FIFTY YEARS OF LEADING CHANGE

Among our greatest strengths is an ability to anticipate and embrace change. That entrepreneurial spirit—the willingness to break new ground—was much in evidence this year.

When the University of Toronto established this campus 50 years ago, our founders recognized that addressing society’s most complex challenges requires a diversity of perspectives. John Andrews and his team designed our original buildings to encourage collaboration across disciplines. UTSC has frequently led the way in developing new fields of study, innovative approaches in teaching and learning, student services, community engagement and breakthroughs that improve our understanding of the world around us.

The excellence of our students and faculty has fueled our development. When UTSC Computer and Mathematical Sciences student Mengtien Bao graduated last year, she received all three of the University’s most prestigious awards. Arts Management Student Joshua Miller was named to Youth in Motion’s Top 20 Under 20. UTSC Management students won one of Canada’s most challenging business case competitions. PhD candidate Devrim Coskun was one of only three in the world recognized with the Marschner Young Scientist Award.

UTSC’s leadership in collaborative education and research attracts students from around the world, and more top students are naming UTSC and its unique programs their first choice. Outstanding students want to work with the best teachers and mentors, and our faculty continues to excel. Rising stars Kristen Menou and Diana Valencia joined our astrophysics group and launched the Centre for Planetary Sciences. Among the 24 other new faculty members, Dr. Zindel Segal—a pioneer in mindfulness with a world-class reputation for his research on psychotherapy and mood disorders—joined the Department of Psychology; Associate Professors Madhavi Kale and Bhavani Raman are helping the Department of Historical and Cultural Studies become the world’s leading centre for Tamil World and South Asian History. And for the first time, UTSC’s English department hosted a writer in residence, acclaimed Canadian author Miriam Toews.

Continued success requires us to think strategically as we look ahead. UTSC became the first campus to gain Governance approval of its strategic plan. New programs were introduced in Machine Learning & Data Mining, Health Policy, Population Health, and the multidisciplinary Culinaria. We’re pioneering bridging programs, launching the University’s first joint BSc and MEng.

Building cranes are almost a feature on campus. The Toronto
Pan Am Sports Centre is now complete, and we broke ground on the new and technologically advanced Environmental Science and Chemistry Building—it has risen above ground in just a few months’ time.

The tremendous generosity of our friends, alumni, parents and students are reflected in gifts that demonstrate a deep confidence in our faculty and students and the critical work they are doing to address the challenges of our time.

We encountered challenges this year, too. Toronto was hit hard by an ice storm during the December break and the campus lost trees, suffered damage to some buildings, and lost power for two days. We rallied to keep the 75 students in residence safe and warm. The quick response of our emergency team ensured the integrity of our research and our labs, and got the campus back in order before the winter term began.

We said goodbye to UTSC’s ninth Principal, Prof. Franco Vaccarino, who takes the helm at University of Guelph. Widely known for strengthening UTSC’s tradition of engagement, he is also credited with introducing the strategic, academic, capital projects and master plans that will be valuable guides for our campus in the years ahead. The University is now undertaking a search for a new principal.

Fifty years ago, our campus was created with the mission to meet the growing demand for quality post-secondary education in a way that is innovative, inclusive and equal to the excellence that is U of T’s hallmark. Each generation has advanced that mission, and in the coming decades we will continue to live up to the entrepreneurial spirit of our founders.

With best regards,

Prof. Bruce Kidd, O.C.
Interim Vice President and Principal

“The tremendous generosity of our friends, alumni, parents and students are reflected in gifts that demonstrate a deep confidence in our faculty and students.”
ANCHORED IN COMMUNITY

Our campus location in the eastern Greater Toronto Area is a tremendous strength, offering unique opportunities to enhance our research and teaching as well as help support the communities that surround us. Faculty, staff and students are involved in a wide range of local studies and initiatives, from sustainability to the arts to food.

THINK GLOBALLY, EAT LOCALLY

UTSC is committed to sustainability in all its forms, and now it is expanding its support for local food initiatives. UTSC was one of 10 institutions selected province-wide as a 2014 Local Food Challenge participant with a grant from the Greenbelt Fund, a non-profit organization that supports local food initiatives in public institutions, retail outlets and foodservice markets. UTSC already purchases 34 per cent of its food through Ontario producers, including 24 per cent of its produce. “These numbers are very high for an institution of our size,” says Billi Jo Cox, project coordinator and assistant to the director of business development. “Most other universities have local food purchases well under 20 per cent.” The latest funding will help add even more local options to campus menus, expand educational programs and boost such ventures as the farmers’ market.
UTSC purchases 34% of its food from Ontario producers.
THE GOLDEN ROAD TO RIO

Watch out, hoops world—Canada’s next generation of wheelchair basketball gold medallists is being groomed at UTSC. In October, Wheelchair Basketball Canada opened a national academy on campus to merge high-performance training with academic opportunities for its developing athletes, who study at UTSC or nearby Centennial College. The academy is home to 24 men and women who are seen as future competitors at the Toronto Parapan American Games in 2015 and the 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. A partnership of UTSC, government and sports organizations, the academy is a worldwide first for wheelchair basketball, and several players have chosen to make UTSC their academic home, including Mitch Bossaer, Corin Metzger and Gabrielle Roberts-Winter. The Canadian men’s and women’s teams are already ranked among the world’s best, having won a combined six gold medals in the last six Paralympic Games.

COMMUNITY BACKING FOR TAMIL STUDIES

Located in the heart of one of the largest Tamil communities outside South Asia, UTSC has been expanding its academic offerings on Tamil topics, and the community is eager to support it. A funding drive has raised $500,000 to support Tamil studies in the Department of Historical and Cultural Studies. The money will be used for a $100,000 scholarship fund, a $150,000 Tamil Programming Fund to underwrite special events, and a $250,000 Digital Humanities and Tamil Studies Fund to train students in digital scholarship and help build an online Tamil intellectual hub. The key donors for the five-year initiative are Digital Specialty Chemicals Ltd., led by UTSC grad Ravi R. Gukathasan (BSc, 1982), chartered accountant Muthuraman Rajeevikaran, and businessman Kanish Thervarasa.

A DECADE OF DORIS

“My inspiration remains the landscape,” artist Doris McCarthy said when the gallery that bears her name opened at UTSC in 2004. Her spirit was still deeply present this year as the Doris McCarthy Gallery celebrated its tenth anniversary. Home to some of the Scarborough-based artist’s most important paintings, the DMG is dedicated to the collection, presentation and dissemination of contemporary art in all media. In its 10 years, the gallery has presented 45 exhibitions and introduced such talents as David R. Harper, Jon Sasaki and Mélanie Rocan. For the anniversary show Glare North: Doris McCarthy and Her New Contemporaries, McCarthy’s oil paintings hung alongside 20 newer works examining Canada’s North. A lifelong learner who earned a B.A. from UTSC in 1989, McCarthy died in 2010 at age 100, leaving 213 individual pieces of her art to the campus she loved.
It was a meeting of the eco-minds. At the Third Annual Eastern GTA Eco Summit, experts involved with UTSC’s sustainability partnerships came together to showcase their work and talk about the larger issues involved. The two-day summit, a public event organized by UTSC’s Sustainability Office, featured professors, grad students and staff from UTSC as well as representatives of such organizations as the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, the Toronto Zoo, Parks Canada and businesses and community associations. Topics included the Rouge National Urban Park, watershed management, food security in Malvern, transportation and sustainable cityscapes. The summit showcases UTSC’s partnerships: members of the community come to engage with each other and share their insights.

UTSC’S COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The many partnerships between UTSC and local organizations offer opportunities for research and student involvement in civic life and work. Here is a sampling of our community partners:

- ArtHeart Community Art Centre
- East Scarborough Boys and Girls Club
- East Scarborough Multi-Sport Collaborative
- East Scarborough Storefront
- Evergreen
- Highland Creek Residents Association
- NGO Kicks
- Let’s Talk Science
- Parks Canada
- Pathways to Education
- Native Child Family Services of Toronto
- Malvern Action for Neighbourhood Change/Malvern Family

- Resource Centre
- Models of Human Diseases Project
- North East Year Round Alternative Centre
- Scarborough Film Festival
- Scarborough Women’s Centre
- Smart Commute
- TD Friends of the Environment
- Toronto Community Housing
- Toronto District School Board
- Toronto East Quadrant – Local Immigration Partnership
- Toronto Public Library
- Toronto Zoo

TECTING THEIR STORIES

Everybody has a story to tell. That idea drives a community workshop series that brings together UTSC English faculty and local residents at the East Scarborough Storefront. Launched in 2013, the six-week workshop helps inspire local residents to see their own stories as vital, and gives them the tools to craft those stories. The 2013 series, offered free to roughly 20 participants, was so successful that a second workshop on poetry was added in the fall by poet and UTSC creative writing lecturer Daniel Scott Tysdal, who initiated the program.
SMART GROWTH

UTSC is expanding every year. From now through 2018-2019, total undergraduate enrolment is expected to increase by 19 per cent. The University is well prepared. New buildings are on the rise, more top-quality faculty are joining us, and thanks to our generous supporters, our endowment continues to grow.

THE NORTHERN WAVE

UTSC is opening up its approach to science—literally. Construction has begun on the Environmental Science and Chemistry Building, scheduled for completion in 2015. The innovative building will feature a distinctive wave pattern on the outside, and on the inside an environmentally friendly design will combine with open-concept laboratories. “The space in the new building will have organic and inorganic teaching laboratories with wide open spaces,” says Bernie Kraatz, chair of the Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences. “Ideas will be tackled right there, synergies can arise, and we can instantly test ideas right in the laboratory.”

Designed to attain LEED Gold certification for its sustainability features, the $65 million, 110,000-square-foot building will join the Instructional Centre and the Toronto Pan Am Sports Centre in extending the UTSC campus north of Ellesmere Road.
$18.6M raised at UTSC so far through the U of T Boundless Campaign
A MORE AUTONOMOUS STRUCTURE

A new system of governance has come into force at UTSC, allowing for more local decision-making on campus issues. The 28-member UTSC Campus Council replaces the former 400-member UTSC Council. The new body includes administrators, faculty, students, alumni and community members, most of whom are elected, as well as a 60-member Academic Affairs Committee and a 35-member Campus Affairs Committee. The Campus Council can now approve capital projects up to $3 million without seeking approval from the U of T Governing Council, to which it reports. It can also make decisions on such local matters as parking, food services and student residences, as well as some aspects of programs, curriculum and academic policy.

MORE FACULTY, MORE EXPERTISE

Since January 2013, 24 new faculty members have joined UTSC—including 15 in newly created positions. It’s no accident—the expansion supports UTSC’s strategic goal of building strong foundations on which to grow. “We all are committed to providing students with an excellent education, and one of the ways to do this is through reducing the faculty-student ratios,” says Rick Halpern, Dean and VP Academic. “These new faculty mark an important step forward.” Another strategic goal is to hire faculty who work in new areas of interest, such as Global Asia Studies, City Studies, African Studies and Health Studies; these also reflect the growing emphasis on interdisciplinarity. UTSC will also benefit from the authority of five senior faculty members hired in Psychology, History, and Ecology and Conservation.
ATTRACTION THE BEST

UTSC is becoming a magnet for top students. These elite applicants, boasting Ontario high school grades of over 90 per cent, can generally have their pick of universities. This year there was a 16 per cent increase in the number of them who made UTSC their first choice for a university education. In addition, many more students are naming specific programs at UTSC as their first choice. Computer & Mathematical Sciences and its co-op program, for example, each witnessed an increase of more than 60 per cent in first-choice applicants. It’s a testament to the unique programs and experiential opportunities offered by UTSC.

GROWTH IN TOTAL FALL HEADCOUNT ENROLMENT OVER 2009-10

- 2010-11: 0%
- 2011-12: 1%
- 2012-13: 6.4%
- 2013-14: 12.1%
UTSC has always brought innovation to undergraduate education, as our pioneering co-op programs demonstrate. Today we continue to build on our excellence in the classroom by offering exciting new ways for our students to learn.

**REVELATIONIZING UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION**

**WRITER MIRIAM TOEWS TAKES UP RESIDENCE**

She is one of Canada’s most gifted and well-loved storytellers. This year, Miriam Toews became UTSC’s inaugural Writer-in-Residence, based in the Department of English during the winter term. The author of five novels and one book of non-fiction, Toews has won many of the country’s most prestigious literary awards, including the Governor General’s Award for Fiction. Fittingly, her appointment came as the Department launched a new Minor in Creative Writing, one of only a handful of undergraduate creative writing programs available in all of Canada. “It’s always fun and inspiring to meet students and to talk about writing,” said Toews before her term began, “and I’m also excited about the opportunity to work on some of my own stuff.”
30% of first-year courses have class sizes of 30 or fewer.
ENVIRONMENT AND ENGINEERING: A UNIQUE PAIRING

Future environmental consultants will be well-armed with engineering expertise as well as scientific knowledge thanks to a one-of-a-kind undergraduate/graduate degree program created jointly by UTSC and U of T’s Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering. Participants in the five-year program will graduate with a BSc in Environmental Science and a Master of Engineering in either Chemical or Civil Engineering. After studying environmental science via UTSC’s Department of Physical & Environmental Sciences for the first three years, the students start taking engineering courses in fourth year, and finish the MEng program in fifth. (Graduates do not become licensed engineers, which requires full undergraduate study.) “This agreement marks two historic firsts,” says Engineering Dean Cristina Amon, “the first collaboration between Engineering and UTSC, and the first program of its kind in Canada.”

NEW MINOR IN ENGLISH-TO-CHINESE TRANSLATION

Starting September 2014, a new minor at UTSC’s Centre for French and Linguistics will teach students how to translate written English to Chinese. Chinese is now the third most commonly used language in Canada, and the demand for translation services is growing in many fields across the public and private sectors. The minor will give students an advantage in a job market that increasingly demands such skills. The program will also deepen the connections between UTSC and its wider community. The languages we teach reflect the communities around us.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS, 2013-14

Admissions Scholarships
385 (Value: $846,060)

In-Course Scholarships
617 (Value: $433,395)

Bursaries
1,423 (Value: $4,742,216)

OSAP (Ont. Student Assistance Program)
5,244 (Value: $42,755,797)

UTAPS (U of T Advancement Planning for Students)
809 (Value: $3,597,654)
A TEACHER TO THE BONE

What does it take to be a great teacher? UTSC anthropologist Larry Sawchuk, who won a 2013 U of T President’s Teaching Award, has some thoughts after 30 years in the classroom. To begin with, he says, “I try to inject as much humour into my lectures as possible.” He also skilfully weaves in illuminating case studies from his own research on health and disease in Gibraltar and Malta. Then there are his teaching tools in forensic anthropology. “One was a game where you had to determine the age, sex and cause of death by examining the bone of an individual,” Sawchuk says. “I always try to allow students, even in their first year, to use real data so they can make connections to what they are learning.” Most importantly, he says, “I want my students to take away transferable skills. I’m not obsessed with memorization; rather, I’m more concerned if my students can write and think critically.”

Prof. Larry Sawchuk uses real-world data in his teaching to help students make direct connections to what they’re learning.
LEARNING IN ACTION

For many UTSC students, doing is an essential part of learning. Beyond the classroom, they are applying their knowledge directly, in a wide variety of places. This experiential learning promotes fresh thinking and helps prepare them for their future careers. Employers appreciate it as well: they hire graduates who already have the knowledge and proficiency they need.

KNOWLEDGE AT WARP SPEED

You never know where a Co-op term will take you. Katherine Chan’s placements led her from a tech start-up all the way to corporate giant Microsoft, and helped her discover her passion for pursuing a marketing career in the high-tech sector. She joined Tunezy, a start-up that helps emerging musicians connect with audiences, shortly after it was founded by UTSC graduates Derrick Fung and Brandon Chu. “They weren’t treating me like a student, and I got experience in all aspects of marketing,” she says. “I had a ton of responsibility.” The experience helped her land a placement at Microsoft, where she promoted student mobile application development and continued to work part-time while finishing her degree this year. Chan is sold on the Co-op experience. “It matures you faster and you learn what you like and want,” she says. “You can develop at warp speed.”
Students on co-op workterms
HANSD-ON HEALTH STUDIES

An innovative fourth-year health studies seminar is helping UTSC students understand health issues at street level. Natasha Raja-ratnam did a placement at the Canadian Mental Health Association, where she explored how social determinants of health affect Sri Lankan immigrants’ access to mental health services in Toronto. “I learned a lot about the barriers and social inequalities of individuals living with mental illnesses,” she says. Classmate Nusrat Ali teamed up with two other students on a research project with the Toronto Harm Reduction Task Force, a network of individuals and organizations working to reduce the impact of substance abuse. Health Studies professor Michelle Silver says her seminar is designed to give students a working knowledge of the social factors that shape a person’s health and to help develop their research skills.

30 YEARS OF THE IDS CO-OP

UTSC has been described as Canada’s leading academic institution in the training of development professionals. This year, we celebrated our 30th anniversary of its pioneering co-op program in International Development Studies (IDS), which offers students an interdisciplinary, critical view of such global issues as poverty, inequality, oppression and sustainability. In their fourth year, Co-op students undertake an eight to 12-month internship with an international organization, working on projects in the developing world and conducting fieldwork for a thesis. From 1986 to 2013, 22 of those students were able to travel overseas with support from the SKF Canada Limited Scholarship. To celebrate the 30th anniversary, Scarborough-based SKF Canada has contributed $50,000 to establish a new endowed scholarship that will continue to help students in financial need do placements around the world. Those students, in turn, will lend a helping hand to countries and communities in need.

FALL HEADCOUNT ENROLMENT IN CO-OP PROGRAMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Co-op programs offered</th>
<th>Students on co-op workterms</th>
<th>Enrolment in service learning courses</th>
<th>Graduate student internships</th>
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<td>2009-10</td>
<td>1,584</td>
<td>46</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>1,833</td>
<td>932</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NUMBER OF DEGREES AWARDED (CALENDAR YEAR 2013)

- 572 B.A.
- 343 B.B.A.
- 844 B.Sc.
- 61 M.Env.Sc.

RESEARCH ACTIVITY 2012-13

- $9,764,679 Value of grants & contracts
- 271 Grants & contracts
- 566 Papers in refereed journals
- 22 Books
- 96 Book chapters
- 131 Post doctoral fellows
- 653 Graduate students supervised

TOTAL VALUE OF GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

- '08-09 $6.8 MILLION
- '09-10 $8.4 MILLION
- '10-11 $8.7 MILLION
- '11-12 $9.3 MILLION
- '12-13 $9.8 MILLION

$134,878,821 Net operating budget

GROWTH IN TOTAL FALL INTERNATIONAL HEADCOUNT ENROLMENT OVER 2006-07

- 2007-08 15.4%
- 2008-09 44.7%
- 2009-10 70.2%
- 2010-11 73%
- 2011-12 90.5%
- 2012-13 109.7%
- 2013-14 138.5%

346.5 Academic staff and librarians, full time equivalent

484.2 Non-academic staff, full-time equivalent
The University of Toronto is one of the world’s leading research institutions, and UTSC professors play a major role in advancing its reputation for discovery and innovation. Their authoritative studies are at the cutting edge of knowledge, whether the focus is local, global or, now, even interplanetary.

**STUDYING THE ‘ECOLOGY OF FEAR’**

It’s not only humans who suffer stress—so do animals. UTSC biology professor Rudy Boonstra understands this well. As Director of the Centre for the Neurobiology of Stress at UTSC, Boonstra is known for his work on the role stress plays in evolutionary adaptations to particular ecological pressures, such as predators and population density. The American Society of Mammalogists, which awarded Boonstra the 2013 C. Hart Merriam award for his research into how animals cope with change, credited the biologist’s seminal research with inspiring the field “ecology of fear.” Boonstra says understanding the impact of stress on animals can help in efforts to conserve endangered species.
$9.8M
in research grants were awarded to UTSC in 2012-13.
AN ENERGETIC RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT

THE DURABILITY OF REVOLUTIONARY REGIMES

Revolutionary regimes often suffer from poor economic performance, large-scale policy failures and intense external pressure. But they’re also remarkably durable. Lucan Way, professor of political science at UTSC, is looking at why these regimes are so successful at maintaining power over long periods of time. Working with Steven Levitsky of Harvard University, Way looks into the factors—such as organization, discipline, elimination of internal opposition and use of violence—that make authoritarian regimes successful at holding on to power.

GIFTS TO AID ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH

UTSC has received two major gifts to further its cutting-edge role in environmental research. The Krembil Foundation, headed by UTSC alum Mark Krembil (BA, 1988), is giving $1.6 million for research on the health of Canada’s aquatic ecosystem. The project will use state-of-the-art technology to develop innovative ways to monitor the health of Canada’s water resources in the face of human intrusion. Meanwhile, TD Bank is providing $1 million to support UTSC as the primary research and education partner of the new Rouge National Urban Park. The gift will create a limited-term professorship in Urban Forest Conservation and Biology, undergraduate fellowships for students to work with faculty in the park during summer, and graduate research scholarships in Environmental Science.

LEADING THE WAY IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

As UTSC’s newest Canada Research Chair (CRC), Marney Isaac of the Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences and the Centre for Critical Development Studies will focus on how to make agricultural environments more sustainable. Prof. Isaac takes a multidisciplinary approach from fields as diverse as soil science and sociology to determine the best interventions to combat such environmental problems as soil erosion and deforestation. In her new role, CRC in Agroecosystems and Development, she aims to make agriculture more productive, while reducing environmental impacts.

WATCHING CROSS-BORDER SHOPPERS

Canadian cross-border shoppers are highly sensitive to changes in the U.S. exchange rate, according to a trio of Canadian researchers that included UTSC and Rotman School of Management professor Ambarish Chandra. In recent years, even a one-cent increase in the value of the Canadian dollar could send streams of Canucks southward, the team found after examining border data from 1972 to 2010. They also noted that cross-border shopping responded much more quickly than international trade. “Individuals are far more flexible,” says Chandra. “If an individual consumer sees an increase in the exchange rate they can hop in their car and drive south to shop right away.” He adds that the findings on cross-border travel also offer important information to policymakers regarding taxation, infrastructure planning, border security and combatting infectious disease.

UTSC PROF. BRINGS LANDMARK CONFERENCE TO TORONTO

It was a busy year for UTSC Prof. Franca Iacovetta. She was the president of the 16th Berkshire Conference, one of the most important international conferences on the history of women, gender and sexuality. The conference, which took place on the St. George campus, welcomed more than 2,000 participants and was three years in the planning. The primary goal of the event is to bridge gaps among scholarship, lay publics, artistry and political engagement to analyze both history and contemporary issues. Among the 245 academic sessions, undergraduate and graduate students, as well as faculty represented UTSC and U of T as a whole both as presenters and participants. This year’s conference, themed Histories on the Edge, explored such issues as war-displaced, immigrant and migrating women; transgressive women; women and psychiatry; reproductive health; and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered (LGBT) histories.
THE FINAL FRONTIER

The mission “to boldly go” is very real, even if the Starship Enterprise is not. UTSC is now home to an interdisciplinary, tri-campus centre dedicated to the study and exploration of planets within and beyond our solar system. “With the establishment of the Centre for Planetary Sciences, UTSC is at the forefront of the exciting task of describing the almost 1,000 worlds that have been discovered in the last 50 years,” says Malcolm Campbell, vice-principal of research. Among the varied researchers at the centre, housed in the Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences, are newly recruited planetary physicists Kristen Menou and Diana Valencia, a couple who arrived in 2013 from positions at, respectively, Columbia University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

Given our setting in one of the most culturally diverse communities in Canada, it’s not surprising that UTSC is plugged in to the world. Our partnerships and academic connections extend to every corner of the planet, adding immeasurably to the quality of our knowledge—and our people.

UTSC has students representing 123 different countries
Behold: a new international sporting landmark has arisen at the northwest end of the UTSC campus. The 312,000-square-foot Toronto Pan Am Sports Centre opens for students and the community in Fall 2014, and will welcome the competitors of the Pan Am/Parapan Am Games in the summer of 2015. Effectively creating a new campus gateway at the corner of Morningside Avenue and Military Trail, the $205-million building represents the largest investment in amateur sport infrastructure in Canada. It includes two Olympic-sized pools, a dive tank, a four-court gymnasium, an indoor running track and a rock climbing wall. After the Games, the facility, jointly owned by the University of Toronto and the City of Toronto, will be available for intensive use by UTSC students, the community and elite athletes from across Canada.

WELCOMING 46 COUNTRIES FOR THE GAMES
STUDYING WITH THE GLOBAL SOUTH

It’s a common concern among developing countries of the Global South: academics from wealthy countries don’t really understand the issues. Now an international network of experts on political processes, born at UTSC two years ago, is working hard to redress the balance. The Collaboration for Research on Democracy (CORD) network includes 30 partners—researchers, practitioners and policy-makers—from Canada, South Africa, Bangladesh, Brazil, the United Kingdom, India, Uganda and Egypt. CORD serves as a sounding board for ideas and a way to connect with fellow researchers around the world. “In the past a lot of academic work in development studies involved northern institutions on the outside, looking at the South, and then leaving,” says Leslie Chan, a UTSC senior lecturer in international studies. “The whole idea of CORD is to learn from each other and enrich each other’s work by having partners who live in, and know, the regions under study.”

INTERNATIONAL VIEWS OF HEALTH

To Laura Bisaillon, health studies is a bridge to the world. A new UTSC faculty member, she brings the perspective of a decade in international development work to her third-year courses in research methods and the social determinants of health. As a community developer and planner in regions of Africa and the Caribbean, Bisaillon worked for governments and agencies in such areas as co-op housing, livelihood skills training, reduction of female and infant mortality and the assessment of aid programs. She has also studied Canada’s policy of rejecting HIV-positive people as immigrants. “I work with students to help open them up to more critical thinking at the intersection, for example, of health, immigration and the law in Canada,” says Bisaillon.

THE GREEN PATH GROWS WIDER

As it celebrates its first decade of operation, UTSC’s unique Green Path program is bigger and more successful than ever. Since 2005, top students from mainland China have been recruited by UTSC from partner high schools across China, welcomed into residence and given 12 weeks of intensive summer preparation for university life in Canada—academic procedures, ESL training and lifestyle tips from cooking to transit. This year, Green Path (“the way to success” in Chinese) took in a record 225 students from 23 Chinese provinces, adding to the 1,100 who have already completed the program. This year, UTSC launched a similar program for top students from Taiwan. Nineteen students recruited from the island’s 10 leading high schools spent eight weeks in residence honing their academic and language skills and learning about Canadian life.
A CURRICULUM FOR CLEAN WATER

More than 300 million people in Africa lack access to clean water. A key reason: much of Africa lacks access to experts in this field. Now an initiative sparked by UTSC environmental science lecturer Mandy Meriano will help change that. Under a partnership between UTSC and Calgary-based NGO UniWater Education Limited—with seed money from Grand Challenges Canada—a curriculum for a master’s degree in Hydrogeology and Water Resources Management is being created at no cost for universities in sub-Saharan Africa. The 12-month program will be offered in Fall 2014 at four universities in Kenya, Tanzania and Nigeria. Meriano hopes hundreds of trained experts will graduate in coming years. “This program has potential to make a major impact on local communities,” she says.