

# INFO BULLETIN

FALL 2014 VOLUME 16



Telfer School Alumni Michael Chambers, Joanne Lefebvre, Harley Finkelstein, Rob White and Paul Vallée



## LINKS

Read the Message from the Dean on Page 2.

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Dean François Julien

### We Thrive When We Connect

During the past year, we've boosted the number of opportunities available to the ever-expanding Telfer School of Management community to connect and interact with other members of that community and, in doing so, help our school thrive.

#### **Our alumni are staying connected**

More and more alumni are choosing to stay connected to our school. They enrich the student experience by mentoring students, by hiring graduates, by donating to scholarship funds, by facilitating company visits abroad, by acting as case competition team trainers and by opening their corporate doors as part of co-op placements, entrepreneurial projects and Connexions internship.

#### **Our students keep performing better**

The wind is very much in our sails! Our school continues to expand. Our admission averages are higher. And all our programs have seen a surge in the number of applicants, so we can be even more selective.

A prime example of the quality of our students is our school's success at the Enactus Regional Exposition, a competition at which students showcase their community outreach projects and business ventures

before panels of business professionals. Telfer students took home nine awards and finished among the top eight teams in Canada. Stephen Daze, Telfer's Dom Herrick Entrepreneur in Residence, served as faculty advisor to Enactus uOttawa and was awarded with the John Dobson Enactus Fellowship for his leadership of our team.

#### **Our school is more international than ever**

Our school has a growing international presence. We're attracting more foreign students. We also launched our French MBA program in Metz, France. I was fortunate to meet these students while they were in Ottawa this summer. They were ecstatic about the enriching experiences they had with Telfer professors.

#### **Our research stands out**

On the research front, our professors stand out in their respective fields, as seen in our *Research Report*, which highlights our researchers' most notable achievements.

I'm especially grateful to Professor Zéghal, who completed his nearly 20-year term as head of the CGA-Canada Accounting and Governance Research Centre, through which he made notable contributions to putting our school at the forefront of accounting research.

I'm pleased to see that Professor Ben Amar, who has taken over as the Centre's executive director, brings with him fresh ideas and new energy.

#### **Our PhD in Management program is almost ready to launch**

We're in full preparation to launch our PhD in Management program in September 2015. The Ontario Universities Council on Quality Assurance approved the program this year. We're merely waiting for provincial funding approval for this program before welcoming our first doctoral candidates. I'm particularly proud of this achievement as it is a pivotal step in our school's growth.

#### **Our executive leadership programs are the region's finest**

I greatly appreciate the remarkable work of the Centre for Executive Leadership team, which has recruited full Executive MBA cohorts for the past three years and supported considerable expansion in our executive education programs.

#### **Our links with other sectors within uOttawa grow stronger**

We developed two major initiatives with uOttawa that will contribute substantially to educating our students:

- We launched a new Financial Research and Learning Lab in partnership with uOttawa's library services, giving students and professors access to financial databases.
- Thanks to the efforts of our Dom Herrick Entrepreneur in Residence and in collaboration with the Faculty of Engineering and the Technology Transfer and Business Enterprise office, we championed a new on-campus Entrepreneurship Hub.

Please join us in these initiatives. Working together, we'll strengthen the relationships that unite us all and further enhance the performance and improve the reputation of this great school we all cherish so much.

## ALUMNI NEWS

### Congratulations to Five Outstanding Alumni!

Five outstanding alumni have been recognized for their contributions to the world of business, the community and their alma mater. The **Trudeau Medals**, the **Young Achiever's Award** and the **Dean's Philos Award** were presented at the 2014 Telfer School of Management Alumni Association Gala of Excellence, which was held at the Ottawa Convention Centre on October 18, 2014.

#### Trudeau Medals

The Trudeau Medal is the highest honour given by the Telfer School of Management to its alumni. It recognizes leadership, initiative and contributions to the business world, the community and their alma mater. This year's recipients are:

**Michael Chambers**, BCom 1970, DU 2013

**Paul Vallée**, BCom 1994

**Rob White**, BCom 1992

#### The Young Achiever's Award

The Young Achiever's award was created to honour the individuals (under 40) who have been able to achieve greatness in their lives within an exceptional period of time.

**Harley Finkelstein**, MBA 2009

#### The Dean's Philos Award

The Dean's Philos Award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding philanthropic achievement and social commitment.

**Joanne Lefebvre**, BAdm 1982, MBA 2011



Tony Trentadue, Rob Mariani, Craig Gauthier and Vince Arlotta

### 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Telfer School Golf Tournament raises funds for Entrepreneurship programs and scholarships

We would like to thank our sponsors, volunteers and the 242 participants who joined on the course September 12, 2014 and made our annual golf tournament a huge success!

All proceeds raised will be directed towards entrepreneurship programs and scholarships. Thank you for supporting our students in their efforts to pursue their dreams.

The objectives of the tournament are to encourage networking between students, professionals and alumni, as well as to collect funds to support various student activities and competitions. Since the Telfer School launched its first golf tournament in 1995, a total of \$700,000 has been raised to create scholarships in the name of **Jill Brown, Jean-Luc Pépin, Anie Rouleau, James Orban, Normand Fortier, Jack Kitts, Bernard & Valérie Marcil, Gaby St-Pierre** and supported the **Peter and Ann Koppel Scholarship for Excellence**.

We also celebrated the anniversary of those who graduated in 1964, 1974, 1989 and 2004.  
**THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO CELEBRATED THESE SPECIAL MILESTONES WITH US!**





ENCON Group Inc. President, Jean Laurin and his mentee Gabriela Kratchanov, BCom 2014

In the pages ahead you will read the stories of the many links that have been forged at the Telfer School in 2013-2014. We also encourage you to visit [www.telfer.uOttawa.ca/links](http://www.telfer.uOttawa.ca/links) to read their full stories and discover what we've done in the past year and what we'll do in the months ahead to forge links with you and for you.

### Our Goals Are To:

- Provide students with an outstanding bilingual undergraduate BCom experience
- Offer graduate programs that are distinctive, accessible and market relevant
- Increase research intensity and deliver high-quality research programs
- Expand our reach internationally
- Establish control of the regional market for executive education
- Grow relationships and maximize engagement and fundraising with alumni and businesses

Forging relationships with people, businesses and organizations across Canada and around the world is the best way we know to achieve those goals.

# LINKS

[www.telfer.uOttawa.ca/links](http://www.telfer.uOttawa.ca/links)

## Living Proof

ENCON Group Inc. president **Jean Laurin** shows how mentors support undergraduate students and how the mentorship program enables alumni to revive their connections to our school.



Telfer School of Management is linked with leadership. I'm living proof. I'm an accountant by profession, the president of ENCON Group Inc. and a mentor to Telfer BCom students. This year, the school's mentorship program made it possible for 50 third- and fourth-year undergrads to learn from me and 49 other business executives in Ottawa.

A Telfer School alumnus and member of the school's advisory board, I played a key role in creating the program four years ago. I took on this task for two main reasons. First, I'm a strong proponent of coaching young people. I know the powerful influence mentors can have on

emerging professionals. When I embarked on my career many years ago, I was blessed to have a few people share their hard-won insights with me. I recognize and remember the value of this wisdom, and I want to make sure today's young businesspeople enjoy access to counsel of their own.

Most mentors are alumni, which leads me to the second reason the school started the program. It gives Telfer graduates who have become executives a direct way to revive their attachments to their school. Rekindling relationships not only pays off immediately for Telfer BCom students, but can also lead to deeper and even more meaningful partnerships between alumni and their alma mater.

### Being a mentor excites me and teaches me

I gain plenty from the bargain, too. I enjoy getting to know future business leaders. Experiencing their passion, drawing on their energy and helping fulfill their dreams excites me and keeps me young.

I thank my students for sharing their experiences and enabling me to learn from them; and I thank mentors in the program for being part of the lives of their students and school. Like me, they're living proof that the Telfer School is linked with leadership.

## GRADUATE PROGRAMS

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### Linking With Leading People and Businesses

Linked with leadership means different things to different people. Newly minted Telfer MBA graduates **Oshada Mendis** and **John Adams** explain how they took advantage of the program to forge valuable connections with leading people and businesses.



### Face Your Fear Oshada Mendis

Tell me something you're afraid of. That was the challenge a Bombardier senior executive posed to Telfer MBA students when we visited the company's headquarters in Montreal this past year.

I was up for the test. As my classmates can

confirm, I ask some pretty blunt questions myself. So I told this fellow—the head of one of the multinational's lines of private jets—I was afraid I'd be unable to move successfully from being a chemical engineer involved in technical aspects of the biotech industry to being a business development officer for my new employer in petroleum—Imperial Oil in Calgary.

He gave me some helpful advice: identifying your fear is the first step you take to overcome it. We've kept in touch since via email—not only to talk about questions that stem from my initial fear, but also to share views on many subjects related to working in multinational corporations.



### Learning By Failing John Adams

I'm in a boardroom in an office building near Paris. I'm facing an audience of top-flight executives at one of the largest companies in the world. I'm giving a presentation to them about a balanced scorecard I developed to show these professionals whether or not their firm's performance corresponds with its high-level strategic objectives. The company in question is Sodexo, and it's big—a multinational food services and facilities management corporation with some 380,000 employees

who work on approximately 34,000 sites in 80 countries.

My presentation doesn't go the way I hope. That's an understatement. Midway through, one of the executives lets out a deep sigh and shakes her head. When I finish, she takes me aside and gently yet methodically explains to me why what I just said was completely wrong.

I call my Sodexo experience learning by failing. While my first foray into big business was tough, in retrospect I'm glad it happened. As an owner and operator of a small bar and coffee shop in Halifax for many years, I became well versed in the pleasures and pitfalls of working for myself. The Telfer MBA trip to Europe gave me my first true glimpse into the real world of big business and the many differences between working and succeeded in it as opposed to small business.

## RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Our links with leadership strengthen our position as a research-intensive business school, while increasing the relevance of our contributions to management theory, business practice, and public policy.

From growth in our programs and partnerships to the awarding of new research grants, our research base grew significantly in 2013–14.

### A stronger foundation for research

Our professors led ground-breaking studies in their respective fields and received high academic and professional distinctions. Talented young researchers joined the faculty, including a Canadian Institutes of Health Research Chair (CIHR). New grants and contracts from federal research councils and Canadian and international public and private funders put us on track to significantly strengthen our research productivity.

### Transfer of expert knowledge

Our researchers made important contributions to research forums and public policy discussions in the fields of health systems, innovation and entrepreneurship, business and analytics, sustainable management, human resource management, and organizational behaviour, among many others. The release of a study examining lessons learned in the demise of Nortel Networks was an especially notable highlight, garnering national coverage.

## This Must Be The Place

Professor **Jonathan Calof** makes clear how he and his team established links across jurisdictional, disciplinary and geographic boundaries to get to the root causes of Nortel's demise.

Telfer School of Management is the place to carry out deep research to resolve complex business questions. I should know. For the past three years, I led a team of experts from across the Telfer School and two faculties of the University of Ottawa to uncover the truth about the demise of Nortel Networks. The key to our success was the collaborative, multidisciplinary approach we took.



Get a detailed look at the vast array of research activities undertaken by our faculty members and students in the *2013–14 Research Report*. [www.telfer.uOttawa.ca/researchreport2013-14](http://www.telfer.uOttawa.ca/researchreport2013-14)

## LINKS

Read Professor Jonathan Calof's complete article in the Gauging our Performance section of the *2013–14 Dean's Report*. [www.telfer.uOttawa.ca/links](http://www.telfer.uOttawa.ca/links)

## INTERNATIONAL



### Insane Networking

Telfer BCom student **Emilia Vinette** describes how she uses academic exchanges abroad to build a valuable network of peers, professors and business leaders.

I had plenty of reasons to study abroad. At the top of the list: expanding my professional network.

To do so, I spent six months in Bordeaux, France at Kedge Business School. Kedge is a new school that caters to international students. It's so new that officials cut the ribbon to open it the day I arrived. No joke!

My decision to go international really paid off. I connected with dozens of super-smart, ambitious students and several brilliant, helpful professors.

I cultivated my own network of current and emerging professionals I can now draw on to advance my career. As a third-year Telfer

BCom undergrad who specializes in marketing, I've taken advantage of my new contacts already to get an internship in New York City.

Sure, studying abroad can be expensive. The cost of living is higher in France than in Canada. Plus, the Bordeaux region of France offers so much to do, such as visiting the many wineries.

I know what you're thinking: Poor me, right? The high costs are nowhere near enough to outweigh the advantages of studying abroad. In fact, I'm heading out on another international exchange in January—to Bangkok, Thailand.

I'm sure this experience is going to pay off big time, too—especially the great new connections I'm sure to make. Tell you all about it when I get back!



### Partnerships Help Us Keep Pace

**Doug Dempster** explains how our Centre for Executive Leadership partners with Canadian businesses and organizations to improve the leadership capabilities of their top people.

Technologies, markets and industries are changing fast. Large organizations and their leaders—whether they're in the public or private sector—must move just as swiftly to make sure their executives and managers have the right mix of values, skills and knowledge to lead in tumultuous times.

That's where the Centre for Executive leadership comes in. We help organizations improve the leadership and management capabilities of their executives, from aspiring to senior levels.

## LINKS

Read all about these exciting new initiatives and programs in the Executive Education section of the 2013–14 Dean's Annual Report. [www.telfer.uOttawa.ca/links](http://www.telfer.uOttawa.ca/links)

## ALUMNI AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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### My Privilege

Assistant Dean **Alain Doucet** showcases the links he makes with leaders—one alumnus at a time.

I love my job. Love experiencing the daily buzz of activity on the Telfer School campus. Love seeing the delight on students' faces when they achieve something big. Love taking on the challenge of building our school's reputation in a market that seems to become more competitive by the hour.

I love most of all getting to know Telfer School alumni from across Canada and around the world. I'm privileged—and I don't use that term lightly—to exchange insights with these men and women, chat about our ambition as a school, learn new best practices in business and talk about their careers, families and lives.

I was able to create and renew many relationships with Telfer School alumni during the past year, I invite you to read their stories in the Gauging our performance section of the 2013–14 Dean's Report.



Michael Burch, Lynda Partner and Alain Doucet

# CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

## INFO BULLETIN

**Telfer School of Management  
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## 2015

### JANUARY

**MBA Games  
Jeux du Commerce**

### FEBRUARY

**Entrepreneurs' Club Business Dinner  
Alumni Breakfast featuring Shopify**

### MARCH

**Jeux du Commerce 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
*Stay tuned for more information regarding this celebration which will take place on **March 7, 2015** at the **Ottawa Marriot Hotel**.*

### MAY

**Alumni Reception in Ottawa**

### SEPTEMBER

**21<sup>st</sup> Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament**

### OCTOBER

**Gala of Excellence 2015**  
*Celebrating milestone anniversary classes  
from **1965, 1975, 1990 and 2005***

## We're Connected

**Link with us on LinkedIn. We want to know what you're thinking and doing, and help you achieve your academic and career goals. Visit our university page and make the connection today.**

You can also connect with us on **Twitter, Facebook, Flickr, Instagram** and **YouTube**.

And take advantage of two Telfer social media platforms to stay connected with us:

- Use **MyTelfer.ca** to find out how you can get involved in your school and add your profile to **Leaders@Telfer**—our interactive alumni map.
- Visit **Telfer TV** to watch our latest videos that showcase talented students, leading professors and top-flight facilities.

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