

SPRING 2008

Maroon & White



For Alumni & Friends of Saint Mary's University

Spotlight on Governance

Special Feature:
Spirituality on Campus

Huskies Hockey

An Era of Excellence

The Shaw Family

*Part of Saint Mary's
Past, Present & Future*

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Homecoming 2008

All alumni and friends are invited to take part in Homecoming 2008 from September 19-21, 2008.
Help us make it the best ever!

SCHEDULE (tentative)

Friday, Sept. 19th

Small Group Time
All day

Golden Grad Luncheon
12:00 - 1:30

Faculty Fest
2:00 - 4:00

Alumni Annual General Meeting
4:00 - 5:00

Pre-Game Concert
5:00 - 6:30

Football Game
7:00 - 10:00

Post-Game Pub
10:00 - 12:00

Saturday, Sept. 20th

Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
9:30 - 11:30

Small Group Time
All day

Alumni Harbour Cruise
2:00 - 4:00

Elizabeth A. Chard Dinner
6:00 - 10:00

Sunday, Sept. 21st

Alumni & Community Family BBQ
12:00 - 2:00

Small Group Time
All day

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Homecoming 2008



“Small Groups” can be just about anyone, from traditional groups defined by your classes, years, faculties, departments and societies, to more non-traditional groups such as residences, sports teams, groups of friends or special interest groups etc.

“Faculty Fest” will be a designated time for faculties (and/or departments) to host a reception, open house or other events for all of their alumni.

Our special celebration years: Class of 2003 (5th), Class of 1998 (10th), Class of 1983 (25th), Golden Grads – Class of 1958 (50th), are encouraged to plan activities.

We challenge you to step up and become a group leader. So take the initiative and be a small group leader. The Alumni Office is more than willing to help. For further information, check out our website at www.smu.ca/alumni, e-mail alumni@smu.ca, or call **902.452.5420**.

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Features



17

A Family Legacy

The Shaw Family: A Part of Saint Mary's Past, Present and Future



19

Cover Story: Spotlight on Governance

Accountability and Transparency With a Steadfast Respect for Tradition



22

Special Feature: Spirituality on Campus

From Students to the Broader Business Community, Saint Mary's Brings a Fresh Perspective to Spirituality



26

An Era of Excellence

Success of Men's Hockey Program Extends Well Beyond the Ice

In Every Issue



5

On Campus

10

Alumni Files

14

Alumni Events

28

Santamarian Portrait

31

Snippets

35

From the Archives

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Maroon & White is published for alumni and friends of Saint Mary's University. Circulation: 27,000

Please send address changes and snippets to:

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E-mail: alumni@smu.ca

Mailed under Canada Post Publication Mail Sales Agreement No. 40031313

Return undeliverable Canadian

addresses to: Alumni Office

Saint Mary's University

Halifax, NS B3H 3C3

On the Cover:

The Saint Mary's University mace, photographed by Kelly Clark, typicalgirl photography
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President's Message



Much has transpired since our last issue. Some more wonderful examples of support for the *Capital Campaign*, a highly successful *Time for Wine*, the *Vanier Cup*, and a tremendous run by our men's basketball team towards a title.

Looking ahead, the alumni signature event, *Turning Points in Leadership*, takes place in April and is already sold out. If you were unable to secure a table, please be sure to contact myself or another member of the Executive to get on the list for next year.

The *Alumni Golf Tournament*, on August 21, is an event not to miss. Some new twists this year will make it an even more enjoyable day than it has been and, not to mention, up the bursaries provided.

Homecoming 2008 will take place from September 19-21. I hope all alumni, from far and near, will consider attending the weekend activities as it promises to offer something for everyone. We are initiating a new concept this year: Small Groups such as soccer teams, bartenders, SMUSA executive, residence staff, faculties and many, many more. Read more in this issue (*inside front cover*) on how to be a small group leader and what events are taking place.

Homecoming 2008 will also have the time honored traditions of:

- 1) *Friday Night Football*, complete with a pre-game pub and concert at the Gorsebrook Patio, followed by a post-game in the Courtside Lounge where you can discuss your sport memories of your time at SMU and meet the current team and coaches.
- 2) Saturday is a day of honoring our past, from sport heroes through the *Sport Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony*, to our university leaders through *Touching Lives – the Elizabeth A. Chard Dinner*.

I challenge you to get involved in any or all of the above, showing your pride in your education and your alma mater.

Bill MacAvoy

President

Saint Mary's University Alumni Association

Alumni Association 2007-2008

Alumni Executive



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“Saint Mary’s was my Life”

– BJ Frenette Retires After 38 Years

By Cheryl Bell

To many Saint Mary’s alumni around the world, Betty Jean Frenette — BJ to all who know and love her — was the friendly face of the Alumni Office and of Saint Mary’s University itself.

BJ retired in December 2007 after 38 years with the university. She saw many changes during those years, both to her own role and place of work, and to the university itself, but the one constant throughout has been her unwavering support for the Huskies. One of the great delights of retirement, she says, is being able “to go to the final 8 basketball games during the day when they are held at the Halifax Metro Centre.”

BJ’s history at Saint Mary’s begins on July 24, 1969 when she started work as a clerk typist in the library, back in the days when manual typewriters and card catalogues existed. She had recently completed a year at Halifax Vocational School after finishing high school. And she had already met

husband **Doug**, who was studying for his BA ('73) at Saint Mary’s.

When BJ started working at Saint Mary’s, the library was housed in the Burke Education Centre. BJ helped with the move to the new Patrick Power building, shifting endless piles of books using library carts with wheels that eventually fell off from overuse.

After 19 years at the library, BJ felt it was time for a “change and new challenges” and so she accepted a new job at the Alumni Office. Organizing alumni events was, says BJ, “the best job”. “I loved the office, the people and the job,” she enthuses. “To say she loved the place would be an understatement,” agrees **Murray Wilson** (BA '65 and BEd. '70), friend and

“BJ is witty as heck and smart as a whip. She is emblematic of the growth of Saint Mary’s and reflects the best of this great university.”

Chuck Bridges

Vice-President (Assoc.), External Affairs

Top: BJ Frenette (far right) is joined by Deraldlyn Yeazel, Annual Giving, and Pat Crowley (BA '72), director, Alumni Office, at the 2007 alumni golf tournament.

on campus

former associate registrar. "For many years, BJ WAS the Alumni Office."

Her job was also hard work, she admits. To start with — and it may surprise alumni — she was shy. "I'd go to the different gatherings," she says, "and wonder how I was going to talk to all these people I didn't know. But I learned that the best way to start a conversation is to ask people about themselves and their connection with Saint Mary's."

There was also the sheer volume of events to organize: 19 golf tournaments, 19 homecomings, countless alumni dinners and gatherings and roadshows. "You worked your butt off at those events," she says, "and sorted out everything from the toothpicks to the prizes. But the people made it all worthwhile, and if they left saying that they had had a good time, well, that was the point of it all."

One of her favourite events was the annual **Golden Grads luncheon**, held annually for alumni marking their 50+ year reunion. "The people were always so courteous and I loved their stories." BJ was known to make the occasional personal phone call to encourage people to come and let them know which of their classmates or friends might be there.

The personal touch was what BJ was famous for, whether registering golfers at the annual tournament or checking last minute details for the alumni dinners. "Her smiling face and pleasant disposition would always greet us on campus and at the alumni events," says **Dr. Bob Ruotolo** and wife, Pat, both alumni of Saint Mary's. "In between times, she would keep in touch with e-mails."

And it was the personal touch she appreciated most when it came her way. She clearly remembers flying down to the annual Boston tree lighting for the first time on her own. The Vanier Cup happened to be taking place the same weekend, so BJ and her colleague, **Barry Gallant**, then director of Alumni, had to go in separate directions to attend both functions. Expecting to take a taxi from the airport to her hotel when she arrived in Boston, BJ was somewhat mystified to see someone in arrivals holding up a card saying "BJ's ride." It turned out to be **Tim Lyons**, a member of the Boston branch who felt that BJ should not be left to arrive in



Friends say 'Good-Bye' to BJ

Clockwise from top:

BJ shares some fond memories of Saint Mary's at her retirement reception, held at the Gorsebrook Lounge, this past February.

Dr. Colin Dodds presents BJ with a gift on behalf of the university.

Left to right: Chuck Bridges, vice-president (assoc.), External Affairs; Bill MacAvoy, president, Alumni Association; Doug Frenette (husband); BJ Frenette; and Dr. Colin Dodds, president, Saint Mary's.

the city on her own. And it didn't end there — **Cos Marandos** and his wife **Linda** took her out to lunch and on tours of Boston, kindnesses she will never forget.

Speaking at BJ's retirement party in February, Saint Mary's President **Dr. Colin Dodds** went some way to explain the special relationship between BJ and Saint Mary's. "Whenever I go to alumni events, wherever they are held, BJ's name always comes up. People ask me how she is and often relate anecdotes to show how BJ has helped them in some way. For all of us at Saint Mary's University, including our 35,000 alumni around the world, BJ will always be the face of alumni, and she will always be part of the Saint Mary's family." **MW**



A friend and co-worker shares a favourite story...

During Saint Mary's 200th anniversary celebrations, we were doing a number of alumni roadshows. BJ and I were leaving Cornerbrook, Newfoundland on our way to St. John's with a van full of displays as well as the Vanier Cup. BJ suggested that I might be heading in the wrong direction. 'Oh BJ, don't the trees look the same?' I asked. After several minutes of discussion I decided to put her fears to rest. I stopped and asked if we were heading in the right direction for the airport. I was told, "Yes, me son, another 15 minutes up the road and then turn right."

Unfortunately, it was the Stephenville Airport and not Gander. I sped off to Gander to find that the plane was waiting for me and I was told to go directly to the gate. I had no choice but to toss BJ the keys to the van and ask her to return it, making sure that the very unwieldy Vanier Cup got on her flight. BJ reacted with surprise, followed by shock, followed by panic in the span of 20 seconds. In true BJ fashion, though, she did what had to be done and arrived in St. John's later that afternoon with all of the displays and the prized Vanier Cup in hand. BJ, I should never have questioned your sense of direction!

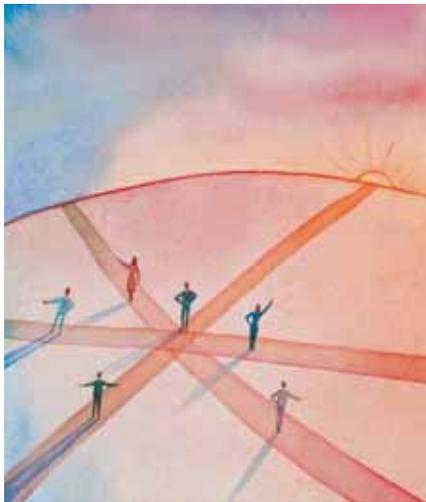
Keith Hotchkiss

Director of Student Services

Turning Points in Leadership 2008

A Full Course of Leadership with a Side of Inspiration

By **Tyler MacLeod** (BA, BComm '04)



As experiential education goes, it doesn't get much better than Turning Points in Leadership. On April 17, the third annual event will bring together many of Saint Mary's University's brightest and best students to dine with the most notable and successful leaders in our community.

The sold out *Turning Points in Leadership 2008* will be hosted by **Robert P. Kelly**, chief executive officer of the *Bank of New York Mellon*, a global financial services growth company with 40,000 employees and operating in 34 countries and markets worldwide. Kelly earned a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University's Sobey School of Business in 1975 and, in recognition of his numerous achievements, was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Commerce in 1997.

Turning Points is an evening to celebrate leadership and the event draws speakers who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in their profession and in their communities, both locally and internationally. The speakers share their unique perspective on turning points in their careers and how they evolved as leaders. For the more than 300 guests in

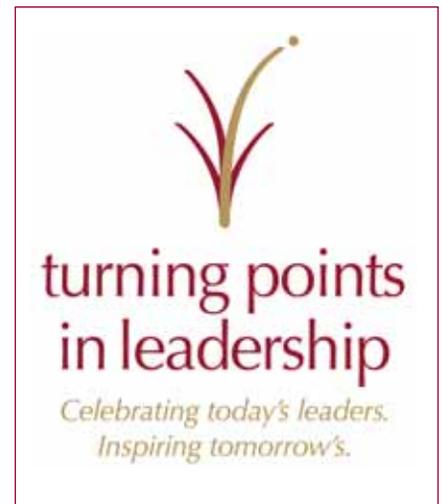
attendance — all leaders themselves — the evening is both educational and inspiring. For the Saint Mary's students, it is that and more.

"From attending the event last year, I was able to meet several well-known leaders in the business community," says Erin Dorey. "As a graduating student, I was offered so many words of wisdom from my table hosts. It was the perfect way to cap my final year at Saint Mary's."

In addition to being a great source of trustworthy career advice, Turning Points in Leadership provides students with the opportunity to meet people who will provide ongoing advice and support as mentors. The Saint Mary's University Alumni Association, organizer of the event, is excited about helping to establish this connection between today's leaders and the next generation.

"Having the chance to network with many of the most successful business men and women in our area is a great opportunity," says Mitch Gillingwater, president of SMUSA, who attended last year's dinner. "As each year passes, it is my hope that this event grows in size and popularity so that students continue to have the opportunity to spend an evening with members of the university and business community and discuss leadership."

For **Paul O'Hearn** and **Tammy Milbury**, co-founders of the event, the evening is a success in that they are seeing their vision come to life: Turning Points is creating opportunities for students to connect with



their alumni and raise the profile of those alumni. One of the ways in which the event raises profiles is through the *Turning Points in Leadership Award*. Each year, honorees will be inducted to the Hall in recognition of their outstanding leadership in their profession, their community and at Saint Mary's University. For attending students, the induction reinforces an important message.

"This event shows that hard work pays off. Whether or not you win an award, your peers will always recognize and appreciate hard work and success at any level," says Dorey.

Turning Points' impact is not just felt by those in attendance. The funds raised by the event are directed towards bursaries for other Saint Mary's students. With the event's enthralling speakers and unique entertainment, it may be easy to forget this fact. But in the spirit of the University's mission of accessibility, providing financial assistance to the next generation of aspiring leaders is an important component of Turning Points in Leadership.

The difference Turning Points in Leadership can make in student lives is not lost on O'Hearn. *"Whether a student attends the event or receives a bursary funded by this event, we hope there is one thing in common – that for them, this event is somehow a turning point of their own."* MW



AIESEC Canada: Nurturing Young Leaders for 50 Years

BY CHERYL BELL

AIESEC Halifax is something of a hidden gem on the Saint Mary's campus. Yet for those who have participated in its programs, it has been the gateway to life-enhancing experiences both professionally and personally.

AIESEC was established after World War II to help foster cultural understanding between countries. Today, it is the world's largest student-run organization. It works in partnership with business and higher education to send students on internships around the globe and to give internationally aware young leaders valuable leadership and cultural experiences. Its programs are designed with the aim of giving its participants hands-on experience of running a small business long before they graduate from university.

At the time of its inception, **AIESEC** stood for "L'Association Internationale des Etudiants en Sciences Economiques et Commerciales." However, as fourth-year Science student and local alumni coordinator **Adam Harris** explains, the organization is now known solely as AIESEC. "The original name was appropriate when the organization was formed, but we are now inclusive of all Faculties – not just economic sciences and commerce. We continue to use the acronym AIESEC because of the well-established brand and history that it has."



This year, AIESEC Canada is celebrating its 50th anniversary with a National Congress in Montreal, which will bring together more than 300 alumni to talk about the organization's past and future, and to launch a new strategic plan. As part of its anniversary celebrations, AIESEC Canada is profiling 50 alumni, including Karyn (Mathieu) Power, an alumna of Saint Mary's University.

Karyn studied for a BComm at Saint Mary's in the late 1980s. With her interests in business and working abroad, AIESEC was a perfect fit.

Starting as a member, Karyn then worked on the special projects committee and served as vice-president of marketing between 1987 and 1989. To be a part of AIESEC, she explains, was to be involved in "running a not-for-profit organization on campus. We had to sell the concept of AIESEC to businesses in Halifax, manage the money coming in, run special projects, and attend conferences. For me, it was a chance to take the theoretical knowledge I was learning in class and apply it."

After graduation, Karyn was one of six people chosen to run the organization in Montreal for a year where she was involved in encouraging Canadians to take traineeships in developing countries in Africa, Asia and South America. She then moved to the

Dominican Republic to help give AIESEC a firm footing there.

In addition to providing her with a wealth of experience, Karyn also credits her involvement in the organization with helping her to land her first sales and marketing job with a manufacturer of medical diagnostic equipment in Halifax, a job she held for 17 years. "I know that I got my first interview because I had AIESEC on my resumé. Someone who had been with AIESEC himself saw my resumé roll off the fax machine and said that I would be a good person to interview. And when it came time to do a mock sales presentation, I did it on AIESEC because that's what I knew and believed in passionately."

Karyn's work has seen her travel widely, both in Canada and abroad, and over the years fellow AIESEC participants have continued to crop up in unexpected places. Karyn has also continued to lend her support to the AIESEC Halifax group in particular, explaining to local businesses why they should hire students from abroad. "I say to them that if they are looking to do business with another country, what better way to give their company a cultural awareness of their target market than to hire a student from that country."

To mark this special year, AIESEC Halifax is planning its own anniversary celebrations,

Above: AIESEC members gathered for an alumni event at Your Father's Moustache in Halifax. *Left to right:* Kim Yu, Bryan Ching, Adam Harris, Carol Cooley, John Sewuster, Sheena Francisco, Shani Pearson, Linda LeBlanc, Michelle Paradis, Sean Kavanaugh, Huay Woon Chee, and Johnnel Adderley.

Far left: Members proudly display their Nova Scotia tartans at the National Leadership Development Conference held at Ryerson University in 2007

including a time capsule to which alumni can donate items such as pens, stickers, pictures, songs, and even old cheers from the last few decades. Alumni can also contribute to the timeline that is being assembled as the backdrop to a reception that will be held in the university art gallery early this summer.

Looking to the future, local alumni coordinator Adam Harris maintains that the cultural understanding and business skills that AIESEC promotes continue to be relevant for both the students and the companies for which they work. And for Saint Mary's alumni, hiring an AIESEC intern from another country is the perfect way to "give back" to an organization that means so much to so many.

AIESEC Halifax alumni can reconnect with the organization by contacting Adam Harris at 902.491.8673 or by emailing halifax.ca@aiesec.net. MW

The Rapper and the Folkie

By Richard Woodbury (BA Hons '04)



Top: Christina Martin (BA Hons '06)

Bottom: Kevin Kinch (BA '07) a.k.a. "Spesh K"

He loves performing live shows and describes them as the ultimate high.

"You can't go on a stage with nothing to perform," he says. "If I want to get that ultimate high and exhilaration, then the songs I make in here have to be awesome."

On Saturday, February 16, Spesh K played a show at Ginger's Tavern before a packed house. It was a one-year reunion for those who worked at *Sam the Record Man* on Barrington Street in downtown Halifax.

Fifteen other acts, mostly indie-rock bands, were on the bill as well.

Spesh K was definitely out of place, but not deterred.

"Make some noise if you've never been to a hip hop show before," he shouted early during his set. The audience roared.

On stage, he doesn't stop and take a breath. He dances and prowls about.

In fact, he isn't even on the stage most of the time. He's in front of it, only a foot or two away from the first row of tables, making the barrier between the performer and audience disappear.

In addition to creating new music, he's planning a large Canadian tour which he hopes to start on June 1 in Toronto. From there, the plan is to travel west and visit as many cities as possible.

He's already shared the stage alongside industry heavyweights such as **Ludacris**, **The Game**, and **Ghostface Killah**.

But his fondest memory comes from a show he did with rapper **Snow**, best-known for his 1993 hit, *"Informer."*

"He called me out onstage at the end of his show and was like, "Let's bring back my boy Spesh K and we did some songs together."

While he is busy writing new music, he doesn't have a definitive release date for a new album, unlike **Christina Martin** (BA Hons '06).

Martin is a 28-year-old originally from Grand Falls, New Brunswick, who now calls Halifax home.

For a school whose most well-known music course is "The Irish Musical Tradition," it might surprise some people to learn that two popular, Halifax-based musicians are SMU grads.

And their music couldn't be more different.

One is a rapper and the other is an indie folk-rock artist.

Spesh K, known in the classroom as **Kevin Kinch**, is a four-time *East Coast Music Awards* nominee. He graduated with a BA in English in 2007, although he jokes that he didn't get many Bs or As during his time at SMU.

"I'm just trying to make good music," he says from his home studio in his north-end Halifax apartment, where he is fiddling with drum beats, trying to lay the foundation for a new song.

"I'm just going to try and record hits," he says.

The 26-year-old Haligonian is quite prolific. He's released five solo albums, two group albums, and has made countless appearances on other albums and compilation albums since 2000. He has also made four music videos which can be seen on *MuchMusic*.

Her new album, tentatively titled, *Two Hearts*, comes out May 30. It is her follow-up album to 2002's, *Pretty Things*.

Lyrically, the album picks up where *Pretty Things* left off with a running theme of sad, but hopeful songs.

The new album is more aggressive than her first, "a little more driven rhythmically," she says. "There's a kick drum, there's a beat to them."

The songs have a more up-tempo, happy feel to them.

Martin has grown as a musician since she cut *Pretty Things*. She was just starting to play shows when she recorded that album and has since played more than 150 shows.

As of late February, she was poised to sign with a manager in a move which would allow her to focus on her music, and spare her from working out the nitty gritty details, such as landing a record deal and distribution.

Martin plans to tour Canada and some parts of the U.S. during a summer/fall tour.

While recording her debut album, she felt kind of distant from the recording process, she says.

"I was still a bit shy about everything, not confident."

But her growing confidence as a performer and songwriter is evident now.

"You learn how to tell someone what kind of a beat you want in the rhythm section and you start hearing what kind of instruments you'd want. But before, I didn't know how to even approach that."

The standout track on the album is *"You Come Home,"* with a smooth riff which cruises along like a '67 Mustang and begs for an audience to sing along.

The CD release party is on May 30 at *Fred Salon and Café* in Halifax, with opening act *Share*. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. MW



A Model in Diversity

By Joe Fitzgerald (BA '94)



Bedford South School principal and Saint Mary's alumnus **Derek Carter** greets a parent volunteer as we pass her in the hallway. *"Salaam Aleikum,"* he says. We enter a classroom and I face what looks like a

Benetton ad, except unlike the disinterested models for the clothing giant, these students are smiling and engaged. Bedford South is a P-9 school with 601 students, within which 32 nationalities and more than 18 languages are represented. *"This area of Bedford seems to be a pocket for immigration,"* says Carter. *"If you go across the street, you won't find a very diverse population."*

Carter (MEd '95) is in his first year at Bedford South as principal, and says that he, the staff, and the school community work hard to create a culture of acceptance. *"You have to educate people and increase knowledge,"* he says. *"With knowledge comes understanding, and with understanding comes acceptance. We don't have to share common beliefs, but we can respect each other, understand one another, and accept one another. I haven't encountered one problem related to intolerance since I've been here."*

While the majority of international students are from Middle Eastern countries, students

from places as diverse as Iceland, Ethiopia, Vietnam, and Bolivia are sprinkled into this thriving new world *Levant*. Carter signed friendship agreements with two schools in China on a recent visit to pursue academic and cultural cooperation and student exchanges. The school celebrates a plethora of cultural holidays and hosts an International Festival devoted to culture and peace.

Carter encourages families to become involved with the school and suggest ways that it can meet their needs. *"One thing was parents really wanted the opportunity to learn English so they could help their children,"* he says. To address that need, a program called **Communication Night** was organized and now teaches English as a second language to speakers of all levels. The YMCA also has a person stationed at the school to help new immigrant families adjust to life in Nova Scotia. *"He'll help incoming families with things like registration or getting a driver's license,"* says Carter. *"If there are issues related to culture, they will work with the students, the families, and the staff to try to work things out."*

All the attention does not seem to affect students at Bedford South, as they industriously pursue their education and their social lives like any other students their age. However, being watered daily by such diversity may help them bloom into a new generation of innovative leaders. MW

Top: Students participate in "Culture Day" at Bedford South School.

Inset: Derek Carter, MEd '95

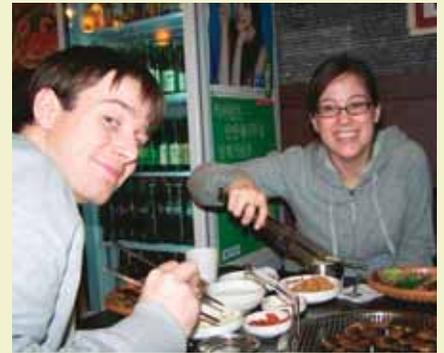
alumni worldwide



From left to right: Jennifer Folkes, Erin Pitman and Danielle Hiscock take in the Korea vs. Uruguay game at the World Cup Stadium in Seoul.



Dan Fredericks and Erin Pitman with some of their students in South Korea



Paul MacKay and Erin Pitman enjoy their first Korean meal immediately following their arrival.



Todamsambong, Tanyang, South Korea

The South Korean Connection

By Richard Woodbury (BA Hons '04)

At the Rocky Mountain Tavern, the menu isn't much different from one at your typical Canadian pub.

Poutines, burgers, and wings are just some of the foods served, but the only Canadian beers served are **Molson Canadian** and **Moosehead Green**.

No Keith's eh?

But that's not really a surprise; the bar has locations in Itaewon and Hongdae, South Korea. Up until a year ago, the Itaewon location was a popular spot for SMU grads teaching English in Korea.

Although those gatherings have since disappeared as the organizers moved back home, the SMU social network is still alive and well in South Korea.

"I feel that everywhere I go, I see people from Halifax and a huge number of them are SMU grads," said **Erin Pitman** (BSc '06) in an online chat at the end of February.

At that time, Pitman had been teaching for a year in Anyang (just outside Seoul) with plans to stay for another year.

She knew some SMU grads when she first arrived, but has since met many more, a number of whom have become "pretty good friends," she says.

Pitman met people mostly through mutual friends, *"but there have been a couple of times that I have run into people who just look familiar, and came to find out that they went to SMU as well."*

One friend she met through a mutual friend is **Leslie Germain** (BA '04).

After receiving her English degree from Saint Mary's, she went to Edinburgh, Scotland for her education degree and wrestled with her next move.

"I was going to stay there to teach," she says. *"But I also wanted to do the 'Korea thing.' I was concerned that if I got a job in a high school*

in Edinburgh, I'd just stay there forever and never get an opportunity for the Asia experience. So, at the last minute, I chose to head to Korea a few months after graduation and I've been here ever since, starting year three this month," she said.

The "Korea thing" is what is attracting a large number of SMU grads overseas.

Unsure of what they want to do with their lives and not quite ready to settle down, many university grads are teaching English in Asia.

Contracts vary from company to company, but most jobs pay well and schools provide apartments and pay the teachers' rent. Most schools even pay for the teachers' flights.

Travel is especially appealing with so many historic countries nearby.

Since arriving, Pitman has been to Japan, China and Thailand, and is planning to go to Cambodia this summer.

Germain has been to China, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam and North Korea.

Pitman thinks that the SMU grads flock together because of familiarity.

"I think it's difficult being in a foreign country where not everyone speaks English and everything is so different," she says. *"Meeting people from SMU is comforting in a way that it feels more like home here. It's a great feeling, knowing that you're not all alone and having people who are from the same university."*

Dan Fredericks (BA '07) had a number of friends from SMU who were already teaching in Korea when he came over this past fall. Pitman wasn't one of them at the time, but they soon became friends because of their jobs. They both teach at the same private academy.

He says that money is mostly what attracted him to Korea, but it was also the urge to travel.

The experience has been very rewarding for Fredericks – but not just financially. He had always considered a career in teaching, but he is now leaning more towards it.

He thinks the trial basis is part of the appeal.

"I think it's a really great opportunity if you're considering a career in teaching, but you don't want to go through an education degree program first just to realize that it's not for you once you get into the classroom," he said.

It seems that more and more SMU grads are packing their bags for Asia everyday.

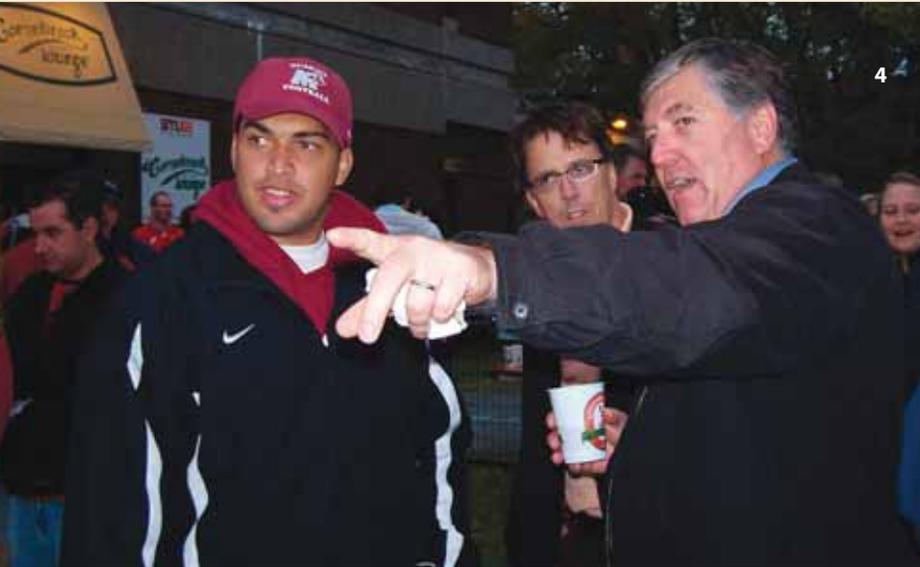
Fredericks says two friends of his from SMU are planning to come over and Germain says that another SMU friend had just arrived.

As long as student debt exists and the younger generation wants to see the world, grads will continue to flock to Asia, and you can bet they'll be welcomed with open arms by fellow Santamarians. MW



From left to right: SMU alumni Jennifer Folkes, Krista Inrig, Danielle Hiscock, and Erin Pitman en route to Asia

alumni events





8

alumni events

Guide to Pictures:

1st Annual Pumpkin Palooza

Departments across campus took part in a "spired" competition this past Hallowe'en with the 1st annual Pumpkin Palooza. Organized by the Alumni Office, the event is certain to become a holiday favourite!

1 1st Place: "Scary Services" (Student Services)

(l-r) Shannon Johnston (with daughter Maggie); Bill MacAvoy, Alumni Association president; Isabella Krysa; and Keith Hotchkiss, director, Student Services

2 The winning entry

3 The ITSS Help Desk team (Lorraine Helson, Dan MacDonald, Shelley MacAskill and Cheryl Newman) missed the party, but not the Hallowe'en spirit!

Tailgate Party

4 Supporters enjoy hot dogs and beverages on the Gorsebrook Patio before the game.

5 Dinah Grace (BComm '91) with granddaughter Koumbie Traore-Thomason (centre) and friend Rosie Hattin (right)

43rd Vanier Cup

6 (l-r) Ian Peck, Signa Butler (BA '96), and Nadine O'Neill (BA '01)

7 Facepaint, beads, thundersticks, paws, clappers and more maroon & white than you can imagine – hundreds of alumni took over the warm-up party to show their support for the football Huskies.

8 (l-r) Heather Fitzpatrick, director, Development Office; Pat Crowley, director, Alumni Office; and Krista Armstrong, assistant, External Affairs, at the Rogers Centre in Toronto

9 Paul Pettipas (BComm '67) led the cheers.

10 Huskies fans waved the flag with pride.

"Touching Lives"

Friends, family and colleagues celebrated the life of Dr. Elizabeth Chard at the inaugural "Touching Lives" dinner this fall. More than 180 guests attended the event, with proceeds supporting the Hutton-Chard Foundation, the Saint Mary's Sport Hall of Fame, the Belles of Saint Mary's, and the Quarter Century Club.

This year's dinner will take place during Homecoming Weekend on Saturday, September 20, 2008.

11 A flag-filled view of the dinner

12 David Sykes, vice-president, TD Asset Management Inc. and former All-Canadian Huskies quarterback and Rhodes Scholar, served as keynote speaker.

13 A view of one of the lovely tablescapes featuring violets and pictures of Elizabeth Chard.



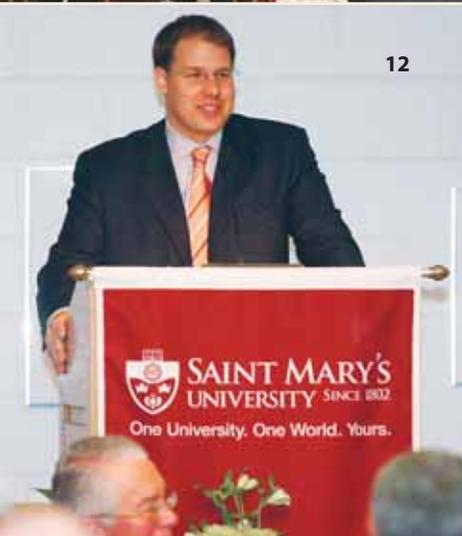
9



10



11



12



13



alumni events

Guide to Pictures:

"Touching Lives" (cont'd.)

- (l-r) Dr. J. Colin Dodds, president; David Sykes, vice-president, TD Asset Management Inc.; Chris Dobbin, BMO Harris Private Banking (white sponsor); Shirley Hall, Heritage Credit Union (maroon sponsor); Pat Bishara, development officer and event co-chair; David Murphy, director, Athletics and Recreation (white sponsor); Nickolas Murray and Bruce Ross, event co-chair



Ottawa Christmas Brunch

- (l-r) Pat Crowley, director, Alumni Office, with Peter Hennan, Elizabeth Villeneuve and Alice Hennan
- (l-r) Lilly McLean, Mya McHugh, Brian McLean, their daughters, Alice and Grace, and Lesa McHugh (Doucette), BA '96.



Maroon & White Spirit Night

SMU Basketball Huskies vs. CBU, February 23, 2008

- Prize winners receive their prizes from the Huskie Mascot and Alumni Office director, Pat Crowley (far right); (l-r) Bill Thomson (BComm '76), Vanessa Thomas (BA'04), and Peter Ross (BComm'76, MBA'88)



Ottawa Chapter Scholarship

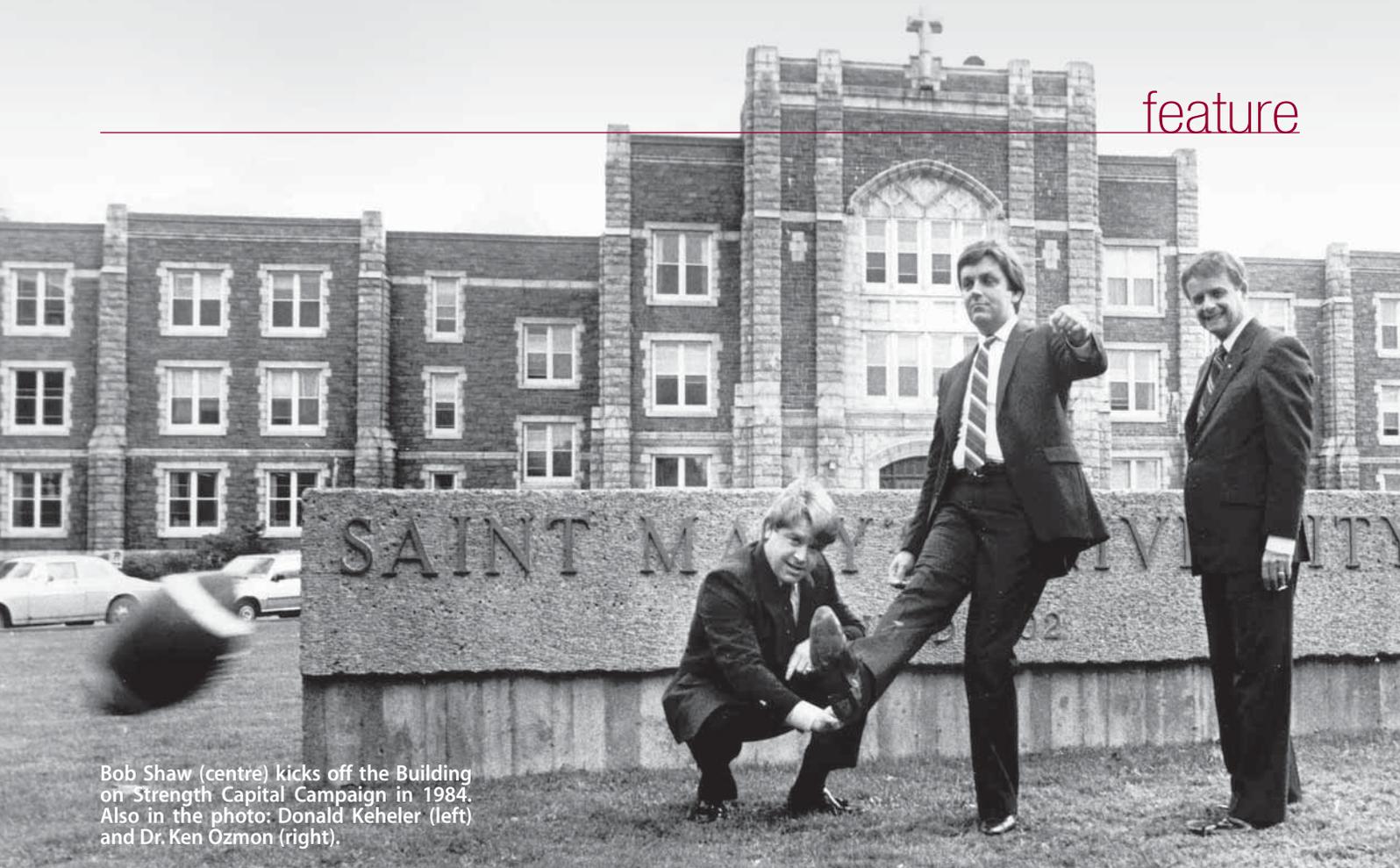
- Paul Lynch presents a cheque on behalf of the Ottawa Alumni Chapter to the SMUSA Opportunities Fund. Left to right: Bilguun Ankhbayar, vp finance, SMUSA; Paul Lynch (BComm'76), Chris MacDougall, vp internal, SMUSA; and Pat Crowley, director, Alumni Office

Time for Wine

More than 200 members of the university community attended the annual Time for Wine winetasting and silent auction this February. The highly anticipated event celebrated a record year, raising more than \$10,000 in support of student financial aid. Thanks to all supporters for helping to make the evening such a great success!

- (l-r) Dinah Grace, event chair (BComm'91) and Bill & Lisa Haley
- Costas Halavrezos, CBC Radio, served as emcee for the evening.





Bob Shaw (centre) kicks off the Building on Strength Capital Campaign in 1984. Also in the photo: Donald Keheler (left) and Dr. Ken Ozmon (right).

The Shaw Family: An Important Part of Saint Mary's History and Future.

Submitted by Saint Mary's University Development Department

The Shaw family has a long and personal history with Saint Mary's University.

It started back in the 60s when **Robert (Bob) Shaw** (BComm '68) met his future wife, **Gretchen**, on campus while she was working in Development with the late **Dr. Edmund Morris** (Saint Mary's High School, '38 and Honorary Doctor of Civil Law, '86). Bob and Gretchen went on to be married by the late **Father Hennessey** and, when their three children were choosing universities, their son **Rob** came to Saint Mary's and earned his Bachelor of Commerce in 1992. Mirroring his father's experience, Rob met his wife on campus, **Shari Mallory-Shaw** (BA '92, BComm '94, MBA '07).

Sadly, Bob Shaw passed away in 2005, leaving behind an exceptional legacy that is reflected in his many career achievements and charitable activities.

As a chartered accountant, Bob was recognized by the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants with its highest professional designation, Fellow Chartered Accountant (FCA). Through his work in community development as chairman and director of *The Shaw Group Limited*, he was a key player in building housing projects in communities across Halifax Regional Municipality.

As well, he was a tireless volunteer and community leader holding the position

"Money is meant to be spent, enjoyed and shared. Simply put, it is an investment in the future and a Saint Mary's education provides future opportunities for people and for the community."

Rob Shaw, BComm '92

of chair with the Nova Scotia Hospital Foundation; chair, the Halifax Foundation; director, Metro Halifax Chamber of Commerce; director, the Abilities Foundation of Nova Scotia; chair, Metro United Way Corporate Campaign and past president for both the Canadian and the Nova Scotia Home Builders' Association... and that's just to name a few.

He was also an important member of the Saint Mary's community. As a student, he served as president of **SMUSA** and went on to be a member of the University's Board of Governors, president of the Alumni Association, chair of the *Building on Strength* Capital Campaign and a member of the Business Development Centre board.



Robert (Bob) Shaw, BComm '68
1946 – 2005

This year, Bob Shaw will join an elite group when he is posthumously awarded the *Saint Mary's University Turning Points Hall of Leadership Award*. The award honours individuals who exemplify outstanding commitment in leadership to Saint Mary's, to business, to their community and in life. Past recipients include **Dr. David F. Sobey**, Chairman Emeritus, Sobeys Inc., and his son, **Paul D. Sobey**, President and CEO, Empire Company Limited. The Shaw family will attend the Turning Points in Leadership event in April and accept the honour on Bob's behalf.

"I had no idea how much respect there was in the community until after Bob died," said his wife, Gretchen. *"He never talked a lot about what he did and after he died the people that came forward and the stories...it was wonderful and he was so well respected."*

When the Shaw family decided to honour Bob, they turned to his alma mater. The family appreciates the high standard of education Saint Mary's offers as well as its student focus and sense of community. They say Bob enjoyed his entire Saint Mary's experience, he had great memories and made lifelong friends. He also credited the life skills he developed as a student as a big part of his future success. He truly believed in the value of education and developed a passion for learning while at Saint Mary's that he took throughout his life.

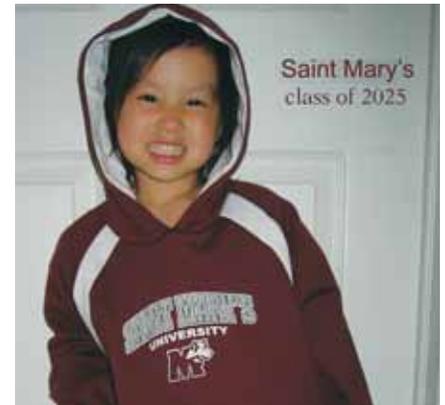
With that in mind, the family donated more than \$275,000 to Saint Mary's University and established the *Robert (Bob) Shaw Commerce Scholarship*, the *Robert (Bob) Shaw MBA Scholarship* and the *Bob Shaw MBA Case Competition Award*.

Bob Shaw came to Saint Mary's on a scholarship and the family thought it fitting to come full circle and create scholarships in his honour that will give back to deserving students in the same way. The Shaw family's remarkable support will ensure that generations of students

will have endless opportunities for success regardless of any financial limitations.

"Money is worth nothing unless it has a return on the investment," says Rob Shaw (BComm '92). *"It has no meaning unless it is put to good use. Money is meant to be spent, enjoyed and shared. Simply put, it is an investment in the future and a Saint Mary's education provides future opportunities for people and for the community."*

Bob Shaw made a difference throughout his life and touched the hearts and minds of many. Thanks to the generosity of his family, he will continue to lead and inspire people, and shape the future of Saint Mary's University and its students for many generations. **MW**



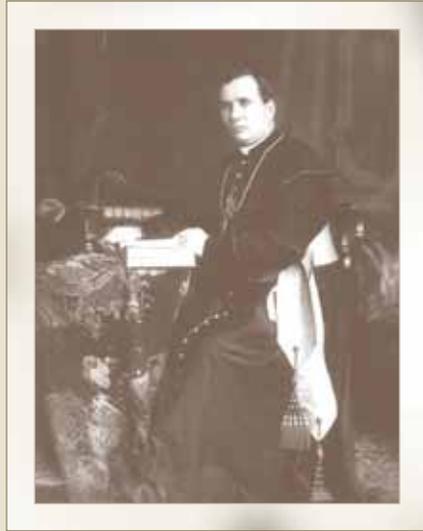
The next generation of Shaw alumni, Caelan Shaw, class of 2025. Caelan is granddaughter to Bob and Gretchen Shaw and the daughter of Rob Shaw & Shari Mallory-Shaw.

Today's Saint Mary's.

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Governance:

Committed to Accountability in a Changing World

BY CHERYL BELL

The world of Saint Mary's University may seem light years away from the corporate scandals of the early 21st century that saw the bankruptcy and collapse of Enron and WorldCom. But there you would be wrong. These headlining events have placed the topic of governance under the spotlight, prompting companies and organizations everywhere to embark on a far-reaching quest for greater accountability and transparency.

Governance Through The Ages: Reverend Dr. Cornelius O'Brien, Archbishop of Halifax, served as chancellor when *Saint Mary's College* reopened at its Windsor Street location in 1903. O'Brien had effected the purchase of 15 acres of land for the construction of the new college at Windsor Street and Quinpool Road.



"Society is looking for more accountability everywhere," says **Paul Dyer**, chair of the Saint Mary's University Board of Governors and a member of the governance review steering committee. "Society has changed and the University has changed, and now the Board and the process of governance are changing as a result."

"All organizations, including universities, are increasingly under the microscope," explains Saint Mary's President **Dr. Colin Dodds**. "We are a complex organization and all the people we deal with, ranging from students and parents through to alumni, donors and government, need to know that we are well managed and open to scrutiny."

The focus on governance at Saint Mary's officially began two years ago when a special committee was formed. But the seeds were sown five years earlier when Dodds assumed the presidency of the University and created the "six pillars" or strategic directions — academic planning, renewal of campus facilities, university development, enrolment, the recruitment and retention of high-calibre faculty, and governance and accountability — that would steer the University and the oversight role of the Board for the next few years.

The governance review steering committee rolled up its sleeves in the 2005-6

Above:

Members of the Board of Governors, left to right: Paul J. Dyer, chair, Dr. Russel Summers, Dr. Jaroslav Dostal, Dr. Keith Vaughan, Dr. J. Colin Dodds, president; and Dr. Tony Charles.

Below:

The Most Reverend Anthony Mancini, visitor (left) and Dr. J. Colin Dodds, president and vice-chancellor



academic year and enlisted the help of **Maureen Reid** of *BoardWorks Consulting*. Reid conducted 31 interviews with individual board members, senior administrative staff, and recording secretary **Nancy Renaud**. The advantage of using an external consultant, explains **Dr. Terry Murphy**, vice-president, academic and research and secretary of the Board, was that "members could speak freely about what they liked and didn't like" about the

workings of the Board. The feedback was positive. "It was a good board to begin with," says Murphy, "but there were opportunities for improvement."

The governance review steering committee gave way to the governance committee which began the serious work of examining the recommendations that Reid had presented together with looking at best practices in universities across the country. The process of implementing those recommendations began in September 2007.

One of the most significant changes to take place was an amendment to the *Saint Mary's University Act of 1970*. Passed in the *Nova Scotia Legislature* in December 2007, the amendment redefines the role of chancellor. Under the original Act, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Halifax was automatically the University Chancellor while the Vicar General served as Vice-Chancellor. Following the amendment, the Board became responsible for selecting the Chancellor, the Archbishop is now known as "the Visitor," and the University President assumed the role of Vice-Chancellor, a move that brings Saint Mary's in line with other universities. **Dr. David F. Sobey**, Chairman Emeritus of Sobeys Inc, will assume the role of chancellor beginning in May 2008 (see sidebar page 21).

Another important area of review has been the terms of reference for all board committees. A number of new committees, such as human resources, have been created, other inactive committees have been retired, and others reorganized. The former property and development committee, for example, now handles property matters exclusively, whereas the new advancement committee embraces fundraising and capital campaigns as well as corporate and government relations.

For new board members, orientation sessions have been introduced to explain the duties and responsibilities of their role, and a new mentoring program encourages more seasoned board members to bring new members up to speed. The number of annual board meetings has been reduced, and each one has a clear focus. The October meeting, for example, deals with enrolment, while the March

meeting approves the upcoming year's university budget. Each September, the AGM takes place. At this time, all committees submit reports on their activities and there is a formal handing over of office.

Just half-way through the first year, board members already appreciate the clear meeting structure, streamlined paperwork, the brisker pace of meetings, and the opportunity to deal with issues in greater detail. They also appreciate how the new committee structure has strengthened their role as board members. Murphy explains: *"In a board of over 30 members, it can be easy to feel that your vote doesn't count for much. But being on a board also means getting involved in committee work. If you are on a committee of five, and that committee's work is fed directly into the board, then those members feel more involved and better able to make a difference. The board is then able to*

"Many of our board members have other business interests," says Murphy. "We need to set out guidelines by which we deal with real and perceived conflicts of interest, such as asking our board members to disclose their other interests and requesting that they not participate in certain discussions." Policies and procedures pertaining to all of these areas will be included in the new board handbook.

Risk management is also an area that is currently receiving close scrutiny, explains Dodds. *"There are a number of different risks, including financial, HR, security, pandemic planning, and catastrophic risk, such as a hurricane or shooting, each of which could damage the University and its ability to attract students and investors. Through the governance process, and the leadership of Larry Corrigan, vice-president, finance, we are codifying our responses and filling in any gaps we identify."*



A New Era in Governance: Dr. David F. Sobey Appointed University Chancellor

May 2008 will mark the beginning of a new era in the governance of Saint Mary's University. At the spring convocation on May 23, **Dr. David F. Sobey**, Chairman Emeritus of Sobeys Inc., will be officially appointed to the role of University Chancellor, a position which he will hold until May 2010. As chancellor, Sobey will serve as an ex-officio member of the Board of Governors and will act as a key ambassador and advocate for the University.

Sobey has been a tireless supporter of Saint Mary's for more than three decades. In the mid-1980s, he was appointed to the University Board of Governors and, from 1993 through 1998, chaired the Saint Mary's *Building on Strength* capital campaign which raised in excess of \$24 million in support of various initiatives including the construction of the Sobey Building – today home to the renowned *Sobey School of Business*. Sobey was awarded an honorary doctor of commerce degree from the University in 1991.



direct its energies to the broader strategic issues. To that end, we will be introducing an annual strategic retreat."

The strategic areas under discussion, says **Michele Wood-Tweel**, vice-chair of the Board, include fundraising, the campus plan, student enrolment and human resources. Sustainability is also under discussion, not just for reasons of economy but in the interests of social responsibility as well.

When the Board starts a new round of meetings this September, the university by-laws will come under review, particularly the topic of conflict of interest.



It is clear that wrestling with governance is a bit like trying to eat an elephant. The task is huge and consists of many different "limbs" to tackle. Terry Murphy describes governance as *"a process not an event. As it unfolds, its implications for the University will become evident."*

"It's a process of examining the Board," says Dodds, "and asking, 'Does it work well?' and 'Are we well managed?' We must satisfy the people we deal with that the answer is 'yes.'"

Clockwise from Left:

Paul J. Dyer, chair; and Michele Wood-Tweel, vice-chair, Saint Mary's University Board of Governors

The venerable McNally Building, an iconic symbol of Saint Mary's University around the world

Saint Mary's University Chancellor, Dr. David Sobey

Spirituality on Campus

Reaching Out

New Chaplain Dan Kelly Looks to Impact School Spirit

By Joe Fitzgerald (BA '94)

Even at a young age, **Dan Kelly** had a sense of something greater than himself. Growing up in a small town in Ontario, he remembers confronting a gnawing presence one Christmas when he was 21 years old. *"I was coming home from a party, being thankful for my family and friends, and I took a left into the church parking lot instead of a right,"* says Kelly. *"I got out of the car, walked up to the nativity scene outside the church, knelt down, turned my eyes toward heaven and said, 'Please leave me alone, I'm not strong enough to do what you're calling me to do.'"*

After brief stints in business, Kelly could not ignore the call. *"I thought if I'm going to have any peace in my life, I have to go see what this is about,"* he says. *"It was like the hounds of heaven kept pursuing me."* At 28, Kelly quit his job and began studying for the diocesan priesthood. Being the youngest of ten children, living alone in a rectory was not appealing, so Kelly decided to enter the **Society of Jesus**, or **Jesuits**, the same religious order that used to run Saint Mary's University.

Kelly was recently appointed the new chaplain at Saint Mary's University and rides in on a fresh wave of enthusiasm. Currently a deacon, Kelly will be ordained to the priesthood this September. He was originally sent to Halifax to work at the soon to open *Jesuit Centre for Spirituality* and, with a background in spiritual direction, looks forward to connecting the past with the present to infuse today's students with school spirit. *"I'm not sure if the students of today are connected with the richness and the tradition of Saint Mary's University, however, that richness is still there,"* he says. *"The school spirit is present, and I look for ways that I can enhance that."* Kelly emphasizes that the chaplaincy service is open to all students, whatever their beliefs.



Dan Kelly, university chaplain, is photographed in the campus chapel located on the 1st floor of the Loyola Building.

"Being a Catholic chaplain on such a diverse campus, I don't want it to seem to be here just for Catholic students," says Kelly. *"I am here for all students, and I want individuals to sense that. My focus here is to provide service for all the students on campus who come seeking it, whether it be the food bank, counseling, advice, or just information. We just create a warm, welcome, hospitable environment, and let things develop naturally."*

Kelly faces many new and unique challenges. His first is to increase the profile of the Chaplain's Office. *"A lot of people don't even know we exist,"* he says. Kelly encountered another challenge while handing out flyers advertising the chaplain's services. *"I noticed a dismissiveness from students before they even knew who I was,"* he says, *"and I wondered where that came from."* Citing last year's huge brawl at the **Liquor Dome**, Kelly thinks it's too simple to blame it on dollar drinks. *"Most of us get mad once in a while, but we don't get into a brawl. That's deep seated anger, boy. Alcohol is just the catalyst. I'm hoping to discuss these issues with the students and find out what they are."*



Saint Mary's students Catherine Sanders (left) and Erin Lutz work in the Chaplaincy Office.

Catherine Sanders is a second year student at Saint Mary's and works in the Chaplaincy Office. "Apathy is currently a major issue," she says. "Students are so stressed about tuition costs, part time jobs, and the elusive dream of a career, that at the end of the day they just don't have the energy to spend on spiritual matters. They just don't care about what is happening around them anymore. The 2000s have become a repeat of the 'me decade'."

Ron Abarbanel runs the *Navigators Student Ministry* and has been at Saint Mary's for four years. He sees some of the serious personal issues facing students today compounded by the fact that many of these students have no spiritual education or haven't practiced any formal religion. "I'm sure Dan will have some challenges – with any new job, there is a steep learning curve. I suspect a challenge for Dan will be navigating around people's perceptions of a chaplain and lowering barriers in order to get into spiritual conversations that are relevant to people. People expect a chaplain is going to be formal, perhaps wear a collar, not understand doubt about God and not have experienced "real" life. In reality, Dan is easy to talk to, dresses normally, is insightful, and has a ton of real life experience that people can benefit from. Dan has an intuitive sense of what needs to be done, is extremely creative on his own, but draws people together to enhance creativity. Dan is also good at

creating a team environment that accomplishes what needs to get done. He is well liked, approachable and easy going. The Chaplain's Office has become a vibrant bustling place."

By reaching out to address both spiritual and concrete needs on campus, Dan Kelly and the Chaplaincy Office hope to help instill those at Saint Mary's with a heartfelt spirit, and a genuine sense of intimacy, belonging, and oneness with something greater than themselves. [mw](#)

Rediscovering Livelihood

Centre For Spirituality and the Workplace Explores the Search for Meaning at Work

By Joe Fitzgerald (BA '94)

Saint Mary's University is world renowned for its business programs, but many eyebrows were raised when the *Sobey School of Business* launched the **Centre for Spirituality and the Workplace**. The centre is the first and only academic-based centre in Canada, and sponsors conferences, research, and monthly speakers, while offering undergraduate courses and housing a centre library. The centre's website (www.spiritualityandtheworkplace.ca) promotes global press coverage and a global e-mail list to encourage discussion of issues of spirituality in the workplace. The centre's e-mail list is global and goes to more than 650 individuals and organizations in 21 countries.

The centre's chairperson, **Martin Rutte**, is also the co-author of the New York Times business bestseller, "*Chicken Soup for the Soul at Work*," and a consultant exploring the deeper meaning of work and its contribution to society. His clients have included the World Bank, Sony Pictures Entertainment, Virgin Records, Apple Computers,

Spirituality on Campus

Labatt Breweries, and London Life Insurance. *"Work is a place where we want our souls to be nourished and called forth, and we've forgotten that,"* he says. *"Part of the narrative today of the condition of work is that it's a place to go and earn your daily bread, but you have to give up part of your soul in order to do that. One thing we're doing at the centre is saying work can be a place that nourishes your soul and the souls of others, and that creates a much more sustainable individual and organization."*

The late 1990s saw two major trends begin to alter 20th century perceptions of ourselves and the purpose of work. In North America, new technology and overseas outsourcing were embraced as profit-making alternatives to traditional labour. This created a dramatic shift in business strategy as not only struggling enterprises, but successful companies, government and academia began downsizing to cut costs. A longtime unwritten agreement between employer and employee was suddenly void. Doing a good job and being successful no longer guaranteed security.

At the same time, the baby boomer generation was entering their 50s and 60s and, as is typical of middle age, they began to ask questions about the meaning of life. Their career aspirations had been fulfilled or were waning, their children were leaving home, and their friends and family were beginning to die. As they contemplated their legacy, the sheer size of their generation affected the psyche of society as a whole. Book sales on spirituality and religion exploded, and the changing nature of personal spirituality that had been traditionally limited to the home or places of worship began to move into the workplace.

"People wanted to do something but they didn't know how to have this conversation," says Rutte. *"Twenty years ago, the conversation was only about profit, loss, and traditional business issues. The only personal issue you could talk about was career."* Gradually, personal issues such as gender, race, sexuality, substance abuse, and mental health began to be discussed openly. *"Each time one of these issues came up people said, 'oh no, you can't talk about that,'"* says Rutte. *"But we found ways to talk about them that were respectful, dignified, and useful to the individual and the organization. So the question became, 'Is there a way to talk about spirituality in a way that people didn't get scared and didn't end up being proselytizing?'"*

The centre's current executive director, **Dr. Charles Beaupre**, is not surprised that the centre found a home at Saint Mary's. *"What you find at Saint Mary's is a relatively newer business school with a greater*



receptivity to new ideas and acting upon those ideas, including a wider understanding of what business activity could be." Beaupre says that with the development or maturing of North American society, it is now possible to discuss the perceived need for people to express themselves more fully in a work context. *"I think it's reflective of society as a whole to address the implications of how one's body, mind, and spirit are interconnected and how that relates to the work environment."*

Saint Mary's President, **Dr. J. Colin Dodds**, reminds us that business looks at issues that go beyond profits and earnings. *"One of the alarming things is that many people who have had tremendously successful careers suddenly step back and say, 'why have I done all*

special feature



◀ New York Times bestselling author Martin Rutte is the chair of the Centre for Spirituality and the Workplace at Saint Mary's.

this? And it hits them, if you like, in the soul. And then they start to ask these questions, and they find that other people are asking these questions too."

As millions of people continue to clock in and clock out in a *Darwinian struggle for survival*, Saint Mary's finds itself in the vanguard of a worldwide enquiry, searching for constructive and innovative ways of rediscovering work as livelihood, enriching and fulfilling to the individual, the organization, and to those they serve. *mw*

Grand MEETINGS

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Era of Excellence

By Joe Fitzgerald (BA '94)



The air in the **Halifax Forum** crackled with electricity as Saint Mary's pushed deep into the defending national champions' zone. The Huskies dug relentlessly, each booming forecheck threatening to get them a shot on net. The frantic Varsity Reds from the University of New Brunswick swiped and chopped, knocking the puck awkwardly back to the point and a waiting SMU defenceman. Then it happened. In a dramatic twist of fate, the knuckleballing rubber disk hopped over the Husky defenceman's stick, and a charging Varsity Red was set free. The chasing defenceman had no choice but to haul down the UNB player on the breakaway, and a packed house stood stunned as the referee called a penalty shot. A V-Reds rookie then calmly skated in on goal and snapped a shot over the blocker of the SMU goalie to end the Huskies' season in double overtime.

Although heartbreaking, the thrilling end to the *AUS Men's Hockey Final* is a testament to the success of the Saint Mary's hockey program, which enjoyed a nationwide top five ranking for most of the season. In his eleventh season behind the Huskies bench, Head Coach **Trevor Steinburg** has guided the program into an era of excellence not seen since **Bob Boucher** coached the Huskies to five consecutive CIAU Championship appearances in the 1970s.

Steinburg came to Saint Mary's in 1997 after coaching the East Hants Penguins of the Maritime Junior A League to a championship and being named the league's Coach of the Year. Voted *AUS Coach of the Year* his first three seasons at SMU and CIS Coach of the Year in 1999 and 2000, Steinburg muscled the program 180 degrees from perennial AUS cellar dweller to a consummate powerhouse.

The former first round draft pick of the Quebec Nordiques drew on his professional

experience when setting the course for the hockey Huskies. "Because of injuries, I went from a first round draft choice and goal scorer to basically damaged goods," he says. "I was low on the depth chart and had to change my whole game. I ended up being a role player, fighting, whatever I had to do. I had to change how I looked at the game, how I looked at my life. I knew at that point that if you want something bad enough you can make alterations to your life. So when I got here I wouldn't listen to any excuses from the players. And of course, I was lucky to have some great guys at the same time."

Once the program bought into Steinburg's philosophy, he could focus on the unique responsibilities of a university hockey coach. "The overwhelming priority is helping the players," says Steinburg. "From recruiting and bringing kids in to creating opportunities for them, getting them into the community, making them feel like the program means something to them. Sometimes kids have problems at school and you have to help them and let them see there's light at the end of the tunnel."

This year, half the players are *Academic All-Canadians*, with third year commerce student **Brandon McBride** maintaining an incredible 4.3 grade point average.



During Steinburg's tenure, Saint Mary's has had two *Dr. Randy Gregg Award* winners, given to the CIS player who best combines athletic ability, academic achievement, and community involvement.

Now considered the *Dean of AUS Hockey Coaches*, Steinburg also coached **Team Canada** to a second place silver medal at the *World University Games* in Poland in 2001 and, in 2007, coached Team Canada to a Gold Medal in Italy. His broad stature helps immensely in the competitive recruiting game. "Each (junior) team has two overagers, or twenty-year old players that are often the captain or leader," says **Chris Larson**, director of development for the Huskies. "Those are the prime players that all the schools are chasing. Trevor (Steinburg) is in great standing with the coaches of the Ontario Hockey League from the days when he was a premier player there and has some great tentacles and linkages into the OHL."

In 2005, **Sebastian Savage**, a player with the *University of Moncton Blue Eagles*, was paralyzed during a game when he crashed into the boards. A fundraising initiative led by Steinburg was picked up by the players and the league, and they raised over \$20,000 for Savage's family. "These guys battle like pit bulls on the ice, but when something like that

happens to a fellow colleague, it transcends the battleground," says Larson. "There was a rally across the AUS that really showed their character."

Fourth year co-captain **Dan Rudisuela** exemplifies the current crop of Husky hockey players. A fourth year MBA student, Rudisuela came east from the OHL with two things on his mind. "School was always important to me," he says. "Even in my final year junior (in the OHL), I was taking courses at U of T, so the best route for me was getting the degree while playing hockey at the highest level possible. I looked out east because of the reputation of the AUS and, after speaking with Steiny and looking at the school, I decided Saint Mary's was the best fit for me academically and athletically."

Saint Mary's continues to attract great hockey players with character and a vision for their future. "Maybe subconsciously I look for guys like that because I'm afraid a player will fail out or maybe his heart's not in the right spot," says Steinburg. "I have to have that comfort zone that they want to be here, go to school, and better themselves. But if you get enough of those guys, they send the message to the room that 'hey, we're here for school and to do the right things.' And to have so many guys do so well off the ice is as good a feeling as winning games for sure." MW

Far left: The 2007-08 varsity men's hockey team

This page: Clockwise from far left: #17 Colin Power, #19 Scott Hotham and #29 Brandon Verge, #21 Kyle Doucet, and Head Coach, Trevor Steinburg

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And Now...

An Interview with Paul Hollingsworth

By Paul W. Fitzgerald (BA '97 & MA '06)

The table has been turned for **Paul Hollingsworth**. But he doesn't seem to mind at all. In fact, if anything, he is quite amused by the whole situation. It's only temporary, after all.

At the **CTV News (Atlantic)** headquarters in Halifax, NS, the popular journalist is not prepping to interview someone. This time, it is Hollingsworth who is on the other side of the microphone.

"Go ahead, shoot those questions at me," he laughs while seated behind the anchor desk.

The studio lights above magnify his dark blue suit, white dress shirt, and a sharp yellow tie. While he appears as confident as ever, the 36 year-old admits that he is more humble than most would expect.

"I normally like putting others in the spotlight, so it's a bit weird being the one getting the attention right now," he says. *"I am really a shy and quiet guy."*

But according to others, the graduate of Saint Mary's University deserves some of the limelight too. He's earned it.

"I remember when Paul came to work in our newsroom as a volunteer — yes a volunteer," says **Steve Murphy**, anchor for CTV News. *"He worked without pay because he wanted to prove himself as an employee and as a journalist. He impressed everyone with his knowledge, good nature, work ethic and determination. It doesn't surprise me in the least that he's now TSN's [The Sports Network] 'go-to-guy' for assignments that require long hours and encyclopedic knowledge."*

According to **Jay Witherbee**, news director for CTV, Hollingsworth has more than paid his dues in the industry. *"In the early days, Paul would spend hours upon hours practicing his craft — recording and reviewing videotape that viewers would never see. It didn't happen overnight for him — he's worked hard to get to where he is, and there are many great years ahead of him. Paul has provided a road map*



exciting time. I had great professors, lots of friends, and my life for the first time had direction. I cherish every part of it and those were by far the best years of my pre-married life.

You were very involved with student life on campus including being a sports writer for The Journal student newspaper. Tell me about this experience.

It was fun, but it was also hard. I covered women's soccer and volleyball. For the first time in my life, I was writing in a journalistic style and interviewing people. It's hard for some people to envision me as a shy person, but the reality is, to this day, I do have a hard time when it comes to meeting strangers and "working a room." So here I was in university, interviewing fellow students while trying to overcome my social awkwardness. I guess my eventual career path proves that my time at The Journal helped me immensely in the long run, but it was not an easy experience for me.

What is your best memory from your time at SMU?

I met my wife Tamara while at SMU. She was attending another university but it was during those years that we started dating. Sixteen years later, we're married and have two beautiful children, Dawson and Jamieson. I think most people who have a solid family life look back fondly to the time when it all began. I've always counted my blessings, and meeting her – and what that led to in my life – is my biggest blessing and SMU provided the backdrop.

How did you get journalism in your blood?

My dad [Al Hollingsworth] was a journalist. Growing up, I tagged along with him when he covered events. I also spent a lot of time hanging around newsrooms. Looking back, that was a tremendous environmental influence. A more specific example happened 28 years ago. I remember being home sick from school in 1980, and the U.S. Olympic Hockey Team was on the verge of winning the Gold medal. The announcer was ABC's Al Michaels, and I was entranced by his work. From that time on, I always wanted to be a broadcaster.

Since graduating, you have become a successful broadcaster with CTV and TSN. What has it been like working for such huge media outlets and traveling the world covering major sporting events?

Well, when the phone rings and a TV executive from Toronto is on the line asking you to



to our young staff who have the work ethic and drive to succeed."

Since graduating with a Bachelor of Arts Degree from SMU in 1994, Hollingsworth went on to complete his Journalism Degree (one year track program) from the University of King's College.

Then it was off to CTV News, and for almost the last 14 years, his knack for news and sports has made him a household name here in the Maritimes and across Canada. He also works as a sports journalist with TSN and has covered all sorts of big sporting events like the World Series, the World Cup, and the Stanley Cup Playoffs.

He recently released the book, *Brad Richards: A Hockey Story* (Nimbus, 2007) which is a Canadian bestseller and receiving rave reviews.

In this interview, Hollingsworth reveals how he has risen to success, providing an inside look at what makes the well-known journalist tick.

So, tell me, what were your years like as a student at Saint Mary's?

They were special years, for several reasons. First of all, I was never a stellar high school student when it came to academics. I was unfocused and, because my marks weren't great, it took a year of upgrading through night school to get my transcript to an acceptable average. So when I went to Saint Mary's, I was excited to get an opportunity to have a second chance — and I appreciated it. I appreciated the fact that I was being allowed to make up for my previous lack of focus. For me, it was an



Left: Hollingsworth at the CTV Atlantic anchor desk in Halifax

This page: A familiar face to television audiences across Canada, Hollingsworth is the Atlantic Canada correspondent for TSN, a news and sports reporter for CTV Atlantic, and a frequent host of CTV Atlantic's Live at 5. Here, he prepares for his on-air duties at the CTV Atlantic headquarters in Halifax.

santamarian portrait

travel to the World Cup, World Series or Stanley Cup Playoffs, right away you're humbled and tempted to think "they've got the wrong guy." I say that because it was always my dream to cover these types of events. But when your dreams come true, it's almost surreal. Whether I'm standing on the field at Fenway Park in Boston or interviewing **David Beckham** at Berlin's Olympic Stadium, I always have a little feeling in the back of my mind that's "how can I be this lucky?" When I'm 80 years old and I look back at my life, I'm certain I'll look fondly at these once-in-a-lifetime experiences.

*Many out there are now applauding your talents as a journalist, and now you are a popular author with the release of your book, **Brad Richards: A Hockey Story**. What made you write such a wonderful piece of work and what was it like writing it?*

I had done some previous work with Nimbus Publishing and they decided to produce a biographical project on one of the best NHL players to come out of the Maritimes. Fortunately, they asked me to do the project. I'm very proud of the book and pleased to see that it's selling well, but it was extremely difficult to write. I found myself staying up until 4:00 a.m. sometimes just to meet my deadline. I also interviewed about 40 people and spent hundreds of hours doing the research required for such a project.

The book is now a bestseller in Canada with partial proceeds going to the Dartmouth Boys and Girls Club and children's charities supported by Brad Richards. This is a kind act of philanthropy on your part. How does it feel to give back to others?

It's the best part of the project. I love my life, adore my family, and I'm proud of the fact that I grew up in Halifax, surrounded by great mentors. When you have those positive factors in your life, it's hard not to be grateful. The way I see it, if we all took a little time or money and devoted it to a cause that matters, we could all be difference makers. Not everyone has that opportunity and I may not always have it. But for now I can stand up and say, "this is something that matters to me" and people actually listen. It's by far the best part of having a public career.

There is no doubt that the future has lots of good things in store for you – can you tell me what your future aspirations are?

For now I don't foresee a change in career. Hopefully I'll progress at CTV/TSN and continue to have the opportunity to improve. That's my main goal: to be better at my job. Some people are motivated by money, others by fame. Me, I'm all about improvement. Having the opportunity to develop is

something that really engages me. The truth is I'm not an overly talented guy. I've had to work at my profession every day just to make incremental improvements. I'm pleased with how things have gone and I figure the best way to make a positive example for my children is to continue on my current path. MW

Time for Tea

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2005

Joel Tanner, MSc, has been awarded the prestigious Sterling Fellowship at Yale University. Only one fellowship per year is awarded.

2004



Laurie-Ann Willett, BComm, was married to **Pedro Manuel Azevedo CMA** on August 18, 2007. She is in her second year of law at McGill University in the dual Bachelor of

Civil Law and Bachelor of Common Law program. She has been recruited by Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman in New York City and will be working as a summer associate this summer.

2002

Marc Beaubien, BComm, has joined the Halifax law office of Cox and Palmer as a real property lawyer with the firm's real estate property practice. Marc was called to the Nova Scotia bar in 2007 after completing his law degree at the University of New Brunswick in 2006.

2000

Alexander (Sandy) D. Sutherland, BA, was ordained to the *ministry of Word and Sacrament*

in the Presbyterian Church of Canada on November 16, 2007. He is currently serving four churches in Kent County, NB.

Nicole Gallant, BComm, has received her CGA designation in Ontario and is currently the senior accounting analyst for Manulife Bank of Canada.

1998

Kati Kerenge, BComm, is currently based in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, working for a cement company as the corporate communications Manager. She would love to hear from friends from SMU and can be reached at kati_kerenge@yahoo.com.

Stephen Sheppard, BComm, obtained a certificate in Information Technology from Saint Mary's Continuing Education and worked at MTT (Aliant) Broadband Internet Services upon graduation. He continued his career in the financial services industry working with Scotiabank and the Bank of Montreal. Presently, he is a mortgage specialist in the Halifax office of Centum Mortgage Team Inc.



Terynn Neville (nee Boulton), BSc, her husband, Ronald, and big sisters Alison (5) and Beth (3) welcomed to their family Sarah Terynn Neville, 9 lbs 4.5 oz, on July 26, 2006.

1997

Brian Luinstra, BSc, completed his PhD at the University of Ottawa and is now the owner of a geological and environmental engineering company. Brian resides with his wife Kim and their three children, Kristen (12), Annika (4) and Kylan (1), in Kincardine, ON.

1996



Boris Mirtchev (BSc, MBA '99), and his wife Soula welcomed daughter Karina Alkmini on November 19, 2007 weighing 6 pounds, 7 ounces. Boris and family reside in Halifax.

Jennifer Nowlan (nee Frail), BA, lives in Dartmouth, NS with her husband Stephen and their children, Leith (born Oct. 2001), Eli (born April 2004), and twin girls Lily and Keira (born Jan. 2006).

1995

Michael A. Brown, MA, spent several years teaching English in Korea and Japan. He recently accepted a job as ESL director and teacher at the Kiski School in Saltsburg, PA. In his spare time, he coaches football and freshman basketball.



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1994

Janice Gillis, BA, graduated this November from Regis College/the Jesuit School of Theology at the University of Toronto. She obtained a diploma in Spiritual Direction. She misses her friends in Halifax and would love to hear from them at janicegillis@hotmail.com.

1992

Colleen Power (nee Hallihan), BA, and her husband, Todd, welcomed their third son, Trent Christopher, on October 31, 2007. Trent is a little brother for Logan (8) and Kale (6).

Maureen Googoo, BA, was awarded a full tuition scholarship to Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism where, in 2007, she graduated with a Master of Science in Journalism. She is now the morning news editor for CBC radio in Sydney, NS, where she lives with her fiancé, Stephen.

1987

Douglas Lochhead, D.Litt, will publish a new book of poetry in the spring of 2008. *Love on the Marsh* is a companion to Lochhead's *High Marsh Road* which was shortlisted for



the Governor General's Award for Poetry and received the Carlo Betocchi Poetry Prize.

1985

Kevin Fancey, BComm, has been appointed the area vice-president, Canada East, of IKON Office Solutions Inc. He will be working out of the Canadian headquarters in Mississauga, Ontario. Prior to this, he held senior management positions at both CHUBB Security Systems and Pitney Bowes.

1982

Robyn Thompson, BComm, moved to Toronto in May 2007, where she assumed the role of national vice-president of Franchise Operations for Canada Bread Company Ltd. She previously spent seven years as the key individual in human resources for the Atlantic Canada division.

1979



Steve Snider, BComm, has been the general manager and CEO of the Halifax Dartmouth Bridge Commission (HDBC) for the past 14 years. His leadership to the tolling industry was

recently acknowledged as Steve was elected the 2nd vice-president of the *International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association*. The IBTTA provides toll operators and associated industries worldwide with a forum for sharing knowledge and ideas in the promotion and enhancement of toll-financed transportation services.

1974

Anthony (Tony) Edwards, BSc, BA '75, has researched and written the book *Images of Our Past: Historic Bedford*. It was published in November 2007 as part of Nimbus Publishers of Halifax series, *Images of Our Past*. Tony's book is now available in bookstores.

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1970

Douglas Blackmore, BSc, is the founder and director of a new international online editing and writing business called *The Writing Resource* (www.thewritingresource.ca). Douglas retired from the Halifax Regional School Board in 2003 after 33 years of teaching. He went on to spend two years with the *International School of Basel Switzerland* as a learning support teacher for students with learning difficulties.

1964

Peter Aucoin, BA, MC, PhD, FRSC, has been appointed a *Member of the Order of Canada*, Canada's highest civilian honour. In 2006, he was elected a *Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada*, Canada's highest award for scientists and scholars. He is currently professor of government and public administration at Dalhousie University.

1944

Robert E. Lauder is retired and living in Saint John, NB. He is a volunteer with the Romero Soup Kitchen and the L'Arche Saint John, an organization dedicated to the care of the disabled. He visits his sister Elizabeth in Halifax each Christmas.

Mickey Merrigan is the founder and president of Peak Audio, a growing electronics outlet in Halifax. Mickey lives with his wife and family in the north end of the city.

Send your snippets to:

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In Memorium

Michael Ivor MacLeod,
 BComm '78
 January 31, 2008

Alan Francis Duggan, HS
 January 30, 2008

Charles Edwin "Ted" Blackie
 BSc '70, DipEng '60
 January 13, 2008

Dr. Kenneth Moore
 DCL '03
 December 18, 2007

Dr. Joseph Zatzman, Hon
 FRBG '79
 December 10, 2007

Dr. P. Rigby
 BSc '97
 December 9, 2007

Heidi Grundke
 BA '70
 November 27, 2007

Bruce Smith
 BComm '73
 November 23, 2007

Carolyn Petropolis
 BSc '74
 November 16, 2007

Gerald Tobin
 BSc '70
 November 14, 2007

Dwayne Aucoin
 BComm '98
 November 9, 2007

George Blackman
 DipEng '47
 November 8, 2007

Judith Zwicker
 BA '00
 October 1, 2007

With Sympathy

Dr. Thomas Edward Flynn
 Assoc. Prof, English Dept.
 January 22, 2008



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All applicants will go through a selection process to ensure our Alumni Executive represents the diversity of our alma mater. Please send your Curriculum Vitae to the Alumni Office at alumni@smu.ca. Be sure to specify your faculty, year of graduation, e-mail and what you wish to bring to the executive.





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ALUMNI CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April

- Apr 8** Alumni Pub Night, Halifax
Join your friends for dinner or a drink and relive your days at the Gorsebrook Lounge.
- Apr 17** Turning Points in Leadership, Halifax
- Apr 26** Ottawa & Montreal – ICAN Curling Bonspiel

May

- May TBA** Alumni Movie Night
Visit www.smu.ca/alumni for details.
- May 22** Welcome Reception for New Alumni, Argyle Pub & Grill, Halifax
Hosted by the Alumni Association and the Class of 1983, celebrating their 25th anniversary, we welcome our new alumni. All alumni from the Class of 1983 are encouraged to come and welcome our new grads!
- May 23** Spring Convocation

June

- June 7** Ottawa Annual Dinner, Ottawa

August

- Aug 21** 33rd Alumni Golf Tournament, Halifax

September

- Sept 11** Ottawa – 21st Annual 'Husky Howl' Golf Tournament, Ottawa
- Sept 19-21** Homecoming 2008, Halifax



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Background: Saint Mary's Campus, 1950s

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