

WINTER 2017

# new. trail

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA  
ALUMNI MAGAZINE



## 'THIS IS ALL THE FREEDOM I WANT'

HOW ABDULLAH ALTAMER  
AND OTHER STUDENTS ARE  
REBUILDING THEIR LIVES  
AFTER ESCAPING SYRIA

Page 26







“The littlest thing tripped me up  
in more ways than one.”

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These sunny flowers top a hybrid  
of canola derived from Quantum  
Canola, the plant that helped save  
a \$20-billion industry. Page 36.  
Photo by John Ulan

### ON THE COVER

Even the act of walking  
to school is meaningful to  
Abdullah Altamer, one of 14  
Syrian students who have  
come to the U of A through  
the President's Award for  
Refugees and Displaced  
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Photo by John Ulan

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You will be surprised at the  
U of A connections.





Words by Omar Moullem  
PHOTOS BY JOHN ULAN

# NEEN S

**Cooking, studying, hanging with friends. These mundane activities take on new meaning for three Syrian refugees who are putting their lives back together as U of A students**

► Bashar Aldyab, Ahmad Al-Hariri and Abdullah Altamer (from left) chat with friends at that most Canadian of locales, Tim Hortons.



# B

Bashar Aldyab read the first three words of the email, “We are pleased ...,” and threw his phone. The Syrian refugee living in Jordan did not speak English well enough to know the nuances of the word “please” and assumed the letter from the World University Service of Canada was yet another rejection. Since leaving Syria in 2013 during his fourth year of dentistry at Damascus University—prompted by two wrongful arrests and detentions—Aldyab had applied for three scholarships and was thrice turned down. By this point, he was so accustomed to misfortune that the possibility of anything else was impossible to imagine. Finally, after five minutes had passed, he read the full email: “We are pleased to offer you a sponsorship for the 2016-2017 academic year.”



Aldyab had received the University of Alberta President’s Award for Refugees and Displaced Persons. He was going to Canada.

“I’ve been here a year and I still can’t believe it,” says the 27-year-old science student on a fall afternoon, lounging in his HUB Mall apartment with a view of the food court.

His roommate Ahmad Al-Hariri nods in agreement. He also got the full scholarship, which, along with the World University Service of Canada’s resettlement program, gives them permanent residency and puts them on a path to citizenship in as few as four years. “It was too good to be true,” he says. “We do believe we did something good in our life, maybe helping other people, so God rewarded us.” After a brutal war uprooted their lives, halted their educations, killed relatives and dispersed their families across Asia and Europe, it’s not surprising that any good fortune might seem like an act of God.

The Syrian conflict, which started during the 2011 Arab Spring with protests against an oppressive regime that has ruled now for 46 years, has become a proxy war for various militias and nations, including Russia, the United States, Saudi Arabia and Iran. To date almost half a million people have died and 12 million people have been displaced—comparable to the number of people who fled Germany during the Second World War.

The conflict hit the front page in Canada after the death of a three-year-old boy in September 2015. Alan Kurdi drowned after his family’s raft capsized during an escape attempt to Greece. The image of his body washed up on a beach sparked



► **COOKING WITH FRIENDS** Though they come from a region with a rich culinary culture, cooking isn’t natural for these men. As this is their first time living without their mothers, it’s also their first time making their own meals, a lesson all the more necessary since restaurant prices are five times what they’re used to. Ahmad Al-Hariri, having worked as a prep cook in Jordan, is more skilled but he still relies on YouTube videos and messaging his mom for recipes. Together the young men have learned to make thick lentil soup, a spicy chicken and rice dish called *kabsa*, and *fattet*, a hummus and pita-bread pudding. They leave *Friends* on the television in the background; it’s like having free English-language lessons. (Facing page, from left: Ahmad Al-Hariri and Bashar Aldyab; above: Aldyab and Al-Hariri.)



outrage around the world. The U of A scholarship was created shortly after that incident and prompted nearly \$8,700 in donations. "I believe Alan Kurdi is the reason we are here," says Abdullah Altamer, another recipient of the President's Award, who lived with Aldyab and Al-Hariri until moving into his own apartment downtown.

In total, 14 people have received the President's Award over the past two years, and these students are now starting to get a foothold in Canadian life. Years of turmoil crushed their plans for the future, but now their lives are developing again like a rediscovered roll of film.

**E**ach of the images on these pages is a single frame in a single second of the last 10 months in the lives of three men who sought refuge in Canada. It captures them as they create support networks, seek new friends of similar interests, adjust to new customs and rekindle their interrupted ambitions. It also captures them learning to live independently for the first time—as when they try to replicate family recipes with the long-distance guidance of their mothers, who are still in Jordan.

These pictures show mundane tasks because that's what peace is. Peace is a calmness that creates space in the mind to imagine a future. It's the ability to walk through a green park, safely. To play an organized soccer game with friends and strangers, safely. To drive to the mountains or a farmers market, safely. (And without travel documents.) "This is all the freedom I want," says Altamer, now a second-year engineering student.

He describes his last years as living in two distinct prisons. In Syria, his liberties were inhibited by danger—where even walking to school could be deadly and some of his friends and family were killed or arrested. As a refugee in Jordan, his liberties were restricted by having to work 48 hours a week on top of his course load to be able to afford to study. Now, in Edmonton, he has regained leisure and stability but not without consequence. He can't stay home long without getting anxious,



► **A STUDENT'S LIFE** Before the civil war in Syria, the recipients of the President's Award were living purposeful lives with the means and ambition to obtain university degrees. For them, their lives are less about starting over than about picking up and moving forward in a safe place. "I think that I'm now settled down and have no trouble," says Abdullah Altamer (above, in a class). "The only trouble I have is studying trouble."



he says. The freedom outside is too intoxicating—even when the weather is frigid—and the four walls inside can drive his mind back to dark places.

This is what the camera can't capture: emotional subtleties like post-traumatic stress or survivor's guilt, an insidious consequence of freedom regained.

**N**ot long after Aldyab witnessed the first crackdown on protesters, in 2011, police came for him and his cousin while they were sleeping; as males of battle age they were considered potential recruits for the rebels. He was rounded up with hundreds, possibly



thousands of other men, he says, and beaten all the way to the detention centre. There, he was blindfolded, interrogated and burned with something hot enough to leave permanent scars. The cell was crowded with so many prisoners that men slept on their sides in a position they called “the sword.”

“I was expecting death at any time,” he says.

Aldyab was released 27 days later and 26 pounds lighter. He stumbled through the streets in an altered state, frightening passersby, until a pitying taxi driver took him home.

That he recovered enough to return to university in Syria is astonishing. Nobody would have blamed him for taking off then or, like his cousin, joining the rebellion and dying in combat. Aldyab survived

► **OPEN AIR** Abdullah Altamer shops for artisanal jam at an Edmonton farmers market. At home in Syria, civil war made simply leaving the house a risky endeavour. Two of his friends were killed—one by a rocket, another by kidnappers—and two cousins were arrested five years ago and never heard from again. Canada has returned peace to the students’ lives, but it has also introduced an unfamiliar loneliness that comes with individualism. Canadians, to the Syrian friends, don’t drop by the house or call to hang out unexpectedly. Altamer says he’s often the one who takes the initiative. “And if no one responds, I will go by myself. I can’t stay at home all day. It makes me nervous.”

## THE FREEDOM OUTSIDE IS TOO INTOXICATING AND THE FOUR WALLS INSIDE CAN DRIVE HIS MIND BACK TO DARK PLACES.

► **ON THE JOB** A stock clerk job at No Frills has done more than provide supplemental income for Ahmad Al-Hariri (right). It has allowed him to make friends and build a community. In Jordan, where he lived as a refugee before coming to Canada, there is a massive class division between the growing Syrian refugee population and Jordanian nationals. As in other areas where the population feels overwhelmed by migrants, workplace exploitation is rampant, say the students. Bashar Aldyab recalls an employer in Amman, Jordan, denying him a chair during 12-hour shifts as a receptionist. And whereas his Jordanian colleagues were paid monthly, he was paid every two or three months. “They told me if I took one day off, they’d replace me. They enslaved us,” says Aldyab, who has found meaningful work in Edmonton as a translator and university soccer referee.

a second arrest, too. Yet, as a second-year U of A student planning for a career in dental hygiene, he says he feels like a coward.

“I don’t like fighting, but when your family is killed, when your people are killed, you *should* have to do something. But this is what I do now. I can take my revenge by helping bring Syrian people to get an education.” He recently helped two friends apply successfully for World University Service of Canada scholarships.

Getting here, though, is just the beginning. Adaptation is a slow process. Take something as simple as offering a cup of coffee to a friend: Canadians will either accept or decline. But in Middle Eastern countries, the friend is expected to decline—even if they want the coffee—and only accept it after repeated insistence. (Persians call this *taarof* and it confuses



even the savviest travellers.) The overnight change to rules of society such as these young people have experienced can result in unintentional offences for both parties, though there are fewer every day for the three friends. “I love the Canadian way,” says Al-Hariri, “that when you say ‘Yes’ you mean yes and when you say ‘No’ you mean no.”

They’re also beginning to understand the many degrees of “please” and become fluent in Canada’s particular brand of politeness. This, too, takes adjusting. “Sometimes they make me feel like I’m a bad person,” says Aldyab. “It’s always ‘sorry this, please that.’” What seems like a courtesy to most of us could feel like an overwhelming pressure to be perfect, he says.

“But you know,” adds Al-Hariri, “we’re starting to hold doors now and say sorry for everything, too.”



► **THE BEAUTIFUL GAME** Recreational soccer at the Butterdome is a fulfilling activity for Bashar Aldyab (pictured, below), who played regularly with friends in Damascus until the civil war made it unsafe. But there have been some adjustments in Canada. The teams are unisex, for one. But it's the non-competitive spirit that frustrates him, like seeing a player apologize to a goalie for scoring on him. "They tell me, 'Hey, relax man, we came just for fun,'" he says. "I'm like, 'Guys, no, we have to win!'" One memory he cherishes is an informal game during the World Indigenous Nations Games near Edmonton last summer. An Enoch Cree Nation player told him: "This is our land and we welcome you. If any Canadian tells you to go back home, just tell them it's not their land."

“  
**WHEN YOUR  
 FAMILY IS KILLED,  
 WHEN YOUR PEOPLE  
 ARE KILLED, YOU  
 SHOULD HAVE TO DO  
 SOMETHING.**  
 ”

—BASHAR ALDYAB

► **A WALK WITH FRIENDS**

Abdullah Altamer (right) and other Syrian students volunteered in September to welcome five more recipients of the President's Award for Refugees and Displaced Persons. They're happy to extend the same hospitality they were shown. "When I got off the plane, I found people holding signs, 'Welcome Abdullah to Canada,'" Altamer says. The student volunteers helped him get his U-Pass card, apply for engineering, connect him with his advisers. "And then they invited me into their homes for Thanksgiving," Bashar Aldyab adds, "We must have done something really good in life to deserve this, so that gave us the motivation to help people again."







*Every computer in the world today owes a debt to a tiny but vital discovery by a U of A grad. Discover five groundbreaking objects that you might be surprised have a U of A connection and hear from experts about their national, global and sometimes very personal impact.*

# FIVE OBJECTS THAT CHANGED OUR LIVES

PHOTOS BY JOHN ULAN



1

**CREATOR:**  
Gary Stringam,  
professor emeritus

**DATE:**  
1995

**IMPACT:**  
Rescued Canada's  
fledgling canola  
industry, now worth  
more than \$20 billion  
to the economy

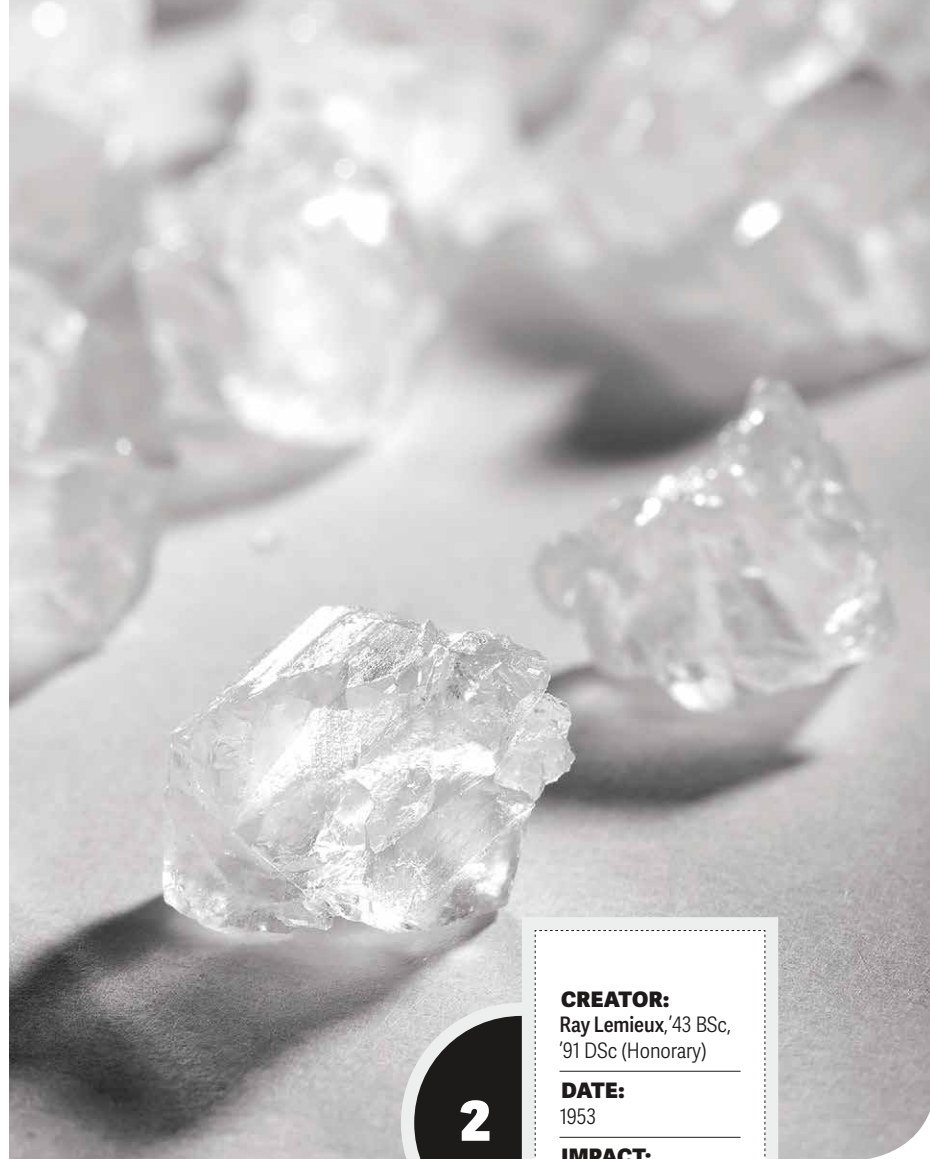
*By Habib Rahman*

## QUANTUM CANOLA

► I was a plant breeder in Europe in the 1990s, with a small part of my breeding activities in Canada. At the time, canola was a burgeoning industry in Canada, worth millions of dollars to farmers, and blackleg disease posed a very serious threat. The fungus attacked the plant, rotting the stem at ground level, cutting off nutrients to the rest of the plant and resulting in as much as 30 per cent crop yield losses. Researchers were racing to find a solution. Then Gary Stringam discovered a blackleg-resistance gene in an Australian canola and used biotechnology to create the blackleg-resistant cultivar Quantum. The new cultivar also produced very high yields. Bingo! It was like winning the lottery for farmers and the canola industry. Canola today contributes more than \$20 billion to Canada's economy, and the blackleg-resistance gene is still found in many canola cultivars.

*Habib Rahman is a crop scientist in the U of A Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science.*





2

**CREATOR:**  
Ray Lemieux, '43 BSc,  
'91 DSc (Honorary)

**DATE:**  
1953

**IMPACT:**  
Laid the foundation  
for vaccines,  
antibiotics and other  
modern medical  
technologies

By David Bundle

## SUCROSE

► Many of today's fundamental medical interventions—refined blood typing, antibiotics and vaccines—can be traced back to the chemical synthesis of sucrose. Chemist Ray Lemieux was the first to build the three-dimensional sucrose molecule in the lab, giving scientists control over sugars in the human body. The discovery gave us the ability to link sucrose to other sugars and then attach them to different molecular compounds like proteins. In essence, lab-made sugar laid the groundwork for antibiotics, vaccines, early anti-rejection techniques for organ transplant and even early treatments for hemophilia.

The synthesis of sucrose was a breakthrough at the time; it was really a harbinger. Aside from his groundbreaking work on sugar, Lemieux taught many fellow chemists, including me, and launched three spinoff companies instrumental in Alberta's burgeoning biotechnology industry. His legacy extends far beyond his own work to the research of today's leaders in glycomics, metabolomics and immunochemistry.

*U of A chemist David Bundle is the R.U. Lemieux Professor of Carbohydrate Chemistry and associate chair of research in the Faculty of Science.*

**CREATOR:**  
Kelly James,  
'81 BSc(MechEng)

**DATE:**  
1991

**IMPACT:**  
Allows more than  
70,000 amputees  
around the world to  
walk with a safer and  
more natural gait

3

By Adele Fifield

## C-LEG PROSTHETIC

► I was 13 in 1979 when I lost my leg to cancer, and my first prosthesis had a pretty basic hinge-type knee. I remember trying to walk on it out to the end of our roadway, to hang out with friends. It had rained and, honest to goodness, I fell three times. I had to go change my clothes. When you're young, you adapt, but every piece of technology that makes things easier is just so critical. When I got the C-Leg in 1997, it changed my life. There is a nuance to walking that I didn't even realize I was missing. For example, with an ordinary artificial leg, you have just one speed, but with the C-Leg I can pick up my pace in a crosswalk, or slow down in a crowd. I'm not one of the prettiest dancers, but the C-Leg gives me control and lets me participate without worrying whether the leg will be there when I move. I went up Machu Picchu, with all those stairs, and I've been on the Great Wall of China. The point of the C-Leg isn't to jump over buildings. But if there is ever an emergency, it will sure help me get out of one safely.

*Adele Fifield of Ottawa is one of the first users of the C-Leg.*

SUCROSE PHOTO BY IMAGE SOLUTIONS LLC / ALAMY



**"It was years before  
I thought: 'Oh. This is  
my life ... forever.'"**

ADELE FIFIELD



This printer's typescript with editorial corrections and a first edition of *Who Has Seen the Wind* are part of the W.O. Mitchell archive at the University of Calgary.

**CREATOR:**  
W.O. Mitchell, '43 BA,  
'75 DLitt (Honorary)

**DATE:**  
1947

**IMPACT:**  
Helped create a  
literary geography of  
the West and became  
a Canadian classic

4

By Rudy Wiebe

# WHO HAS SEEN THE WIND

► *Who Has Seen the Wind*: first edition, Macmillan, Toronto, 1947—the story of “a boy and the wind.” Amazingly, it takes place in Saskatchewan. The boy is a prairie kid like me. Now a Canadian classic, read by millions! And I have my own first-edition copy, but without the dustjacket; the faded-red spine creaks when I open its heavy pages to read:

“At the edge of the town, they turned and stood, looking out over the prairie, to its far line where sheet lightning, elusive as a butterfly, winked up the world’s dark rim.”

My title page is signed, the swift “WOMitchell” Bill had so much practice perfecting. In fact, I also have it in five other of his first-edition books. He signed them one of the evenings he had supper with my wife, Tena, and me during the years he taught fiction at the U of A while I worked on *The Temptations of Big Bear*. We remember so well his evocative gravelly voice, unforgettable as a prairie meadowlark song, telling stories ... it could make you laugh or cry—as he saw fit—simply by pronouncing the label on a pair of overalls.

Author **Rudy Wiebe**, OC, '56 BA, '60 MA, '09 DLitt (Honorary), has earned the Governor General’s Award for Fiction twice, for *The Temptations of Big Bear* (1973) and *A Discovery of Strangers* (1994).

W. O. MITCHELL'S *Who Has Seen the Wind* ... shining new talent to the world of letters. ... been writing short stories for several years ... published in *Maclean's*, *Queen's Quarterly*, *The Western Liberator*, *The Canadian Forum*, and the *Canadian Review*. The story of the owl and the hawk from *Who Has Seen the Wind* was chosen for inclusion in *The Best American Short Story of 1946*.

ITEMS (LEFT) COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, MSC 19.40.13, MSC 19.41.4 AND PS8525 .181 W42 1947 C.1



**CREATOR:**  
Lubomyr Romankiw,  
'55 BSc(ChemEng)

**DATE:**  
1970

**IMPACT:**  
Revolutionized the way  
data is stored, opening  
the door to personal  
computers and miniaturized  
computer memory

5

By Ken Cadien

# MAGNETIC THIN FILM HEAD

► This revolutionary discovery multiplied the data that could be stored on a hard drive [like the one above] by 10 million times. The thin film head was invented at IBM in 1970 and patented in 1975. The first personal computer was released in 1981. That’s not a coincidence.

At the time, universities and companies around the world had been searching for a way to improve computer memory and magnetic data storage. Out

of the blue, Romankiw comes up with this method of electroplating, creating a tiny device that can read and write data on hard-drive discs, and it took us all by surprise. It enabled the dramatic miniaturization and proliferation of hard drives and data storage. That technology continues to endure. Today, every computer in the world has heads that read and write data, and hard drives can store up to a trillion gigabytes per square

inch. But the impact is even wider than that. The complex electroplating method Romankiw developed also helped revolutionize silicon microchips, enabling higher-performance devices and allowing us to store even more data in an even smaller space. These chips are ubiquitous today, in everything from cellphones to driverless cars.

Ken Cadien is chair of the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering.



# Help Children Discover the U

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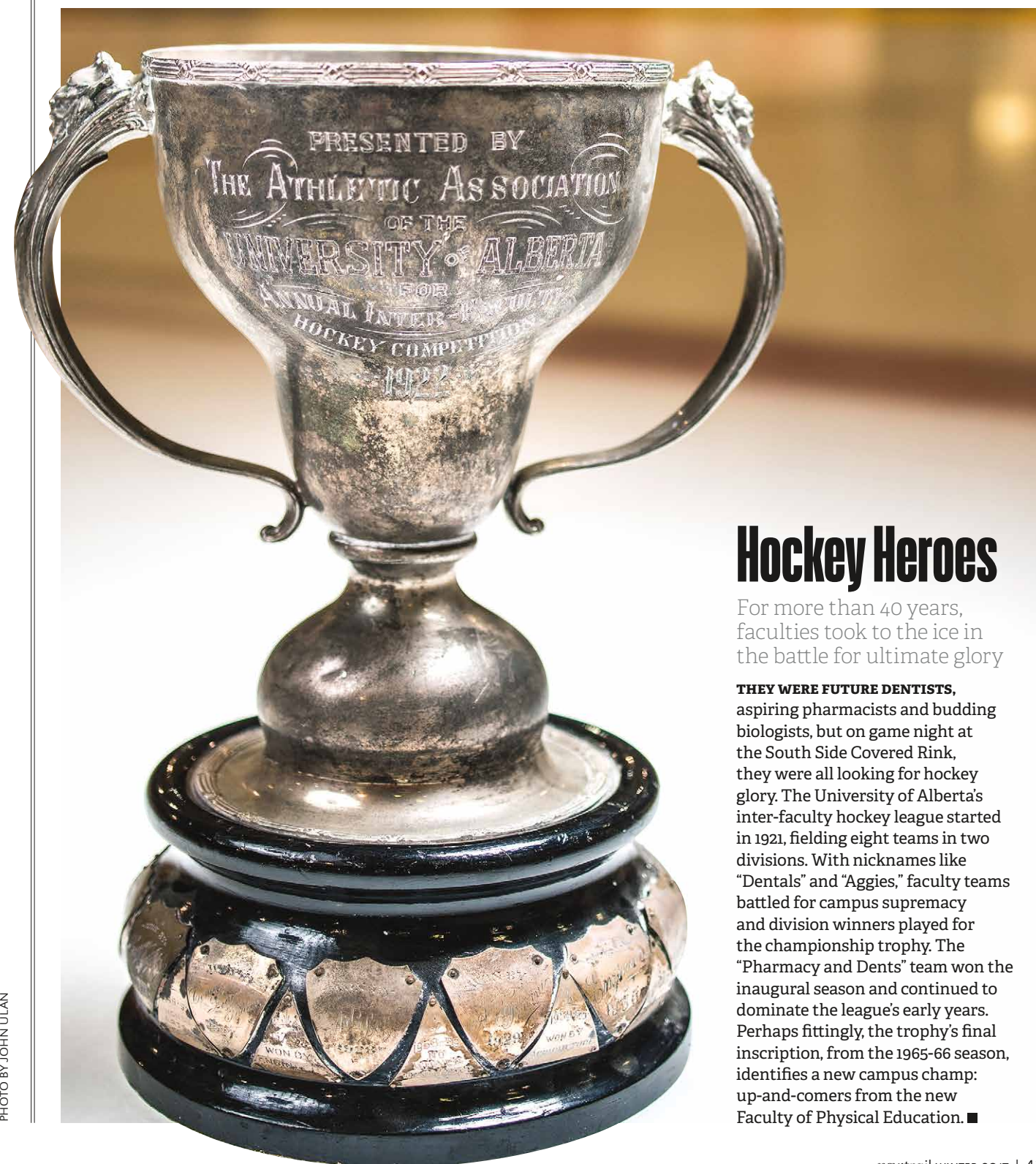
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# trails

WHERE YOU'VE BEEN AND WHERE YOU'RE GOING



## Hockey Heroes

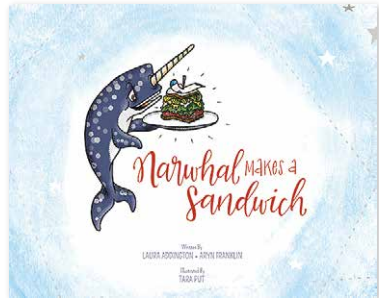
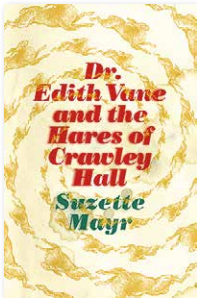
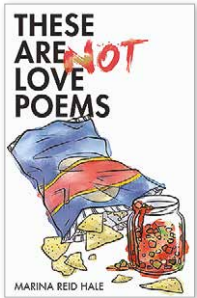
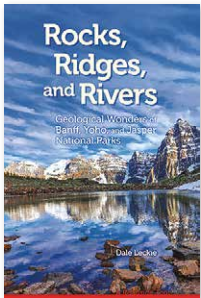
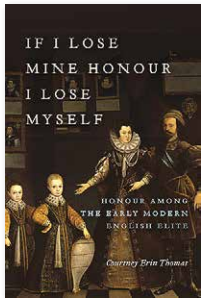
For more than 40 years, faculties took to the ice in the battle for ultimate glory

**THEY WERE FUTURE DENTISTS,** aspiring pharmacists and budding biologists, but on game night at the South Side Covered Rink, they were all looking for hockey glory. The University of Alberta's inter-faculty hockey league started in 1921, fielding eight teams in two divisions. With nicknames like "Dentals" and "Aggies," faculty teams battled for campus supremacy and division winners played for the championship trophy. The "Pharmacy and Dents" team won the inaugural season and continued to dominate the league's early years. Perhaps fittingly, the trophy's final inscription, from the 1965-66 season, identifies a new campus champ: up-and-comers from the new Faculty of Physical Education. ■

PHOTO BY JOHN ULAN



# Books



U of A alumni share their new books, including a campus satire, a 24,000-kilometre journey into Rupert's Land and an anthology from the 2016 Edmonton Slam (Poetry) Team.

*Compiled by Sharlene Clarke*

▼ **NON-FICTION**  
**Boomers at Work: Re/Working Retirement** by **Sandra Konrad**, '67 BSc(HEc), '87 MSc, self-published, [createspace.com](http://createspace.com)

*Boomers at Work* shows how, by choice or necessity, life after 65 today can include work as diverse as boomers themselves.

▼ **NON-FICTION**  
**Yardwork: A Biography of an Urban Place** by **Daniel Coleman**, '95 PhD, James Street North Books, available on Amazon

Coleman explores concepts of belonging, the connection to land as a newcomer and being part of a society always in search of more.

▼ **FICTION**  
**This Is All a Lie** by **Thomas Trofimuk**, '87 BA, Great Plains Publications, [greatplains.mb.ca](http://greatplains.mb.ca)

Ray leaves his mistress for the final time. Moments later she threatens to jump from her apartment tower. Trofimuk's latest novel explores three lives and the consequences of losing intimacy.

▼ **HISTORY**  
**If I Lose Mine Honour, I Lose Myself: Honour Among the Early Modern English Elite** by **Courtney Erin Thomas**,

'03 BA(Hons), '05 MA, University of Toronto Press, [utpress.utoronto.ca](http://utpress.utoronto.ca)

Thomas investigates the concept of honour among the 16th- and 17th-century English aristocracy in economic matters, marriage arrangements, household management and more.

▼ **GEOLOGY**  
**Rocks, Ridges and Rivers: Geological Wonders of Banff, Yoho and Jasper National Parks** by **Dale Leckie**, '77 BSc(Hons), Broken Poplars, [brokenpoplars.ca](http://brokenpoplars.ca)

Geologist Dale Leckie guides you through the Canadian Rocky Mountain Parks, including glaciers, hot springs and valleys.

▼ **POETRY**  
**Only Leave a Trace: Meditations** by **Roger Epp**, '84 BA(Hons), University of Alberta Press, [uap.ualberta.ca](http://uap.ualberta.ca)

Reflections on leading a small university campus through significant change are depicted in this poetry series, which features images by Epp's partner, artist **Rhonda Harder Epp**, '95 BA.

▼ **HISTORY**  
**Preserving on Paper: Seventeenth-Century Englishwomen's Receipt Books**

Edited by **Kristine Kowalchuk**, '97 BA, '12 PhD, University of Toronto Press, [utpress.utoronto.ca](http://utpress.utoronto.ca)

This compilation of three 17th-century handwritten receipt books—including culinary recipes, medical remedies and household tips—documents the work of women at home.

▼ **PHILOSOPHY**  
**Wittgenstein on Sensation and Perception** by **Michael Hymers**, '93 PhD, Routledge, [routledge.com](http://routledge.com)

This book offers two claims—one interpretive, one philosophical—about philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein's views and methods on perception as explored in his book *Philosophical Investigations*.

▼ **HISTORY**  
**Mapmaker: Philip Turnor in Rupert's Land in the Age of Enlightenment** by **Barbara Mitchell**, '67 BA(Hons), University of Regina Press, [uofrpress.ca](http://uofrpress.ca)

This biography brings to life Philip Turnor, the surveyor who, accompanied by his Cree wife and Cree guides, travelled more than 24,000 kilometres mapping North America.

▼ **POETRY**  
**They Ask Me Why I Sing So Loud** by **Pauline Le Bel**, '75 BMus,

*Tell us about your recent publication. Mail your write-up and book to New Trail Books, Office of Advancement, Third Floor, Enterprise Square, 3-501, 10230 Jasper Ave. NW, Edmonton, AB, T5J 4P6. Or email a write-up with a high-resolution cover image to [alumni@ualberta.ca](mailto:alumni@ualberta.ca). Inclusion on this list does not denote endorsement by New Trail.*

Collins Foundation Press, available on Amazon

Opening with a hymn to creation, Earth and Gaia, Le Bel's anthology dives into the particularities of a woman's everyday life, from childhood through to late adulthood.

▼ **POP CULTURE**  
**When We Were Young: A Baby-Boomer Yearbook** by **Rita Lang Kleinfelder**, '85 MEd, self-published, available on Amazon

Originally published in 1993, this mini-encyclopedia of pop culture from the late 1940s to mid-'70s has been re-released as a revised e-book.

▼ **POETRY**  
**These Are Not Love Poems** by **Marina Reid Hale**, '13 BA, Glass Buffalo, [glassbuffalo.com](http://glassbuffalo.com)

Usually known as a spoken-word poet, Hale explores her complex relationships, even sharing what she considers to be her most embarrassing or painful memories.

▼ **POETRY**  
**Water** by **Sara K. Al Souqi**, '13 BEEd, '16 MEd; Lady Vanessa Cardona; Timiro Mohamed; and **Nisha Patel**, '15 BCom, '15 Cert(Leadership), Glass Buffalo, [glassbuffalo.com](http://glassbuffalo.com)

Four women—a Palestinian-Canadian, a Colombian-Latinx, a Somali-Canadian and an

Indo-Canadian—unite their experiences and explore commonalities through poetry.

▼ **FICTION**  
**Dr. Edith Vane and the Hares of Crawley Hall** by **Suzette Mayr**, '92 MA, Coach House Books, [chbooks.com](http://chbooks.com)

A student faces the trials and tribulations of college life, including a drove of sinister hares, in this post-secondary satire by past Giller Prize nominee Mayr.

▼ **CHILDREN'S LITERATURE**  
**Narwhal Makes a Sandwich** by **Laura Addington**, '10 BPE, '12 MSc, and **Aryn Franklin**, '09 BSc, '12 MSc; Illustrated by **Tara Put**, '12 MSc, Three Horn Unicorn Press, [etsy.com/shop/threehornunicorn](http://etsy.com/shop/threehornunicorn)

This sequencing and numbering tale follows a hungry Narwhal's adventure through the depths of the Arctic Ocean as he searches for greatness—in the form of a sandwich.

▼ **HEALTH**  
**Global Health: An Introduction to Current and Future Trends (Second Edition)** by **Kevin McCracken**, '73 PhD, and **David R. Phillips**, Routledge, [routledge.com](http://routledge.com)

*Global Health* aims to provide readers with a comprehensive outline and understanding of the constantly evolving global health landscape.

▼ **HEALTH**  
**Compassionate Competency: Healing the Heart of Healthcare** by **Emelia Sam**, '91 BSc(Spec), self-published, on Amazon

Sam explores a new pattern of health care using practices of emotional intelligence and mindfulness, and looks at possible outcomes for both patients and practitioners.

▼ **HEALTH**  
**The Moral Work of Nursing: Asking and Living With the Questions (Second Edition)** by **Hazel J. Magnussen**, '64 Dip(Nu), '72 BSc(Nu), Promontory Press, [promontorypress.com](http://promontorypress.com)

Magnussen reflects on her 35-year nursing career, studies in health-care ethics and industry developments, highlighting moral challenges facing nurses in current care settings.

▼ **POETRY**  
**Collecting Silence** by **Ulrike Narwani**, '68 MA, Ronsdale Press, [ronsdalepress.com](http://ronsdalepress.com)

Narwani explores themes of youth, love and loss experienced while aging, maturing and finding peace.

▼ **SHORT STORIES**  
**The Left-Handed Dinner Party and Other Stories** by **Myrl Coulter**, '00 BA(Hons), '01 MA, '07 PhD, University of Alberta Press, [uap.ualberta.ca](http://uap.ualberta.ca)

The theme of missing someone or something is explored through a series of narratives riven with absences, secrets and family and relationship dynamics.

▼ **HISTORY & CRITICISM**  
**Margaret Laurence Writes Africa and Canada** by **Laura K. Davis**, '06 PhD, Wilfrid Laurier University Press, [wluPress.wlu.ca](http://wluPress.wlu.ca)

This book examines how Laurence addresses decolonization and nation building in 1950s Somalia and Ghana and in 1960s and '70s English Canada.

▼ **PHOTOGRAPHY**  
**Searching for Mary Schäffer: Women Wilderness Photography** by **Colleen Skidmore**, '99 PhD, University of Alberta Press, [uap.ualberta.ca](http://uap.ualberta.ca)

Skidmore sheds light on the life and persona of Mary Schäffer, a photographer, writer, painter and mapmaker known for her travels in the Canadian Rockies at the turn of the 20th century.

PHOTO BY JOHN ULAN







► **photofinish**

**Morning Commute**

Abdullah Altamer heads to the LRT on his way to North Campus for a physics exam. When he first came to the U of A as a recipient of the President's Award for Refugees and Displaced Persons, Altamer lived in HUB. Now he is one of the many students commuting to and from North Campus every day.

Photo by John Ulan



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