "It was indeed more abstract and less obvious. However, after time and learning, I had a few a-ha moments and figured out surprising

linkages. The Fruits of Sherbrooke was very much more than just jam. I was very satisfied with our group's eventual presentation and findings."

On the first day of the Canadian Political Science Association's Annual General Meeting in mid June, Stefanick, with Kellogg's assistance, organized three panels: one consisted of members of the Parkland Institute, the other two of the speakers attached to the course. The students attended the two AU/CPSA panels in order to see the link between teaching and research.

The conference papers will become chapters in a book that Shrivastava and Stefanick are editing, which will wrap around their reprinted paper "Do Oil and Democracy Only Clash in the Global South?: Petro Politics in Alberta, Canada," recently published in *New Global Studies* (Vol. 6 (1), Article 5, May 2012). In all, a dozen AU faculty members will be contributing chapters to the book, which will be published by AU Press.

"The logistics of organizing this project were crazy, but the course has been rewarding and we are hoping the end product (the book) will contribute to our understanding of democracy in Alberta," Stefanick said.

Listening to the Ear Bones of Fish



DR. HEIDI SWANSON, A POSTDOCTORAL fellow in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Alberta, will reveal what an ear bone can tell scientists in the next Science Outreach – Athabasca presentation to be held in the Governing Council Chambers at AU Athabasca from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on October 3.

Life for fisheries scientists and managers would be much simpler if fish could talk. They wonder what habitats fish use, if populations are being overharvested and if environmental stresses affect growth and reproduction.

There are many ways to study these aspects of fish ecology, but one innovative technique relies on fish ear bones. Ear bones, or otoliths, aid fish in balance and hearing, record fish growth (think of tree rings) and carry a chemical autobiography of the life of each fish. By

studying ear bone structure and chemistry, scientists can determine fish age and growth, habitat use, exposure to contaminants, frequency of spawning and population health.

In her presentation, Swanson will explore the technique of otolith microchemistry through case histories and examples from many different North American fish species. She will discuss recently-discovered ocean migrations in lake trout (a freshwater fish) and explore how archived otolith collections may be used to study climate change.

Come and learn how a combination of big fish, tiny bones and powerful lasers can teach us how to listen to fish. Admission is free and refreshments will be available after the presentation.

Administrative Systems Renewal Project Update

THE ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEMS RENEWAL Project, launched in January this year to develop an integrated administrative system, one that will permit more efficient data entry and collection and improved access to information, is proceeding on schedule. The resources needed for the new Banner HR and Banner Finance components have been identified.

A draft chart of accounts has been developed and is being loaded into the test system for Banner Finance, and training has been completed for each of the core finance modules. The Banner Finance team is now entering the configuration phase of the project, in which a system will be designed to meet the business needs of the university. Team members have completed technical training and are now starting to convert data from the old legacy system.

Core project teams for the Banner Student System upgrade have been formed and are working on a detailed project plan, to be completed over the next couple of months.

The Banner HR team has begun to configure the new system, concentrating so far on defining positions and jobs. The team has also been working on configuring the benefits and deductions in the new system to begin the process of developing a payroll process.

A technical review document, outlining the level of customization in AU's existing Banner system and assessing the possible impact of the installation of the new Finance and HR modules has been completed.

Multiple environments are being created to enable the testing and training of AU staff to

aid in the deployment of the new system. Staff members involved in project implementation and initial system users are being trained. Technical staff have also received training on the new modules and technical training related to Banner workflow and to supporting the Finance and Human Resource application and databases.

Banner Finance will be operational by April 2013 and Banner HR by December 2013. The Banner Student upgrade will be completed by February 2014. A number of positions in Finance, Human Resources, Payroll and Enrolment Services will be backfilled to address workload demands and to provide unit coverage for the duration of the project.

Construction of AU's E-Lab Nearing Completion



“The e-lab is meant to be one means of assisting AU to find the answers to such questions.”

AU's **E-LAB**, NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION, represents one vision of what a virtual university lab might be. It serves all the practical functions that physical labs have served in the past, but it also anticipates the future in providing an online environment that encourages new forms of learning and professional growth.

All universities have labs in which research and teaching are carried out, teaching and research tools are stored, people assemble to discuss their work and ideas, and the results of teaching and learning are displayed. Increasingly, traditional universities are also building media labs in which students can practice using the tools of digital research and learning. While such labs are generally physically situated in actual buildings and house row upon row of computers, they are also beginning to take on a virtual life.

The construction phase of AU's e-lab is nearing completion. It will supply open access, online tools and services for teaching, learning and research. It has been designed to develop and enhance the university's capacity as an online institution and assist in the transition from a print based university to one that functions primarily online.

“The university is now exploring questions of how we can help students find and critically evaluate information online, become competent in the use of online technologies for their own learning and research, and connect effectively with one another in asynchronous and synchronous environments,” e-lab coordinator Dr. Evelyn Ellerman said. “The e-lab is meant to be one means of assisting AU to find the answers to such questions.”

Originating in the Communication Studies Program, the proposal for the e-Lab was approved by the university's IT Learning and Research Committee. Funding was secured from two levels of government. The elements of the e-Lab will include:

- **E-Portfolios:** Portfolios have been used in many professions for decades, primarily as places to store samples of someone's work. With the advent of the Internet, the e-portfolio has developed as a electronic version of its cardboard cousin to store information for later use.
- **Virtual Tool Cupboard:** The tool cupboard is an open access space in which members of the AU community and the general public can find educational and research software (mostly open source).
- **Social Media on the Landing:** This sub-project of the e-lab will provide social media and educational opportunities to the university community.
- **Self-guided Workshops:** Hour-long sessions, beginning late in 2012, will assist users to develop or enhance skills in using the Internet for their own research, teaching and learning.
- **Research Projects:** The e-lab will enhance the university's capacity as an online university by making its research results available to the Centre for Learning Design and Development and the community as a whole.
- **Exhibitions:** The exhibition area will provide a public display of the many excellent multimedia projects and products that have resulted from research and teaching at AU, showing what AU students and faculty can do in the online environment.
- **Canadian Film Online:** A year-long project funded by Canadian Heritage, Canadian Film Online, an interactive database of Canadian feature films since 1960, illuminates the connections between government policies and programs and the actual financing, production and distribution of films.

The various elements of the e-Lab will be profiled in greater detail in future editions of *The Insider*.

Research Buzz

Student Research Awards

AU ONCE AGAIN PARTICIPATED IN THE Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council's Undergraduate Student Research Award Program. Four students were chosen to work with four faculty members on their research projects. Here is a glimpse of some of their work over the past summer.

- Faculté St-Jean (University of Alberta) physics student Marc-Olivier Lajeunesse was awarded an NSERC USRA to work on theoretical and observational aspects of Trojan asteroids.
- Simon South, a Bachelor of Science in Computing and Information Systems student, worked on A Multiagent System Approach for Course-Offering Determination, a research project led by Dr. Oscar Lin.
- Evan Plumb, a student in the Bachelor of Science General Program at the University of Alberta, assisted Dr. Ken Munyikwa on a project to constrain the depositional chronology of sediments emplaced by wind in central Alberta following the retreat of ice sheets about 15,000 years ago.
- Alex Murray, a student in the University of Victoria's Department of Mathematics and Statistics, worked with Dr. Burt Voorhees on his project Computation of Fixation Probabilities on Graphs and was involved in development of computer programs for both numerical and symbolic computation.

Call For Proposals

DR. GLORIA FILAX IN THE CENTRE FOR Interdisciplinary Studies is involved in hosting Island Studies: West Coast Canada and Beyond, a workshop that will be held on British Columbia's Gabriola Island in May 2013. More information and the call for proposals is available on the [Upcoming Events page](#) of the Research Centre website.

Tri Council News

The following application deadlines are approaching:

- SSHRC Insight Grant Competition: internal deadline September 25; SSHRC deadline October 15
- NSERC Discovery Grant Competition: internal deadline October 12; NSERC deadline November 1

Contact Jill Calliou in the Research Services Office or go to the [Upcoming Deadlines page](#) on the Research Centre website for more information.

Proposal writing tips are available on the [Successful Grantsmanship page](#) of the Research Centre website, and the latest announcements on TriCouncil research funding can be found on the [Funding News page](#).

Emerging Leader

CARLOS CONTRERAS, A PHD STUDENT IN the Departamento de Computo Cientifico y Estadistica, Division de Fisica y Matematicas at the Universidad Simon Bolivar in Caracas, Venezuela, is the first student to study at AU under a Government of Canada Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program Award.

While in Canada, Contreras will be supervised by Dr. Gustavo Carrero of the Centre for Science. The ELAP Academic Research Awards, which are managed by the Canadian Bureau for International Education, are available to foreign students from Central and South America and cover travel costs and the cost of living in Canada.

Partnership Opportunities

INTERESTED IN WORKING COLLABORATIVELY with industry on your research? The following services are available for student and faculty researchers:

- IP management
- industry liaison
- commercialization
- copyright
- patenting
- start-ups
- research contracts

Contact [Deanna Douglas](#) (780-977-2819), manager of executive strategic initiatives, for more information on industry partnership opportunities.



Doreen Chin Retires after Almost 30 Years

COFFEE AND CAKE WERE SERVED ON September 4 to celebrate the retirement of Doreen Chin, who has worked at AU since 1983. Her colleagues in Finance and

Administrative Information Systems held a farewell luncheon the following day. Above, Chin poses with her husband, Alan Lee, and AU president Dr. Frits Pannekoek.

AU People in the News

The Business of Technology

DR. ALEX KONDRA, DEAN OF THE FACULTY of Business was featured by the [Financial Post](#) in its 30-Second Mentor series. Kondra speaks on how mobile technology can help business.

Benefits of Exercise

THE *CALGARY HERALD* FEATURED A [STORY](#) about Alberta Moving Beyond Breast Cancer, or AMBER, the largest long-term study of the link between exercise and survival rates for breast cancer patients, a collaboration of scientists from Alberta Health Services, the University of Calgary, the University of Alberta and AU.

Study participants are being recruited over the next five years. Women are eligible to enroll if they are newly diagnosed, under the age of 80 and have not had a previous cancer diagnosis. Information on how to participate is available on the [AMBER website](#).

Lifelong Learning

AU GRADUATE AND STUDENT RAY SPENCER is featured in a *Globe and Mail* [article](#) on older learners. Spencer has earned a University Certificate in Human Resources and Labour Relations and is working on a bachelor's degree in the same field.

According to Statistics Canada, the article says, 10 per cent of college students and seven per cent of university students are over 40. Some are retraining for another career while others just want to do something different and stay engaged.

Job Insecurity and Unionization

IN RECOGNITION OF LABOUR DAY ON September 3, Dr. Bob Barnetson, an associate professor of labour relations at AU, was featured in an *Edmonton Journal* [article](#) about job insecurity and unionization.

At approximately 23 per cent of workers, Alberta has the lowest rate of unionization in the country. The number of provincial labour disruptions is also quite low because many workers do not have the right to strike, Barnetson said. "Those who are at the bottom of the heap, in terms of the labour market, often are the most likely to resist, because they frankly don't have a lot to lose by resisting," he told reporter Shaamini Yogaretnam. "I think that's what we're starting to see in Alberta."

Chief Project Officer

THE [COMOX VALLEY ECHO](#) REPORTS THAT Tom Sparrow has been appointed as the new chief project officer for the North Island Hospitals Project on Vancouver Island. Sparrow holds an AU MBA and has been actively involved in the Project Management Institute.

Distance MBA

The *Toronto Star* [reports](#) that an increasing number of students are bypassing traditional methods of education and earning a Master of Business Administration online or through distance learning.

The article quotes Dr. Deborah Hurst, associate dean and program director for the MBA at AU, as saying that online learning offers unparalleled flexibility: "People are realizing they don't have to put their lives on hold to go back to school. They can continue working, can continue on with their lives and their commitments and realize the quality of their experience. It could actually be better than it would be in a classroom."

Alberta Theatre in Three Acts



History of Theatre In Alberta Act 2
(photo from [LitFest website](#))

LEARN ABOUT THE HISTORY OF ALBERTA theatre through a series of events under the direction of AU professor emeritus and [Canadian Theatre Encyclopedia](#) editor Dr. Anne Nothof at [LitFest](#), happening in Edmonton, St. Albert and Sherwood Park from October 17 to 28.

Nothof will bring the province's rich theatrical story to life with the help of local playwrights, actors and directors and live performances of excerpts from several plays. Events in the series will be held at the Strathcona County Library in Sherwood Park, and tickets (\$10 per event) are available at the library check-out desk, Tix on the Square and at the door. All performances start at 2 p.m.

ACT ONE: SETTING THE STAGE (Sunday, October 2)

With its roots in amateur and community productions and its golden years in opulent theatres in Edmonton and Calgary in the early twentieth century, Alberta theatre has a colourful history, including a performance by Sarah Bernhardt. This presentation will also

Daniel's research deals with the influence of social networks and relationship ties on cyber activism in Brazil.

feature the radio drama of Elsie Park Gowan and Gwen Pharis Ringwood, including a radio play produced by CKUA.

ACT TWO: RISING ACTION (Sunday, October 28)

This presentation focuses on the creation of new Alberta drama in the alternative theatres of Edmonton and Calgary, such as Theatre Network and Alberta Theatre Projects. Learn more about some of Alberta's wide range of stages, playwrights and plays. Actors from Teatro La Quindicina will join Nothof for the staged reading of a scene from a comedy by Stewart Lemoine.

ACT THREE: ACTING OUT OF THE BOX (Sunday, November 4)

As Alberta's theatre scene has matured, it has also become more adventurous. Cutting edge and indie theatre is explored. Local playwright David Belke will talk about his annual involvement with the Edmonton International Fringe Festival, and playwright Katherine Koller will discuss her recent enactments of Alberta stories.



Pictures from the Past

BERTON'S COMPLETE ADDRESS TO Convocation 1982 is among the items held by AU's Thomas A. Edge Archives and Special Collections. Also of interest to Bertonophiles is an audio cassette recording of a 1990 interview with the author, conducted by Michael Owen for *Aurora* magazine.

Pierre Berton received an honorary doctorate from AU in 1982. Here he signs a copy of his 1980 work, *The Invasion of Canada: 1812-1813*, as AU's former head librarian Thomas A. Edge looks on.

Coming Soon: More from Thomas A. Edge Archives and Special Collections and more facts and questions about records management than you can shake a retention schedule at.

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The Insider is published for AU faculty and staff members and other members of the AU community by the Advancement Office.

Please send any information or photographs for inclusion to the **co-ordinator**. If a photo opportunity presents itself, please contact **Blaise MacMullin**. Due to FOIP regulations, a release form must accompany all photos. Please contact *The Insider* co-ordinator for a copy of the release form.

The next edition of *The Insider* will be published on October 15. Deadline for submissions is October 5.

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