



Constable Alan Dutkewich (left) and Sergeant Jens (Jim) Enslev, both of the Brantford City Police, proudly display the UWO degrees they earned in 11 years of courses taken at work through the Faculty of Part-Time and Continuing Education.

Studies at work yield degrees for officers

After 11 years of parallel study through Western's Faculty of Part-Time and Continuing Education and the Ontario Police College, two Brantford police officers received Sociology degrees at Fall Convocation last Friday.

Constable Alan Dutkewich and Sergeant Jens (Jim) Enslev, both of the Brantford City Police, have taken the exactly the same courses over the last 11 years.

Dutkewich says the two never compared notes while they were going through the cooperative program. For Enslev, getting his degree was the fulfillment of a long-held dream.

"I quit school at age 16 to go into the army," he said "It was something I have always wanted, something I always should have done, and it was rewarding to know that I had accomplished it when it was 20 years later than other people."

A third police officer, Richard Gillespie of London, also received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Administrative and Commercial Studies October 25. All three are beneficiaries of the Police Education Program.

Created in 1980 by the Ontario Police College and the University, the program promotes a combination of job specific training and broader education among Ontario police officers.

"To effectively fulfill their duties in today's climate, officers need education devoted both to specific professional police training and a broader sort of education aimed at responsiveness to change, effective communication, thoughtful judgement and independent action," said Dean of the Faculty of Part-Time and Continuing Education, Tom Guinsburg.

Western offers on-site degree courses at the Ontario Police College in Aylmer, and at the Brantford and Sarnia Police Stations. Having university courses on site at work made it possible for the two Brantford officers to juggle shifts, homework and family life (they each have four children) while pursuing their degrees.

"The chance to get a BA was something we had wanted but couldn't get," said Dutkewich. "This was offered to us and it was a great opportunity to do it."

After completing an additional supervisory course through the police college this fall, both will be applying to receive their third level of the police certification program.