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### **Western Alumnus Gives Back To His Program - \$5-Million Gift From Social Science Graduate Aubrey Dan** Mar 24th, 2006

London, ON. - Students and faculty from the Bachelor of Administrative and Commercial Studies program are the beneficiaries a \$5-million gift from Toronto businessman and Western alumnus Aubrey Dan.

Recently, Western restructured the Bachelor of Administrative and Commercial Studies to provide for an honors program and changed its name to acknowledge the program's strong emphasis on management education. The degree will now be called a Bachelor of Management and Organizational Studies.

Furthermore, in recognition of the \$5-million gift from Dan, the program will be called the Aubrey Dan Program in Management and Organizational Studies. The announcement was made at Western this morning.

Each year, the more than 2,000 students who enroll in the program choose to specialize in Commercial Aviation Management; Finance and Administration; Finance, Administration, and Computer Science; and Organizational and Human Resources.

The \$5 million gift for endowment has been dedicated to the following:

- \* \$3 million to establish a Chair in Accounting within the program to be known as the Dancap Private Equity Chair in Accounting. The endowed Chair will oversee curriculum development, and provide leadership in research and publishing, among other roles.
- \* \$925,000 in support of the Dancap Private Equity Student Awards. The endowment will support up to 19 annual awards of \$2,000 each for students in their third or fourth year of the program.
- \* \$500,000 toward the Dancap Private Equity Faculty Fellowships within the program. The endowment will provide resources to recruit exceptionally talented scholars.
- \* \$575,000 endowed in support of the Dancap Private Equity Faculty Research Fund.

Paul Davenport, Western's President, emphasizes that this gift means a great deal to the program, the Faculty and the University because it comes from one of the program's earliest graduates. "This program began in 1979, and Aubrey graduated in 1985 during the first decade that it was offered at Western. Since then, the program has grown immensely and this gift will ensure its future growth," says Davenport. "We are indebted to Aubrey for this generous gift and are especially proud that the new program will carry the name of an outstanding and generous graduate."

Dan says, "Over the past 20 plus years, the Administrative and Commercial Studies Program has provided me with the people skill sets to help me successfully manage my various businesses on a daily basis. I am thrilled that I am able to help re-brand the degree to Bachelor of Management and Organizational Studies which enhances the perceived value of this already successful program."

Social Science Dean Brian Timney notes that changing the name of the program from Administrative and Commercial Studies to the Aubrey Dan Program in Management and Organizational Studies will further increase its popularity and success. "We believe that the new name is a better reflection of what the program has to offer," says Timney. "This will assist us in attracting the best students and will also provide their future employers with a better understanding of what they will bring to the workforce as they begin their professional careers."

Dan is President and founder of Dancap Global Asset Management, ([www.dancapgam.com](http://www.dancapgam.com)) specializing in managing alternative investments, equities, fixed income, currencies, commodities and structured products. He is also President and founder of Dancap Private Equity Inc., ([www.dancap.ca](http://www.dancap.ca)) which makes direct investments into small and medium size companies, primarily in Canada. Dan most recently became a Theatrical Producer. He has co-produced three theatrical productions with Canstage Theatre in Toronto at the St. Lawrence Centre: Urinetown in May 2004, winner of six Dora awards including Producer of the Year; Ain't Misbehavin, March 2005, nominated for six Dora awards; and currently the musical revival of Hair, which opens on Thursday, March 30 and runs through until June 17, 2006.

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