

Road to tenure straight, but long

BY ANJUM NAYYAR

Anxiety-provoking. Satisfying and challenging. These are all words used to describe the tenure process by Professors **Alexandra Gillespie** at U of T Mississauga and **Guy Faulkner** at St. George, both of whom were recently granted tenure. Nonetheless, both felt quite confident they would indeed

**MORE ON TENURE INSIDE
SEE PAGES 10-11**

attain tenure at the end of five years and they agree there is a sense of pride that comes with achieving it.

“I think we as academics worry all the time that our work is never quite good enough,” said Gillespie, who teaches English. “We all have the sense that our work could be better. What academics are doing is trying to figure things out and do we ever finish that work? No. So, even when the tenure process is a really fair one, you still feel inadequate.”

Faulkner said there is a flip side to the fear.

“While it is a potentially onerous and anxiety-provoking process, I think that new faculty members should feel confident that they will get tenure,” said Faulkner, who is in the Faculty of Physical Education and Health on the St. George campus. “I think it’s unlikely you’ll get a job at U of T unless you’re viewed as having the potential to achieve tenure. It’s a fair process and if you are conscientious and work hard you will get tenure.”

Gillespie who completed her doctorate at the University of Oxford, noted, “Toronto has a superb and productive tenure system. It’s one of the reasons I came to this university.

“I love the academic relationship I have with my other junior colleagues in the tenure stream because we don’t feel like we’re competing with each other to be the one person who gets tenure that year,” she said. “We assume that unless someone just doesn’t do a good job we will get tenure. That is so liberating.”

Both Gillespie and Faulkner agree that publishing as much as possible is another key to tenure success. Gillespie’s research concentrates on the period of transition between manuscript and print and the way that scribal production of books anticipated many of the changes associated with the printing press. She has found the kind of intellectual freedom that U of T offers allows her research to flourish. She says she doesn’t feel however, that there is a “publish or perish” attitude leading up

• • • ROAD ON PAGE 10



DIANA MCNALLY

On Oct. 4, the night of Scotiabank Nuit Blanche, art patrons and the curious alike stop to watch a projection of the film *V for Vendetta* on the walls of University College.

Nuit Blanche draws crowds to campus

BY CATHERINE NGAI

On one restless night last weekend, the University of Toronto threw its doors open from dusk until dawn and joined the rest of the city celebrating the arts. This year’s Scotiabank Nuit Blanche brought about a million art enthusiasts to the streets to experience a full night of contemporary art and performance. The event featured over 150 original creations that were scattered throughout the city, a number of which were on the St. George campus.

Nuit Blanche is an annual arts festival that offers the public unrestricted access into the minds of imaginative artists and their innovative works. It highlights and boasts the best of the city’s art culture scene. At 6:52 p.m. Oct. 4, the university welcomed the art-savvy public to events and installations in six different locations.

On the music front, the Faculty of Music presented *Déjà, Presque, Jamais*: three views of creative sound. Students from the faculty performed

pieces from composers such as Messiaen and Debussy, as well as improvisational works. Through a multitude of media such as toy piano, spoken word, and electro-acoustic and visual accompaniment, the audience was treated to a complexity of echos, rhythms and composition.

The John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design hosted an informational and visually appealing display about the importance of ownership in streets. The exhibit, *The Street Belongs to All of Us*, is a thought-provoking display about the necessities of keeping urban streets clean, safe and accessible.

U of T’s other exhibits were *Sweet Dreams* and *Wildflowers of Manitoba* at Hart House, *Adoration Street* by Atom Egoyan and *Vehicle* at the U of T Arts Centre. *Sweet Dreams* explored the capacity of the imagination in the interstices of dreaming and waking and its possibilities to conjure imaginary futures, ideals and fantasies

• • • NUIT ON PAGE 4

Nuit Blanche lights up campus

ging relative?

ing the following workshops
staff, and faculty:

Caregiver Discussion Group

meet, share experiences and offer support with others who are also caring for an elderly, gravely or terminally ill relative or friend

November 7, December 5
February 6, March 6
April 3
from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

*our family died?
experienced a loss?*

series designed to help people
will begin. The group will be
ies of Ontario. The program is
iness and isolation and to
ound better to each other.

workshops or to register
@utoronto.ca
are.utoronto.ca

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
to transform the everyday. Wildflowers of Manitoba was an installation that used as its points of reference the utopic world views of love revolutions in the 60s and the grand gestures of world expositions of the same decade. Adoration Street reconstructed the suburban streetscape in which Egoyan shot his most recent award-winning film, while Vehicle presented a multi-car,

multi-artist exploration of the aesthetic possibilities of the car as a site of community contact
"Nuit Blanche at U of T was a success again this year. All of our projects had steady flow of visitors, always full, but never getting too cramped or congested, which made for a much more enjoyable viewing experience over past years," said **Jason Van Eyk**, director of ArtsZone, U of T's umbrella arts organization. "Visitors

really seemed to stay and absorb what each project had to offer, rather than running the contemporary art marathon that Nuit Blanche can be. In the end, I think this speaks to the success of each U of T Nuit Blanche, the quality of the art and exhibitions we present, and our capacity to put on great projects that capture a broad public's imagination and attention."



DIANA MCNALLY

Vehicle, the University of Toronto Art Centre's multimedia installation at Scotiabank Nuit Blanche, engaged viewers through activities exploring the car as a site of community contact.