

## Brock News becomes online only

Brock's venerable paper publication is now an immediate and interactive news site delivering information to the University community.

This edition is the last paper issue of the Brock News. The new site, located at [www.brocku.ca/brocknews](http://www.brocku.ca/brocknews), continues to report information that matters, including:

- faculty and staff achievements
- stories about people and events
- research profiles
- official announcements and notices
- "Three questions" segments with friends and co-workers
- the work of Brock people on campus and in the field

The new site allows for a more

flexible format, and can include video and multiple photos with each story.

"We've had a lot of great photos or sidebars submitted that we've had to trim to fit into the traditional four-page format," Brock News editor Samantha

Craggs said. "The new site allows us to share more about what happens at Brock, and in a more timely

fashion.

"We hope members of the Brock community will use this as their No. 1 source for news about the University."

[www.brocku.ca/brocknews](http://www.brocku.ca/brocknews)

The new site was developed after consultation with faculty and staff. It went online in late December. A promotional campaign continues to inform people of the site.

The new site is greener, replacing nearly 4,000 paper copies distributed each month, said Kevin Cavanagh, associate director of Communications and Public Affairs. Increasingly, he added, people prefer to get their news online.

"The need to relate significant information in a timely manner dictates that we communicate it more often than twice a month," he said.

Flip to page two to read about stories recently added to the new Brock News.

### Join the new Brock News

To get regular email updates about information added to the site:

1. Visit [brocku.ca/brocknews](http://brocku.ca/brocknews)
2. Find "Subscribe with RSS or E-mail" in the upper left-hand corner of the page.
3. Click on "E-mail" and enter your email address in the space provided. No user name or password is needed.

To submit to the site, continue to use [campusnews@brocku.ca](mailto:campusnews@brocku.ca)

## Experts develop new essay tutorial

There's good news for a generation of university students who are wizards at texting and tweeting, but struggle to write an essay.

Learning-skills experts at Brock University have invented an online tutorial using pop-ups, quizzes and flashy graphics to teach students to write essays that are organized, researched and safe from incidental cut-and-paste plagiarism.

It's called Essay-Zone. It's a hit with students and educators. And its reputation is sweeping through the international university grapevine.

While it was being developed last year, Essay-Zone was tried by thousands of Brock students. They loved it, and so did their professors.

But its creators soon learned that essay-writing challenges exist on campuses far beyond Brock. When Essay-Zone was demonstrated in a webinar for North American academics, email inquiries started arriving the next day from as far away as New Zealand.

This autumn, Brock officials licensed the tutorial for distribution and were soon fielding inquiries from places like Texas State University, City University in Hong Kong, Concordia University in Montreal and Mount Royal College in Calgary.

Jill Brindle, learning skills manager at Brock's Student Development Centre, created Essay-Zone with co-developers Margaret Groombridge and Philipp Lesmana.

She says it works because students understand drag-and-drop techniques when it comes to putting essay components in the right sequence.

"It's computer-based," said Brindle. "Students are very comfortable with the medium. They're used to scanning information, and with this program they have the option to 'surf' it — which is fun. There are a lot of resources out there, but nothing that is as interactive and fun as this."

Faculty members hailed it. "The opportunity this has afforded my students and myself has been unbelievable," said one professor.

See more at the website: [www.academic-zone.com](http://www.academic-zone.com)



Debbie Inglis (above), director of the Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute, was all smiles during an announcement of \$1.45 million in federal research funding. Matthias Oppenlaender (right), chair of the Ontario Grape and Wine Research Inc., was also pleased.

## CCOVI gets nearly \$2 million worth of research funding

The federal government is injecting \$1.45 million into Canada's grape and wine industry through research done by Brock's Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute (CCOVI) and the Grape Growers of Ontario.

Rick Dykstra, MP for St. Catharines, announced the funding Dec. 16 at a reception at Pond Inlet. The funding, which comes from the federal Developing Innovative Agri-Products program, will combine with funding from the grape and wine industry to form \$1.9 million in research dollars.

"I think we'll see a return on this investment tenfold," Dykstra said.

The funding will add two positions to CCOVI's research team. The scientists will work on priorities identified by the industry itself.

"Not only are we adding research expertise, but also much-needed outreach support for the grape and wine industry,"



## Professor among 20 finalists in TVO competition

A Brock professor known for his interdisciplinary work in mathematics and art has now been recognized for his teaching.

Bill Ralph, associate professor of Mathematics has been selected as one of the 20 finalists in this year's TVO Best Lecturer Competition, which celebrates the most engaging lecturers in Ontario.

For this year's contest TVO received more than 970 nomination submissions for 692 professors from 37 post-secondary schools across the province.

"I want to say a huge thank you to my students for nominating me for the TVO contest," said Ralph. "Brock has always had a student-centered approach to learning and I'm proud to be a part of it."

Ralph has been at Brock since 1985. He studies algebraic topology and the behaviour of certain "chaotic dynamical systems", which he uses to generate mathematical art that can be seen at [www.billralph.com](http://www.billralph.com)

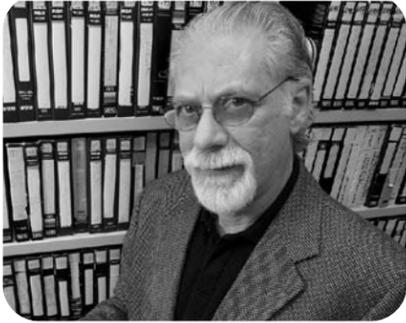
He is also cross appointed with Brock's Centre for Digital Humanities where he teaches digital media production.

Some of the students who nominated Ralph are from Brock's new MICA (Mathematics Integrated with Computer Applications) program, which he also helped to develop. In this program, future mathematics teachers create interactive learning objects and future researchers explore the boundaries of mathematics using the latest computer technology.

One of his student nominators notes: "No matter how stressed or upset I am, I know walking in to professor Ralph's calc class that I will be laughing at least once and feeling much better by the time I leave. He is able to accomplish this while still successfully teaching the necessary concepts."

TVO staff and an independent jury will review the submission videos to select 10 finalists whose names will be announced on Monday Feb. 8, 2010. The winning lecturer and their school will be awarded a \$10,000 TD Insurance Meloche Monnex scholarship.

In the Brock News online:



Professor Barry Grant discusses winning the Distinguished Service Award from the Canadian Association of University Teachers.



Brock staff — including members of Brock Dining Services, above — donated food, clothing and time to local charities during the holiday season.



R&B legends Boyz II Men perform at the Sean O'Sullivan Theatre on Jan. 20.



Anna Olson talked baking and higher education during a recent book signing at the Campus Store.



Sports writer Stephen Brunt discussed the famous 1988 trade of Wayne Gretzky to the Los Angeles Kings on a recent visit to Brock.

**Also:**

- Nominations open for two internal research awards
- More faculty and staff publications and conference appearances
- Media Talk appearances
- "Three questions" profiles of co-workers
- Classified ads

# New committee examining workplace wellness

Human Resources and Recreation Services have partnered for the continued championing and development of programming that supports your wellness at Brock.

A newly formed Health and Well-being Committee is meeting regularly to discuss various wellness options in your workplace.

Historically, the committee has provided support for Wellness Wednesdays (information sessions on wellness held one Wednesday a month for faculty and staff) and the Wellness

Conference in June.

This workplace wellness committee is designing a brief employee survey to assess your wellness needs and how to improve your access to this information.

Please watch for the information on how to access this survey on the portal, bulletin boards and your individual departments over the next few weeks. This will be an opportunity to provide input into your wellness program.

Present resources available to you include:

- a wellness newsletter at <http://brocku.ca/hr-ehs/benefits>
  - The Great-West's Health and Wellness website at [gwl2.mediresource.com](http://gwl2.mediresource.com)
- An online health resource for you and your family:  
The site offers:  
- In-depth information on diseases, conditions, drugs and treatment options etc. The user name is BROCKU. The password is BROCKU001  
Committee members welcome feedback.

## Faculty and Staff

### CHEMISTRY, BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Ellen L. Robb, Paul Zelisko and Jeffrey A. Stuart presented "MnSOD plays an important role in resveratrol's biological effects" at the Radical Biology and Medicine Annual Conference in San Francisco, Calif., November 2009.

### MATHEMATICS

Stephen Anco presented "Klein geometry, group invariant soliton equations, and bi-Hamiltonian geometric curve flows" in the session on Geometry of Differential Equations held at the American Mathematical Society regional meeting in Raleigh, N.C. in April 2009.

Stephen Anco presented "Conserved integrals of compressible fluid flow in n>1 spatial dimensions" in the session on Exact and Approximation Methods for Differential Equations held at the Winter Meeting of the Canadian Mathematical Society in Windsor, Ont., December 2009.

### POLITICAL SCIENCE

Tim Heinmiller gave a talk at the University of Guelph entitled "The Politics of Mature Water Economies" on Oct. 25, 2009.

Tim Heinmiller presented a paper, "The Emissions Trading Convergence in Climate Change Policies: An Historical Institutional Explanation", at a conference in Berlin, Germany. The conference, titled Canada's Political Environment and the Politics of the Canadian Environment, was on Nov. 14, 2009.

### PSYCHOLOGY

Carolyn Hafer and PhD student Leanne Gosse presented "Beyond victim blame: Repressive coping style and threats to the belief in a just world" December 2008 at the 8th biennial conference of the Asian Association of Social Psychology, Delhi, India.

## Publications

Amprimoz, Alexandre L. (2009). "If the Spirit Were to Breathe Again I." Contemporary Verse 2 32.1, pp. 128-28.

Amprimoz, Alexandre L. (2009). "If the Spirit Were to Breathe Again II." Contemporary Verse 2 32.1, pp. 129-29.

Amprimoz, Alexandre L. (2009). "If the Spirit Were to Breathe Again III." Contemporary Verse 2 32.1, pp. 130-30.

Amprimoz, Alexandre L. (2009). "If the Spirit Were to Breathe Again IV." Contemporary Verse 2 32.1, pp. 131-31.

Amprimoz, Alexandre L. (2009). "If the Spirit Were to Breathe Again V." Contemporary Verse 2 32.1, pp. 132-32.

Amprimoz, Alexandre L. (2009). "Le génie du lieu." Sillons: Hommages à Gabrielle Roy. Ed. Lise Gaboury-Diallo. Saint-Boniface: Les Éditions du blè, pp. 113-16.

S. C. Anco and E. Asadi. (2009). "Quaternion soliton equations from Hamiltonian curve

flows in  $HP^n$ .", J. Phys. A: Math. Theor. 42, pp. 485201.

S. C. Anco and A. Dar. (2009). "Classification of conservation laws of compressible isentropic fluid flow in n>1 spatial dimensions.", Proc. Roy. Soc. A 465, pp. 2461-2488.

S. C. Anco and S. Vacaru. (2009). "Curve flows in Lagrange-Finsler geometry, bi-Hamiltonian structures and solitons.", J. Geom. Phys. 59, pp. 79-103.

S. C. Anco. (2008). "Group-invariant soliton equations and bi-Hamiltonian geometric curve flows in Riemannian symmetric spaces." J. Geom. Phys. 58, pp. 1-37.

Carrillo, A. E., R. J. L. Murphy, and S. S. Cheung. (2008). "Effects of acute and short-term vitamin C supplementation on immune factors following exercise in the heat." Int. J. Sports Physiol. Perform. 3, pp. 516-530.

Cavallin, N. and Vasseur, L. (2009). "Red spruce forest regeneration dynamics across a gradient from Acadian forest to old field in Greenwich, Prince Edward Island National Park." Plant Ecology, 201 (1), pp. 169-180.

De Grosbois, Danuta; Kaethler, John; and Young, Alexandra. (2009). "Discovering the World: Discovering Myself" in Internationalization And The Student Voice. (Elspeth Jones, ed.) Routledge, pp. 68-82.

Dimand, Robert W., and Barbara J. Spencer. (2009). "Trevor Swan and the Neoclassical Growth Model," in Mauro Boianovsky and Kevin D. Hoover, eds., Robert Solow and the Development of Growth Economics, Durham, NC, and London: Duke University Press, Annual Supplement to History of Political Economy Volume 41, pp. 107-126.

Dimand, Robert W., and Steven N. Durlauf (2009), "James Tobin and Growth Theory: Financial Factors and Long-Run Growth," in Mauro Boianovsky and Kevin D. Hoover, eds., Robert Solow and the Development of Growth Economics, Durham, NC, and London: Duke University Press, Annual Supplement to History of Political Economy Volume 41, pp. 182-199.

B. Djukic and M. T. Lemaire. (2009). "A Hybrid Spin-Crossover Conductor Exhibiting Unusual Variable Temperature Electrical Conductivity." Inorg. Chem., 48, pp. 10489-10491.

Gallant, D.; Vasseur, L.; Dumond, M.; Tremblay, E.; and Bérubé, C. (2009). "Habitat selection by river otters (Lontra canadensis) under contrasting land use regimes." Can. J. Zool., 87: pp. 422-432.

J. B. Gilroy; M. T. Lemaire; B. O. Patrick; R. G. Hicks. (2009). "Structure and magnetism of a verdazyl radical clathrate hydrate. Strong intermolecular magnetic interactions derived from p-stacking within ice-like channels." CrystEngComm. 11, pp. 2180-2184.

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Preferences," Psychological Science, 20(11), pp. 1309-1312.

Mgombelo, Joyce and Buteau, Chantal. (2009). "Prospective Secondary Mathematics Teachers Repositioning by Designing, Implementing and Testing Learning Objects: A Conceptual Framework." International Journal of Mathematical Education in Science and Technology, 40 (8), pp. 1051-1068.

Ribaric, T. (2009). Automatic preparation of ETD material from the internet archive for the DSpace repository platform. The code4lib Journal, (8) Retrieved from <http://journal.code4lib.org/articles/2152>

Ritchie, Ian. (2010). "The Sociology of Science: Sport, Training, and the Use of Performance-Enhancing Substances." In Earl Smith, ed., Sociology of Sport and Social Theory (Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics), pp. 41-53.

D. Spasyuk, D. Zargarian, A. van der Est. (2009). "New POCN-Type Pincer Complexes of Ni(II) and Ni(III)." Organometallics 28, pp. 6531-6540.

A. van der Est, S. Chirico, I. Karyagina, R. Cohen, G. Shen, J. H. Golbeck. (2010). "Alteration of the Axial Met Ligand to Electron Acceptor A0 in Photosystem I: An Investigation of Electron Transfer at Different Temperatures by Multifrequency Time Resolved and CW EPR," Appl. Magn. Res. 37, pp. 103-121.

A. van der Est, Yu. Pushkar, I. Karyagina, B. Fonovic, T. Dudding, J. Niklas, W. Lubitz and J.H. Golbeck. (2010). "Incorporation of 2,3-Disubstituted-1,4-naphthoquinones into the A1 Binding Site of Photosystem I Studied by EPR and ENDOR Spectroscopy," Appl. Magn. Res. 37, pp. 65-83.

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Vasseur, L. (Ed.)(2009). Femmes et écologie. Volume 12, numéro 2. Recherches féministes, Université Laval. Including introduction "L'écologie : une science ou un enjeu de la vie quotidienne?"

Vasseur, L. (2009). "The John A. Livingston reader with appreciation by Graeme Gibson." (2007). Toronto, McClelland and Stewart, pp. 388 (for Canadian Book Review Annual).

Vasseur, L. (2009). "The three dimensions of species diversity." The Open Conversations Biology Journal, ([bentham.org/open/toconsbjj](http://bentham.org/open/toconsbjj)).

## Events

### CFWU

The Canadian Federation of University Women will hold their monthly meeting on Jan. 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the Plymouth Cordage Retirement Residence, First Street in Welland. A Wellness Workshop presentation will be provided by Scott Taylor. New members and interested women are welcome to attend.