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FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

Building Memories

Raiders of lost architecture

Spotlight: Living Heritage

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Martha in the Making

Brush With Royalty

Alexander MacLeod's
Wild Chase



FALL 2011

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President's Message



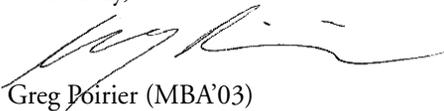
Every September the campus bounces back to life with a renewed energy and excitement as newcomers arrive, football season begins, and returning students get back into the routine of university life. What an exciting time at Saint Mary's!

September came to a close with a successful 2011 Homecoming. Our inaugural One World Alumni Dinner brought the alumni community together in a demonstration of how a society, or an alumni community can make a difference in the lives of others around the globe. Jacob Deng (BComm'10) shared his wisdom and hopes for the future of his homeland and we wish him the very best in making his dream a reality.

We also welcomed our Golden Grads, the Class of 1961, back to campus to celebrate their 50th anniversary. Over 90 returning Golden Grads enjoyed a luncheon where many fond memories were shared. Many things have changed on campus, but not their pride in their SMU education. Our Alumni Association Annual General Meeting was also held. Welcome to all our new Council members. I am honoured to once again be your President for the upcoming year and look forward to continuing to work on your behalf.

As always, we would love to hear your comments about how to increase participation in Homecoming and other events. Over the next few months, the University will be announcing a new Director of Alumni who will work with the Alumni Association in developing a plan to further engage and connect alumni. We look forward to connecting with many of you in support of Saint Mary's.

Yours truly,



Greg Poirier (MBA'03)
President
Saint Mary's University Alumni Association

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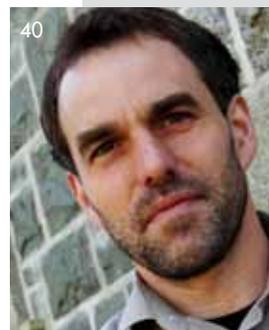
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EDITOR:
Steve Proctor (BJ)

ART DIRECTION AND DESIGN:
Spectacle Group
C. Lynn Redmond (BA'99)

CONTRIBUTORS THIS ISSUE:
Mark Campbell
Erica Parker
Suzanne Robicheau
Cathy Von Kintzel
Marie Weeren

ADVERTISING:
(902) 420-5420

SENIOR ALUMNI OFFICER:
Kathy MacFarlane (Assoc'09)

ASSOC. VICE PRESIDENT
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:
Margaret Murphy (BA Hon, MA)

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Please send address changes, suggestions
for stories and snippets to:
Saint Mary's University Alumni Office
923 Robie Street
Halifax, NS, B3H 3C3
T: (902) 420-5420
F: (902) 420-5140
E: alumni@smu.ca
www.smu.ca/alumni

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Dr. Kevin Vessey



Dr. Steve Smith



Brian Hotson



Chris Larade



Gordon Michael



Janet Gates Robart

new faces

DR. KEVIN VESSEY – Appointed Associate Vice President Research. Dr. Vessey continues as Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research but with expanded responsibilities to plan, promote and facilitate research opportunities. Trained as a plant physiologist, Dr. Vessey joined the University in 2005 to become Saint Mary's first full-time Dean of Graduate Studies and Research.

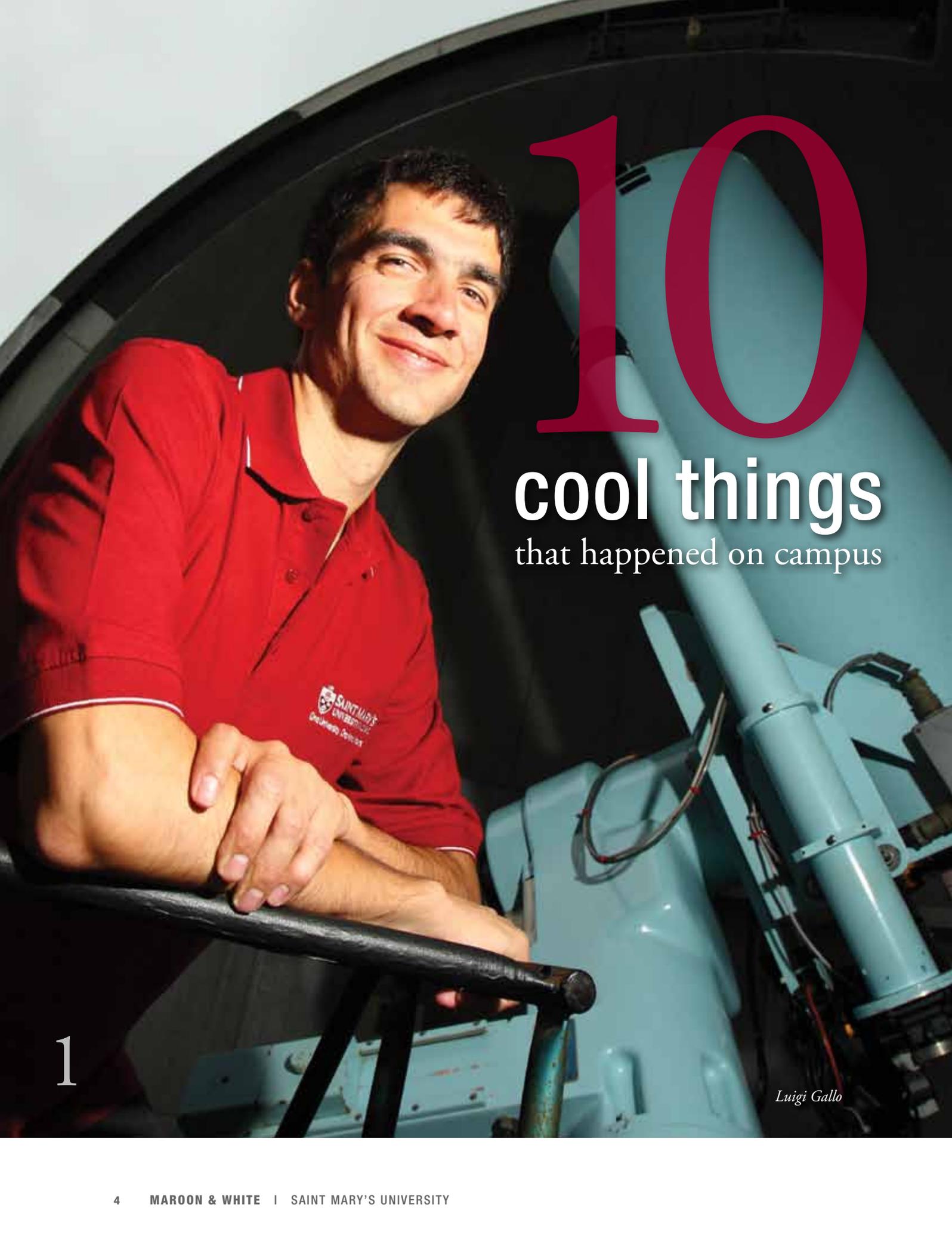
DR. STEVE SMITH – Appointed Dean of Science. After serving 11 months as Acting Dean of Science, Smith was appointed Dean in July. Dr. Smith has been active in the development of the faculty and the University, serving on teams overseeing the construction of the Atrium and renovation of the McNally Building. He was also a driving force in the creation of the new pan-Faculty School of the Environment. He has also served as Associate Dean of the Faculty for three years.

BRIAN HOTSON – Director, Saint Mary's University Writing Centre. A writer, researcher and editor, Hotson has worked for national publishers, including Nelson Canada, Pearson Education, University of Toronto Press, and Queen's University. His work covered a wide range of disciplines across the Arts and Sciences, and focused largely on educational and academic publications. For ten years he also worked for TVOntario, where he wrote, directed and produced educational programming for television and electronic media.

CHRIS LARADE – Head Coach Women's Hockey Huskies. The Cheticamp native was previously a head coach in the Nova Scotia female midget AAA league, an assistant coach with the St. Francis Xavier X-Women and an assistant on Nova Scotia's Canada Games women's hockey. He says his goal is not to develop just good players, but to develop good people.

GORDON MICHAEL – Acting Director of Continuing Education. Mr. Michael joined the University after doing double-duty as Executive Director of the not for profit Food Alliance of Nova Scotia and as Executive Director of the Farmers' Market Investment Cooperative. His previous work experience has included Coordinator of Market Development for the Farmers' Markets of Nova Scotia Cooperative, Program Development Consultant with Feed Nova Scotia and Coordinator of Continuing Education with the Halifax Regional School Board.

JANET GATES ROBART – Manager, Conference Services. Robart joined the University after seven years as the Senior Sales Manager at The Lord Nelson Hotel and Suites. She is looking forward to increasing the University's meeting and conference business. □



10

cool things
that happened on campus

1

Luigi Gallo



1 LUIGI GALLO LEADS

When Dr. Luigi Gallo looks out into the night sky, the 38-year-old Saint Mary's astrophysicist looks for what's not there.

As a teacher and researcher with the Canadian, Japanese, and European Space Agencies, Dr. Gallo has been studying giant matter-devouring black holes since 2002. Celestial enigmas often formed in the wake of a collapsed star, black holes may be millions of times larger than our sun but are only detectable by studying the material they are sucking out of space around them.

Dr. Gallo's research effort was supercharged in recent months when he was named to lead a team of Canadian scientists working on a half-billion dollar Japanese-led space mission that will launch a powerful X-ray telescope by 2014. Unlike the Hubble Space Telescope that gathers optical light, the Astro-H will observe X-rays that are emitted by high-energy objects like black holes and supernovae.

The Canadians' role is to create a system that monitors vibrations of the satellite as it moves through space and provide astronomers with information to collect crisp, clear images, free of distortion and blurring.

As a member of the science working group, Dr. Gallo will have priority access to the data, giving his graduate students an unprecedented on-ramp to international research opportunities.

"It's a really awesome way to train future space scientists," says Dr. Gallo.

2 RICK HANSEN INSPIRES

Josh Domingues was just a toddler when wheelchair athlete Rick Hansen took his Man in Motion trek around the world, but the rookie Centre with the Hockey Huskies became an instant fan on Sept. 16, 2011 when he accompanied Hansen on a lap of Huskies Stadium.

Domingues was one of two students from Saint Mary's selected as medal bearers in a 12,000 km relay to mark the 25th anniversary of the initial two year tour that raised \$26 million for spinal cord research. Arts student, Nicole Durand, shared the honour on campus and Saint Mary's employee and graduate Don Jackson (BA'95) was a medal bearer in another part of Halifax.

"He has touched so many lives," said Domingues, marveling at the way children from a local daycare were drawn to Hansen. "I knew I was carrying more than a medal as I ran around the track."

Hansen, an honorary degree holder from Saint Mary's, told a small crowd that the dream of the initial tour came alive after he broke multiple records when Saint Mary's hosted the Pan-Am Wheelchair Games in August 1982.

"Those games changed my life. They inspired me to pay it forward."

In the years since his legendary trek, Hansen said Canadians have taken up the challenge and created "a global community of difference-makers."

Josh Domingues understands the sentiment. Although new to the team, he founded the Husky Buddy program which sees players visit sick children at the IWK Health Sciences Centre every second week.



3 ON OUR RADAR

Hugh Broders' research takes the biology professor into some dark and unusual places: caves, attics, sheds, barns, and anywhere else that bats hang out. With a deadly fungal infection called white-nose syndrome diagnosed recently in several bats in Hants County, NS, Dr. Broders, Associate Professor and Chairperson for the Department of Biology is working with a team of students to help our bats hold on by gathering data to understand the dynamics of how they move.

One of the most devastating wildlife diseases in recorded history, white-nose syndrome has already killed more than one million bats since 2006 when it was first discovered in caves near Albany, New York. While the exact nature of the disease remains a mystery, it is known to destroy the energy reserves of bats by forcing them to awaken and burn excess energy when they are supposed to be in hibernation. The mortality rate of bats infected with the disease is between 70 and 90 per cent.

The arrival of this disease in Nova Scotia has propelled Dr. Broders and his students to step up their efforts to discover how quickly the disease is spreading and how it's being transmitted. With all three of Nova Scotia's bat species at risk, Dr. Broders' area of research positions him well to make a lasting contribution to the biodiversity of this province.

4 MONITORING WATER QUALITY

Thanks to Geography professor Cathy Conrad, rural Nova Scotians concerned about the quality of their drinking water may soon have an easy way to check for pollution levels in lakes and streams.

Dr. Conrad, a pioneer in community-based water monitoring initiatives, recently received more than \$950,000 in funding over five years to help concerned citizen volunteers and groups monitor, track, and respond to issues of environmental concern. One of the tools she has developed to help them is the WET-PRO field kit, a portable water-testing tool kit that community groups can carry into the field.

Although there are numerous water testing kits already on the market, Dr. Conrad couldn't find anything that would meet the rigorous standards of scientific credibility yet still be easy for volunteer groups to use. Most were either expensive and complicated or so basic they were little more than scientific toys.

The WET-PRO field kit is a hard-sided, special suitcase packed with equipment such as a digital weather station, a GPS, turbidity monitor, sample bottles, field testers, and a pH pen. It has everything a professional scientist would need to conduct accurate water tests, but it's easy to use.

A certification course comes with each kit. Dr. Conrad says knowing how to do the science properly makes these community groups a lot more credible when they raise concerns about things like water quality and pollution.



GREEN GARDEN SEES GROWTH

After more than a year of planning by Facilities Management and Saint Mary's Garden Action Group, the Saint Mary's University community garden finally took root. Used as an educational tool to promote local and sustainable food production, the plot behind the historic Oaks Building on Gorsebrook Avenue has also become a place for Saint Mary's staff, faculty, students, and the community to come together to reconnect with their food. Short-term goals include offering a series of green gardening workshops, establishing a compost site and constructing a spiral herb garden. Down the road, there are also plans to build a greenhouse and an eco-friendly garden shed with a harvesting system for rain water.

Any proceeds from workshops and rental plots will be cycled back into the project to cover the costs of tools, seeds, and building materials.

COSMIC RAYS HIT HIGH SCHOOL

Grade 12 science students at Prince Andrew High in Dartmouth will soon have the opportunity to see the invisible made visible by collaborating with Saint Mary's University students to study the most energetic subatomic particles known to humans: Cosmic rays.



This fall three cosmic ray detectors were mounted on the roof of the Dartmouth school through a unique partnership initiative between Saint Mary's, the University of Alberta and the Imperial Oil Foundation to promote fundamental scientific research. The three devices will count cosmic rays while a computer in the classroom displays a real-time histogram of the number of hits. As well as having the potential to shed new light on how cosmic rays are generated, this research gives students the chance to participate in an important international research project.

"Science is a collaborative process, and it's wonderful to be able to add these students to the team of cosmic ray researchers," says Saint Mary's liaison Jenna Hurry. "There is still so much we don't know about the origin of this phenomenon, and these students could be a part of cutting-edge research."

In addition to sharing their findings with Saint Mary's, the students can compare their findings over the Internet with other schools around the globe that are involved with the project.

"This is the kind of project that can truly capture the imagination of students, and one that fits well with Imperial Oil's commitment to support education programs in math, science and technology," said Merle MacIsaac, a spokesperson for Imperial Oil.



SIFE TRAVEL TO MALAYSIA

Six Saint Mary's students in the University's chapter of SIFE (Students In Free Enterprise) travelled to Malaysia this fall with three advisors to watch the best business teams in the world compete at the SIFE World Cup.

While in Kuala Lumpur, the Saint Mary's SIFE contingent participated in a number of project management training sessions, watched top-ranking SIFE teams present their projects and heard some of the world's most prominent keynote speakers.

As members of SIFE, an international non-profit organization that mobilizes university students to make a difference in their home communities, the Saint Mary's team carried out 63 projects in 2010, achieving a net impact on the economy valued at almost \$400,000. Projects included the Trumped Competition, SMU Angels and financial literacy in the classroom programs.

This significant contribution earned Saint Mary's SIFE students a grant from the John Dobson Foundation to supplement the Malaysia trip. The students participating in the trip also defrayed their travel expenses by organizing fundraising activities such as music and comedy nights.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

As the Saint Mary's University Executive MBA graduating class looks back over an intensive course of study, a definite highlight is an international

trade mission to Brazil made possible by a partnership between Nova Scotia Business Inc. and Saint Mary's University.

"The EMBA trade mission is the capstone of the program," says EMBA Program Director Kelly Smith. "It provides the students with the opportunity to bring all of the business theory, practical case work and knowledge together in a real-world international business experience."

In their role as representatives of Atlantic businesses, Saint Mary's student teams made high value contacts by attending a total of 41 business meetings during their time in Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro.

"The trip more than lived up to my expectations," says 2011 class president, Sara Napier. "It was an incredible opportunity to experience business operations and cultural differences that I otherwise would not have encountered."

As the largest economy in Latin America, and one of the fastest growing in the world, Brazil offers Nova Scotia companies a variety of sectors of interest including oil and gas, infrastructure development, ocean technologies and aerospace technologies.

For EMBA student Ryan Murphy, the president of Murphy Laboratories, the trade mission identified strong possibilities for future partnerships. And for the mission's matchmaker, 2010 EMBA graduate Marcos Miranda, it offered Nova Scotia companies vital knowledge in determining how best to proceed in the Brazil market.



(l to r) Her Honour Mayann E. Francis (BA72), the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, President J. Colin Dodds and Major Gordon A. "Sandy" Watson (MBA07, BA'95), who nominated Saint Mary's.

A native of Brazil, Miranda is the chief corporate officer of To Be Canada Inc., an international business consulting firm he developed with the company's president and CEO, Sheriff Thaver while the two attended Saint Mary's. Thaver says the EMBA's emphasis on the importance of globalization gave birth to the idea.

GRAND PRÉ DISCOVERY

On Tuesday, June 21 news crews descended on Grand Pré National Historic Site, where the ruins of a recently discovered 18th century house may help to shed new light on the life of Acadians prior to the 1755 Deportation.

Student archaeologists from Saint Mary's University made the discovery as part of ongoing work carried out at the Grand Pré Archaeological Field School. Organized by Saint Mary's in partnership with Parks Canada and the Société Promotion Grand Pré, the field school is an educational effort that has been headed by Saint Mary's Archaeologist Dr. Jonathan Fowler since 2001.

"It is really quite exciting," said Professor Fowler, while showing reporters some artifacts recovered by his students. "This discovery restores a part of the early history of Grand Pré that had been forgotten. It offers clues about the daily lives of the community's former inhabitants that are not recorded in the historical record. It may also help correct mistakes made by previous interpretations of the site's history."

The grounds of the national historic site are rich in archaeological remains, some dating from the earliest phases of the Acadian settlement in the late 1600s. Over

the years, more than 100 Saint Mary's students have trained in the field school project, digging up more than 25,000 artifacts, including shoe buckles, musket balls, gun flints, pottery and coins.

"Saint Mary's is committed to student experiential learning," says Dr. Fowler, "but it is also great to see that our work is really contributing to a clearer understanding of life at this pivotal time in our history."

CANADIAN FORCES AWARD

Saint Mary's ongoing support for the Canadian Forces has earned the University two prestigious awards from The Canadian Forces Liaison Council (CFLC), a group of civilian business leaders and educators who volunteer their time and effort to promote the Primary Reserve Force, Canada's part-time military.

In March of this year, Saint Mary's received a provincial award for the University's support to student reservists. On June 1, Dr. Dodds attended the ninth biennial National Employer Support Awards ceremony held in Ottawa at The Canadian War Museum and accepted a national award on behalf of the University. The Special Award for Support to Student Reservists recognizes Saint Mary's for providing outstanding support to Canada's Reserve Force.

Every two years, Reservists and Reserve units nominate employers or educators who have gone out of their way to help balance civilian commitments and military duties. Saint Mary's was nominated by Major Sandy Watson of 3 Intelligence Company in Halifax. □



Laura de Boer

By Suzanne Robicheau

Building Memories

Raiders of lost architecture

It was a dark and stormy afternoon in the city of Halifax when Laura de Boer tucked a tangle of red hair under a wide-brimmed fedora and lowered herself into the dank, ink-black basement of the historic Robertson Building.

Like her cinematic mentor, archaeologist Indiana Jones, de Boer is on a crusade. A senior archaeologist with Halifax's Davis MacIntyre and Associates, she is delving deep into Halifax's storied past to ensure that the city's historic buildings are never forgotten—even if they do happen to be demolished.

While most archaeologists feel fortunate to find a few fragments of stone from an ancient foundation, de Boer has her sights set a little higher. A specialist in the archaeology of standing structures, she's looking for full foundations, as well as the floors, walls and roofs they support. And when she finds them, she captures them for eternity—not with a computer—but with the time-honoured drafting skills she acquired in 2010 while completing a Masters degree in European Historical Archaeology at the University of Sheffield.

Looking back, de Boer realizes that she has always been fascinated with old buildings. It was an honours degree in Anthropology at Saint Mary's (BA'09) that provided

the analytical skills to channel that interest and a master's thesis on the refurbishing of a textile mill that confirmed her belief that buildings that stand on the ground can be every bit as important an archaeological resource as the ones that lie in ruin below the surface.

As our awareness of the significance of the historical built environment increases, recording and analyzing standing structures has become more common, although de Boer says it's still infrequently done in the Maritimes.

To create a permanent record of a heritage building, de Boer walks from the bottom to the top level, writing, drawing and taking photographs. Funding from a Nova Scotia Museum research grant supported an archaeological and architectural survey of the Robertson Building, part of the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, allowing de Boer to document the Inglis Street structure for generations to come.

It may not be the stuff of superheroes and there may be few great finds and narrow escapes, but for Laura de Boer, the field of archaeology is more than a job: it's a passion that's sometimes larger than life. "It's treasure hunting for grown-ups," laughs the Sherlock Holmes buff. "I don't get to keep the things that I find, but I do get the thrill of finding them." □



By Suzanne Robicheau

Preserving *the* Past

Maggie Holm

It had already begun to snow when Maggie Holm arrived at Halifax's Morris Building on the evening of Dec. 21, 2009.

A heritage planner with Halifax Regional Municipality, Holm was there to witness the culmination of an effort to save one of the four oldest buildings in Halifax: the former offices of Charles Morris, the first surveyor-general in Nova Scotia.

As she watched, a building mover jacked up the historic structure, pulled it onto his 18-wheel flatbed, edged the truck across an icy parking lot and delivered it to a temporary home on Nova Scotia Power property near Lower Water Street.

"It was a fabulous effort," says the Saint Mary's University alumna (BA'98). "It's maybe once in a lifetime that I'll be able to help move a building."

planning at NSCAD. Her first position as a planner was in Truro.

"It was a great opportunity," she says. "In a small town, you do everything."

That job paved the way to a position in Halifax as a heritage planner, a post she has held for the past seven years.

"I love it," she says enthusiastically. "It's all about protecting important buildings."

One of Holm's greatest victories to date was the designation of the Barrington Street Conservation District, which takes in both sides of Barrington from City Hall to Spring Garden Road.

"Some of the buildings are heritage properties," she says. "Others play a role in the context as a whole. Together, they say something about the history and development of Halifax."

for the FUTURE

Holm credits her studies toward an English degree from Saint Mary's with teaching her a solid work ethic. After 13 years, she can still remember the no-nonsense words of an English professor in response to her frustration with an assignment.

"You know you're going to finish it," said the professor, "so it's best to get on with it."

After graduating from Saint Mary's, Holm completed a landscaping technician course at Nova Scotia Community College and a Bachelor of Design in environmental

As Holm strolls the streets of the city, she sees her mark on other projects such as the Salter's Gate development and the Morse's Tea building.

"These are my buildings," she says.

One day, she had to laugh when her son asked how many buildings she owns.

"I told him that I don't actually own any of these buildings," she says, "I'm not their owner; I'm their steward. I care about them and I want to preserve them for future generations." □



A Moving

It's a definite stretch to say that Lorraine Vassalo left a life of crime to spend her days toiling in a church. In fact, the Saint Mary's alumna (MBA'90) and criminologist left a long-time career with the Nova Scotia Justice Department to purchase a vineyard on the southern slope of the Avon River. And as for the church: well, that's where the story becomes truly moving.

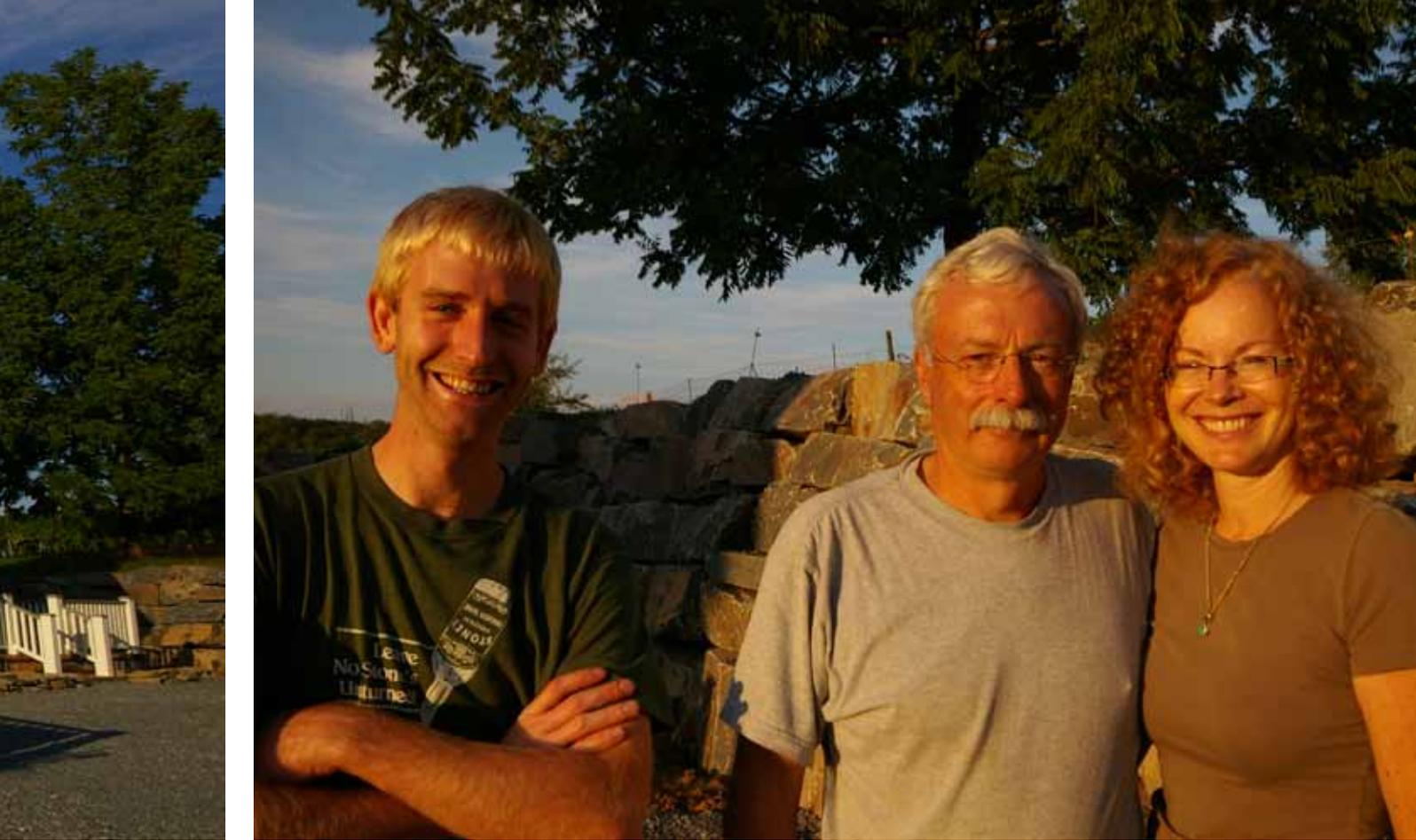
For Vassalo and her husband, Stewart Creaser, buying a vineyard was more than a change of career; it was a change of pace from high stress positions. "We decided to spend our days relaxing while we worked in the fields," says Vassalo. "And we did for a while."

The problem, it seems, is that neither Vassalo nor Creaser is very good at relaxing, so shortly after purchasing the

vineyard and surrounding property in 2008, they opted to take the 20 acres under vine from bleeding edge to leading edge and make great wine.

"We could have retired," says Creaser, "but life is short. From a returns point of view, a winery isn't a good investment, but it's a sustainable business and it allows us to be creative."

The couple's creativity kicked into gear when a neighbour took them to Walton NS to see a 167-year-old church that was destined for demolition. It was instantly apparent that the stately structure with its hand-turned moldings and century-old stained glass would be the perfect winery retail space. What wasn't apparent was how to transport a 30 tonne church the 42 km to Vassalo and Creaser's property.



(l to r) Winemaker Ben Swetnam with winery owners Stewart Creaser and Lorraine Vassalo

By Suzanne Robicheau

Experience

In the end, the only viable option was travel by water, so Vassalo and Creaser booked their new building a one-way cruise in the Minas Basin from Walton to Newport Landing. However, on the day scheduled for departure in November 2010, spectators lining the Walton waterfront were disappointed to learn that the trip had been postponed because the ferry operator miscalculated the timing of high tide.

Events conspired to thwart another attempt at a crossing for six months, so it wasn't until May 2011, that Captain Lord delivered the church by barge to Newport Landing. The following week a flatbed trailer took it to its new home, disconnecting power, phone and cable lines along the way as neighbours and other well-wishers ignored the temporary loss of services to shout out words of encouragement.

Renovations began almost immediately, guided by a commitment to maintain the structural integrity of the church and to use re-purposed materials whenever possible. Vassalo and Creaser mucked in as much as they could, and at the official opening in October 2011 for the winery they've named Avondale Sky, the only thing as rewarding as the restored church was the Gold medal received in the 2011 Atlantic Canadian Wine Awards for Tidal Bay, an innovative blend made by Avondale Sky's talented young winemaker, Ben Swetnam.

"It's all good at this point," says Vassalo, who credits her MBA in Finance with teaching her everything from creating a business plan to selecting the right personnel. "We get to live in this beautiful place and work at something we love. And at night with the lights on inside our church, it looks like a giant candle." □



DIPLOMATIC MOVES

Another diplomat with Saint Mary's ties is on the move.

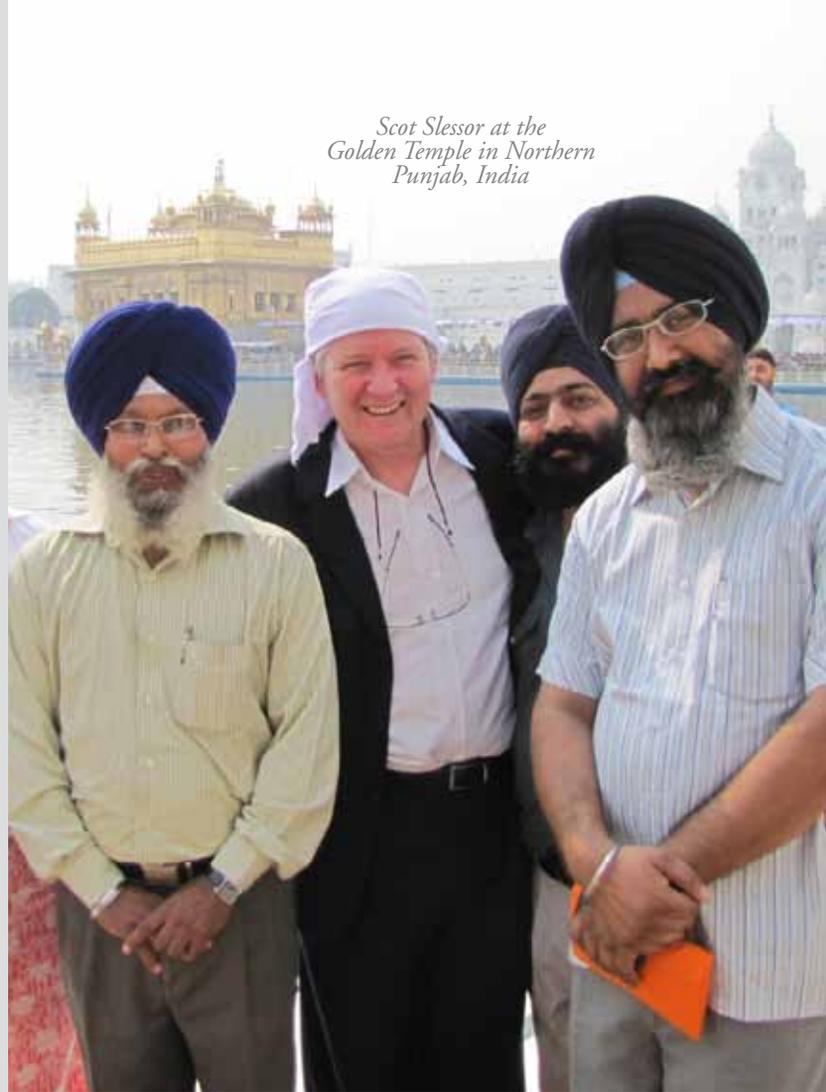
Sanjeev Chowdhury, (BComm'89) was recently appointed as Consul General of Canada to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

This is Mr. Chowdhury's second time serving as a Consul General. He was Canadian Consul General to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, from 2003 to 2006 and was Acting High Commissioner to Sri Lanka for three months during that same time.

During the Southeast Asia posting, the Vietnam Federation of the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Clubs recognized Chowdhury as a UNESCO honorary member for his tireless efforts in promoting cultural relations between Vietnam and Canada.

In addition to his new assignment, Mr. Chowdhury was recently named one of Canada's 30 most influential Indo-Canadians by *India Abroad* magazine. The magazine made the selection based on his work organizing the G8 Summit in Canada in June, 2010 and as a result of his most recent diplomatic appointment. □

Scot Slessor at the Golden Temple in Northern Punjab, India



A Tibetan fur hat, four black and white pictures from China and a grainy photograph of a Cambodian family remind Scot Slessor how lucky he is.

The keepsakes adorn the diplomat's office and keep the Saint Mary's grad grounded, as he struggles with the poverty and economic disparity that he frequently confronts.

Appointed Consul General of Canada to NW India in September 2010, Slessor's studies and career have taken him on a global voyage that continues to shape his world. He's had the opportunity to visit remote parts of China, Borneo, and border areas of Cambodia. His current duties include developing trade and cultural relations and assisting distressed Canadians.

It's a multi-faceted job that presents many challenges and rewards. Recently Slessor's team helped a disabled man free himself of family members who were keeping him a virtual prisoner.

DIPLOMAT HELPING WAVE Canadian Flag ABROAD

By Cathy von Kintzel

On International Peace Day, the team also organized a talk at the Punjab University on various aspects of peace. Plans are now underway to have two young Punjabi-Canadian business people share their personal stories with a group of young entrepreneurs

Although Slessor has travelled extensively, the Winnipeg native and Saint Mary's Asian Studies graduate, never forgets his Canadian roots.

At his official residence in Chandigarh which he shares with wife, Donica Pottie, and young daughter Sophie, he boasts artwork from all over Canada. In July, he hosted a Canada Day celebration for more than 200 people in his yard.

Slessor also has a strong place in his heart for his former University. He's often seen walking the streets of Chandigarh wearing his Saint Mary's University T-shirt, and on his desk sits a Saint Mary's business card holder.

He attended Saint Mary's University from 1983 to 1986, and from 1984 to 1985 was on a University scholarship to Shandong Teachers University. He credits Saint Mary's for many good things in his life.

"Saint Mary's smaller program, compared to the University of Toronto or University of British Columbia, allowed me greater access to professors," Slessor said.

"The scholarship to China helped launch my career in development assistance and foreign affairs."

China was also where he met his wife. Like her husband, Ms. Pottie is in the Foreign Service, and was Canada's Ambassador to Cambodia. Currently she represents Canada on the international Kimberly Process to address the issue of conflict diamonds.

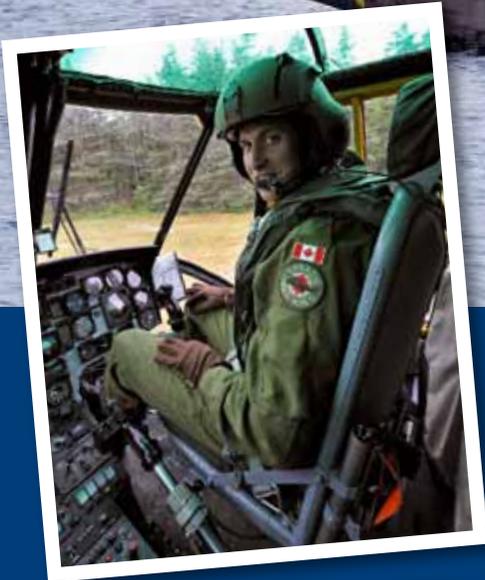
Slessor says having learned the Chinese language during his studies prepared him to later run a CIDA program in China, which then led him to distant areas such as Tibet and Xinjiang.

"Even today, with responsibility for the part of India where there are many Tibetans and the Dalai Lama of course, I use those experiences in my work," he said.

In his free time, Slessor enjoys creating stained glass art, watching movies, spending time with family and playing the guitar. When in Canada, he divides his time between Ottawa and the South Shore of Nova Scotia.

Now 51, he plans to eventually retire and open a stained glass studio. However, before that happens, he'll wait to see what's on offer for a next assignment or perhaps follow his wife for her next few postings.

"You never know what is around the corner in this business," Slessor says. □



Flight Lieut. William Wales, Royal Air Force search and rescue pilot, sits inside the cockpit of a Sea King helicopter on the shore of Dalvay Lake, P.E.I., while waiting to take off for his waterbird emergency landing training.

Brush With Royalty

By Suzanne Robicheau

Growing up as a base brat prepared Col. Sam Michaud for what to expect from a career in the Canadian Forces. But the Saint Mary's alumnus (BComm'02) and Shearwater Wing Commander had no way to know that on July 4, 2011, he would share the cockpit of his Sea King helicopter with Prince William, the Duke of Cambridge.

With Prince William's new bride, Kate (the Duchess of Cambridge), smiling encouragement from the shores of Dalvay By-The-Sea in P.E.I., and more than 2,000 onlookers watching with bated breath, Michaud guided the prince through an emergency landing simulation called waterbird training, instructing him to cut one of the helicopter's engines at about 12 metres above Dalvay Lake and drop the nine-tonne "bird" into the water.

"This was no sideshow exercise," says Michaud, who has trained pilots for more than two decades. "The prince is a very capable search and rescue pilot with the Royal Air Force and he made it clear that he wanted an authentic training session.

It was inspiring to see a guy who was willing to jump into a tough training exercise with the eyes of the world watching. In fact, I found it quite stirring."

Once in the air, Prince William became just another pilot.

"I had to remind myself that I was flying with the future King," says Michaud. Despite the crowd and hundreds of news cameras below, Prince William maintained a steady focus on the task at hand, wavering only after his last dip into Dalvay Lake to scan the shore for a glimpse of his wife.

"They were extremely affectionate," says Michaud, "even in private moments when there were no cameras."

Waterbird training is carefully run, but any training carries a risk.

"We have a saying," says Michaud. "We accept risks, but we don't take chances."

Michaud has accepted many risks since 1986, when he joined the Canadian Forces as a primary reserve soldier. After transferring to the regular forces in 1987, he completed an initial 13-year posting at CFB Shearwater as a Sea King pilot. That posting included operational deployments such as the 1991 Persian Gulf War, Somalia in 1992-93, and two tours with the Standing NATO Fleet Atlantic.

Michaud enrolled in Saint Mary's Faculty of Commerce in 1996 when he was 27 years old. By the time he graduated (summa cum laude) in 2002, he and his wife, Christine (also a Saint Mary's business grad), had a two year-old son. Despite the need to balance school and family with the military, Michaud has many fond memories from his days at Saint Mary's.

"It was a great learning environment," he says. "I had the opportunity to make friends from a wide variety of backgrounds, from kids right out of high school to mature and foreign students."

"The critical thinking piece was also very important. Faculty members were extremely good at challenging me to think broadly, and there wasn't a single professor who didn't understand the need for flexibility around my work schedule."

As it turned out, Prince William's waterbird training was Michaud's swan song as Wing Commander and Sea King pilot. He is now posted at National Defence Headquarters in Ottawa as the Acting Director General Capability and Structure Integration, a strategic planning job involving analysis of the future operational needs of the Canadian Forces.

It's important work, but it can't compare to Shearwater, the royal visit and the overwhelming excitement of being told by Prince William that waterbird training was one of the best moments of his Canadian tour.

"He was having the time of his life, and so was I," says Michaud. "And what a way for me to go out. It's pretty difficult to top making one of your last flights with the future King." □

"He was having the time of his life, and so was I."



Deborah Nelson



Martha in the making

By Marie Weeren

It was a makeover of epic proportions when stylist Deborah Nelson (MBA'94) transformed a shoe repair shop into the home of her new retail store, Nelson & Co., in Halifax's North End.

"It was old, and it looked terrible in here, and the walls were black and they were falling down," Nelson recalls. "Everything in here is new, really — doors, walls, lighting, floors. So it's been big."

She's loved it all. In addition to retail — she stocks a blend of new items and Maritime antiques — Nelson offers design services, which have been in great demand. It's hard to believe there was a time Nelson — who's worked behind the scenes and on camera for HGTV shows and CBC's *Steven and Chris* — didn't consider design as a career choice. Her path wasn't direct, but it led to experiences she draws upon today.



After completing an arts degree, Nelson came to Saint Mary's University for her MBA.

"It helped me build confidence when it came to . . . understanding business and not being intimidated by numbers and finance — which I think up to that point, I probably had been — and also to recognize that if you buckle down and you want something, you can get it."

Nelson then travelled in Europe, where she landed her first media job — DJing at a Swiss radio station. Back in Canada, she completed the first level of the Canadian Securities Course with an eye to working in finance. She also worked in international sales and marketing.

But something was missing. A childhood love of painting and creating and an adult interest in drawing floor plans and sketching houses led her to take interior design courses.

Nelson moved on to Toronto and, eventually, a coveted internship with *Designer Guys*, which was airing on HGTV.

"I'd never had a job like that and I loved it. I didn't care if they told me to drive for six hours to go pick up a piece of fabric or whatever. I just loved everything and I was like a sponge."

She advanced rapidly, finishing the season as assistant art director. More shows followed, and Nelson also realized her goal of working for *Canadian House & Home* magazine.

Editor-in-chief Suzanne Dimma has high praise for Nelson.

"I think Deb has a great eye," she says. "She has an ability to find that diamond in the rough and bring it into a space and put a new light on it. I think of her as being a 'master of the find,' so to speak."

Looking ahead, Nelson hopes to emulate one of her inspirations.

"I want to be Martha Stewart but without going to jail. I really do," she says with a smile. "I'd like to have a TV show and/or book."

And Dimma has seen Nelson make her dreams a reality.

"She's very clear on what she wants to do and she dives into it. She's kind of fearless that way. So in terms of the future, I think it could be anything. I think the world's her oyster because I know she sets her heart on accomplishing things and she gets it done." □



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ALUMNI & CAREER SERVICES JOIN FORCES

Recent alumni have more time to benefit from career counselling and resources at Saint Mary's. Originally a three-month offering, the service is now available for two years.

"Having that two-year window provides more opportunity to take advantage of the service any time they need, rather than trying to complete it in only a few months," says Career Counsellor Lindsey Ingraham.

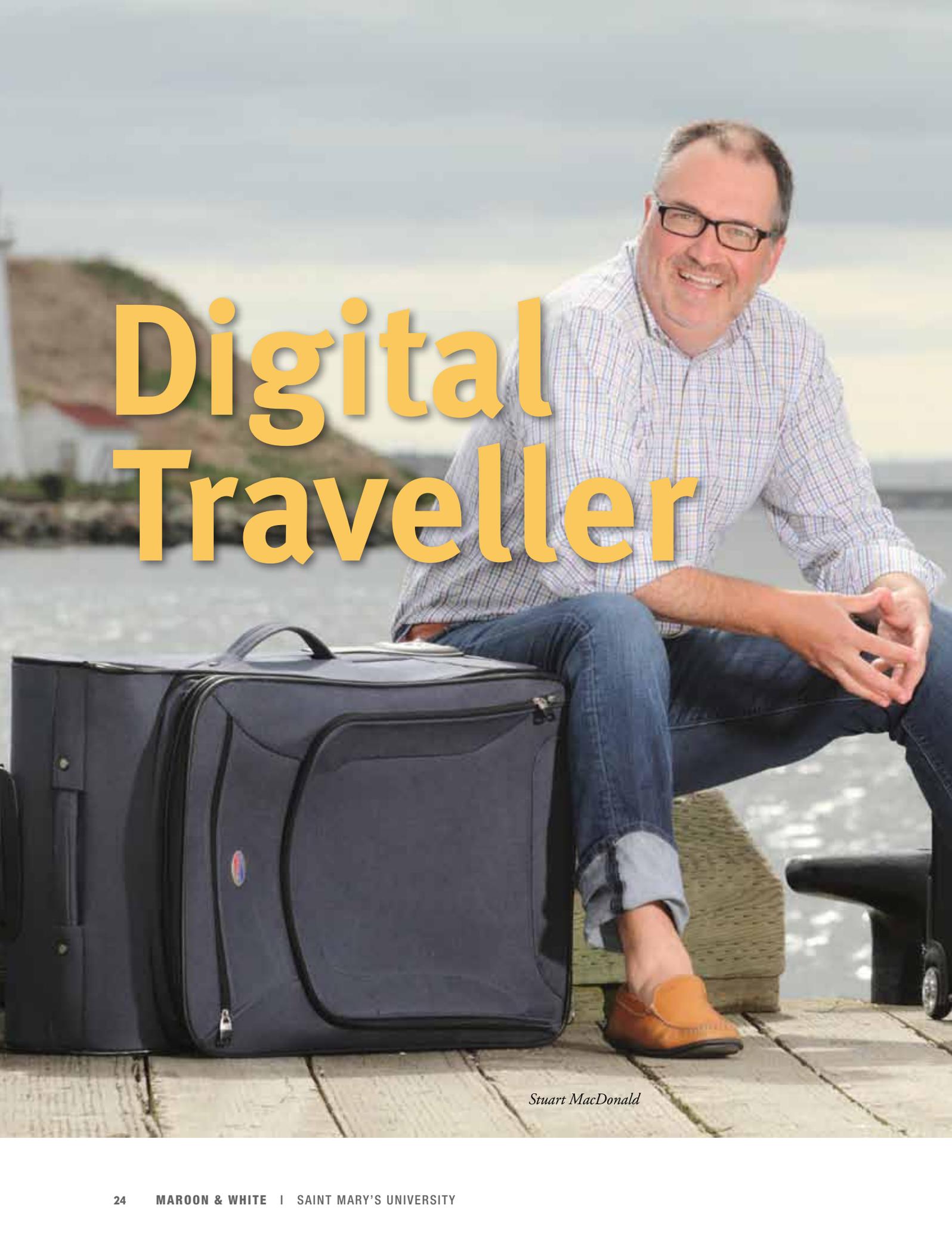
The service — a partnership of Career Services and the Alumni Office — is open to alumni for up to two years from their convocation.

As Ingraham explains, career counselling sessions are tailored to clients, and include an exploration of their values, interests, strengths, skills and lifestyle preferences. This self-assessment is drawn upon as clients work on an action plan, whether they are entering the workforce or considering postgraduate studies.

The Career Development Centre, which is a central focus of Career Services, offers a variety of supports including resumé and cover letter help writing, practice interviews, job search strategies, and graduate school and labour market information.

This extended service is receiving positive feedback. "Since August I've seen a steady increase in alumni taking advantage of the service so we feel confident that this is going to continue to grow," Ingraham says.

To book an appointment or for more information, please call 902-420-5761 or e-mail career.services@smu.ca □

A man with glasses, wearing a blue and white checkered shirt and blue jeans, is sitting on a wooden dock. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. A large, dark blue suitcase is on the dock next to him. The background shows a body of water and a cloudy sky.

Digital Traveller

Stuart MacDonald

By Mark Campbell

Stuart MacDonald (BComm'88) remembers the moment with crystal clarity. It was 1993, long before the Internet became what it is today. Long interested in the travel industry, he was sitting in his Toronto apartment, connected to eAAsy SABRE via a 2400-Baud Dial Up Modem, watching his computer screen fill up with flight details, airport codes and prices.

For the man who would later spearhead the launch of Expedia in Canada, this was a eureka moment.

“I thought, ‘This will change the world.’ I could see it revolutionizing the way people plan and purchase trips.”

Not only was MacDonald right, but he also went on to play a pivotal role in that revolution. He left his job as a key accounts manager at Monsanto in 1995 for the travel industry. Just five years later, he was leading the charge to bring Signature Vacations into the e-commerce realm when Internet reservations giant Expedia approached him with the offer of a lifetime.

“Next thing I know, I’m in the spare room of my house writing the business plan to bring their service to Canada and hiring a handful of people. And it ramped up from there.”

Under MacDonald’s guidance, Expedia became the most successful online travel business in the country, and by a wide margin. He moved on to Expedia’s Seattle offices in 2003, managing a \$300-million advertising budget as Senior Vice-President Packages and Chief Marketing Officer.

But MacDonald wasn’t content to rest on his laurels. He stepped down, took his wife and kids around the world, and then returned to Toronto in 2005 to begin the next chapter of his career.

He started a business — the aptly named Stuart MacDonald Consulting — investing in and advising online and web-enabled companies. He also partnered with some colleagues on a new initiative — mesh, an annual conference exploring how the web affects media, business, marketing and society.

“At the time, there wasn’t such a forum in Canada,” recalls MacDonald. “So we thought ‘Let’s put on a show.’ Now, we’re in our sixth year, we’re drawing experts from as far away as New Zealand and we are selling out in advance. We’ve become the architects for the state of the digital universe in Canada.”

Alumni Profiles

Meanwhile, MacDonald launched Tripharbour.ca, which he says is the web's first online cruise vacation e-commerce and community site. It may have been his boldest move to date. Only 40 per cent of leisure travel purchases are conducted online in Canada, and the numbers for cruises aren't very good. Yet MacDonald points out that the average age of people purchasing cruises is now in the mid-40s. And cruise lines are adding more ships geared to younger people. In other words, the timing was right.

"I think that's the mark of a great entrepreneur — the ability to recognize an opportunity, seize it, rally the team behind it and show consumers how it makes their lives better. If you do it right, it quickly becomes the norm, and people think 'That wasn't so crazy after all.'"

Though his entrepreneurial acumen may seem inherent, the British Columbia-born MacDonald credits Saint Mary's with instilling in him the knowledge and skills to pursue his dreams.

"My family was from Nova Scotia originally and had moved back home when I was in high school. I planned to study business, and Saint Mary's undergraduate program had a very strong reputation. I grew as a person, I learned to think critically and I met people who have remained friends to this day. It provided a solid base for my success."

Speaking of success, MacDonald continues to keep his eye on the future, looking for the next eureka moment. Asked for predictions, he says he sees wireless becoming the platform of choice for information and entertainment, and continued convergence of TV, the Internet and telephone service. And he sees himself somewhere in the thick of it.

"My intention is to stay in the digital space and continue helping people figure it out. I hope I never stop." □



2011 Alumni Awards

The Annual Alumni Awards were presented during the Presidents' Wine & Cheese Reception as part of Homecoming 2011. The recipients were nominated by their peers, colleagues and friends. For further details on each award, please visit www.smu.ca/alumni.

The Father William A. Stewart, S.J., Medal
for Excellence in Teaching:
Dr Brian Bartlett, English Department

Associate Alumni Membership:
Joe Chrvala, Greg King and John Landry

Alumni Volunteer of the Year Award:
Nate Gildart (BA'95), Meghan VanGaal
(BComm'08) and Marcel Dupupet (BComm'04)

Distinguished Service Award:
David McKeage (BComm'91) and
Dr. Gerald P. Reardon

Young Alumni Award:
Jacob Deng (BComm'10) and
Jeff Lohnes (BComm'07)

(l to r, back) Peter Gildart (father of Nate Gildart), Dr. Gerald Reardon, Joe Chrvala, Jacob Deng, John Landry, Nicholas Child (friend of David McKeage), Dr. Brian Bartlett. (l to r, front) Greg Poirier (Alumni Association President), Tanya Louise and Victor King (children of Greg King), Dr J. Colin Dodds, Marcel Dupupet, and Jennifer Lohnes (sister of Jeff Lohnes).



By Erica Parker

GRADS ENCOURAGED TO EMBRACE CHANGE

In a colourful ceremony rich with tradition, 900 students joined the ranks of more than 40,000 Saint Mary's alumni this past May when they received their degrees at the Spring Convocation ceremonies held at the Halifax Metro Centre.

Addresses to students focused on the value of an education, the lifelong journey of learning and the excitement that can accompany uncertainty.

In an afternoon speech to students, honorary degree recipient Sarah Dennis, President and CEO of The Halifax Herald Ltd., advised graduates to be open to constantly learning while welcoming and seeking new knowledge and experience throughout their lives. Ms. Dennis urged grads to keep their minds open, to stay informed about their community and to treat others the way they wish to be treated.

On a similar note, Valedictorian Latero Rolle told students at the morning ceremony that the purpose of an education is to enrich character. Students were encouraged to think positive thoughts, recognize the powerful tool of an education, continue to learn outside the classroom and never abandon their natural curiosity.

Also in a morning address, honorary degree recipient Paul Sobey, President and CEO of Empire Company Ltd., advised students to be guided by personal values and to keep in touch with one another. He suggested that hard work, true passion, integrity and commitment would help graduates achieve and surpass their goals in the future.

At the afternoon ceremony, Valedictorian Cait Dix spoke about the uncertainty that often accompanies graduation, but reminded graduates that uncertainty brings unlimited possibilities and that the future is theirs for the taking. Dix also encouraged graduates to embrace and become instruments of change.

Six leaders from the world of education, business, publishing and philanthropy received honorary doctorates during the ceremony. Recipients were: Dr. Peter Aucoin, Professor Emeritus of Political Science and Public Administration, Dalhousie University; Ms. Dennis; retired Citizenship Court judge Ms. Helen Gillis; master dance instructor and choreographer, Leica Hardy; Dr. Donald Savoie, Professor of Public Administration at Université de Moncton and Mr. Sobey.

Convocation was presided over by Chancellor Dr. Robert P. Kelly, Chairman and CEO of BNY Mellon, who was appointed to the position during the Fall 2010 Convocation. In a brief address, Dr. Kelly urged the grads to be proud of the fact they live in the "coolest country in the world."

Retiring faculty recognized at the ceremony included Dr. Mike Larsen (Arts), Dr. David Turner (Physics and Astronomy) and Dr. Janet Gregory (Department of Finance, Information Systems and Management Science).

The Father William A. Stewart, SJ, Medal for Teaching was presented to Creative Writing Co-ordinator and Professor Dr. Brian Bartlett. □

above: University President Dr. J. Colin Dodds and Chancellor Dr. Robert P. Kelly dress hooding candidate Seyara Shwetz of Alberta as part of one of the Convocation rituals.

The 1st Atlantic University Pub Night took place in Toronto with 11 schools and over 200 participants. (l to r) Jamie Stoltz, Jocelyn Jackson, Jeff Lobnes (BComm'08), Steve Jackson (BComm'04) and Katie MacLean (BA'05) enjoy the evening. (September 15)



Alumni



Dr. Eligio Gaudio (DComm'99, BA'81) was the guest speaker for the Toronto Chapter Turning Points in Leadership Speaker Series and was thanked by Co-Chapter Presidents Meghan Van Gaal (BComm'08) and Marcel Dupupet (BComm'04). (June 7)



Ann-Marie Hessian (daughter of Shelley Hessian, MBA'07, BComm'84) and Laura McEachern attend the Harry Potter Private Screening for alumni and friends. (July 14)

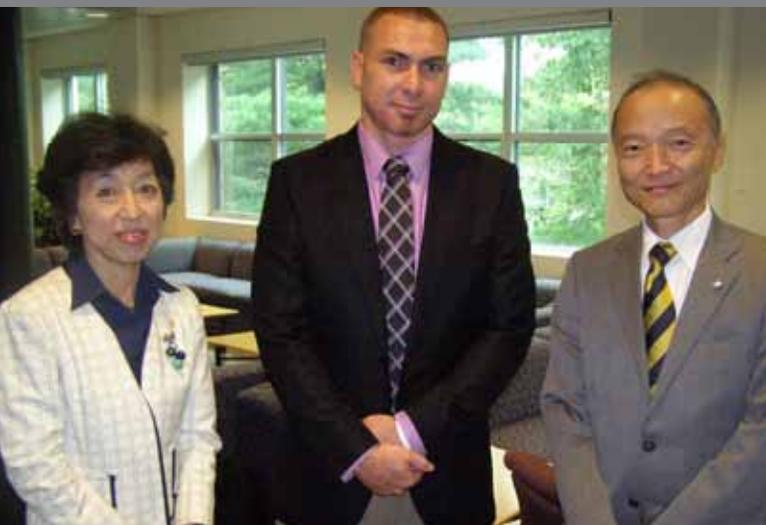
EMBA grads Bill Walker and Jennifer Higgins show off their new Saint Mary's EMBA rings.



Lydia Westenhoff (SMU visiting German student 2009), Nicholas Reyes (BComm'10), Rosalie Kean (current SMU exchange student abroad), Dennis Böhne (SMU visiting German student 2009) along with other SMU alumni and students gathered in Hamburg, Germany. (July 30)



Events



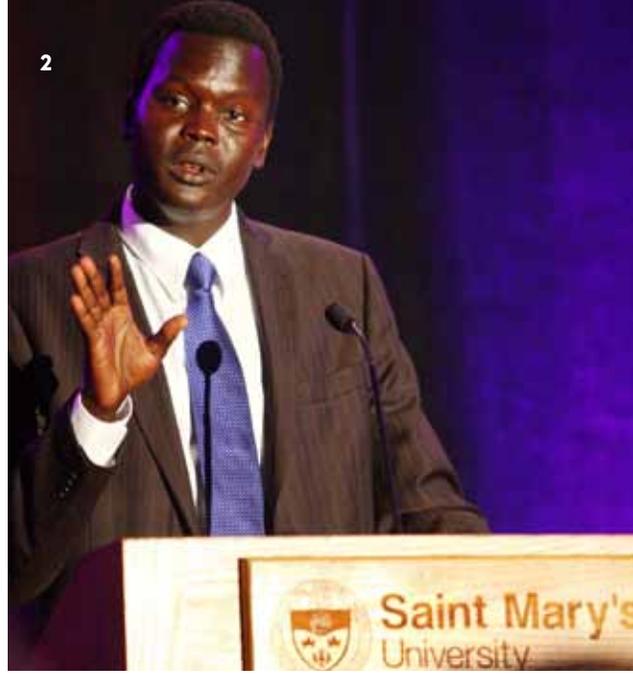
While home in Halifax on vacation, Nate Gildart (BA'95), President of our Japan Alumni Chapter, had the opportunity to meet with Japanese Ambassador to Canada, H.E. Kaoru Ishikawa and Mrs. Masako Ishikawa. (August 9)



The Ottawa Alumni Chapter's 24th Husky Howl golf tournament saw the continued battle between the Hoganson and Dennehy families. The winning team was made up of (l to r) Patrick, Sean (BSc'64), Michael, Brian Dennehy and Chris Orr (substitute for Patrick). (August 11)



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2011 Homecoming



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5

1) This year's Golden Grads, Class of 1961, celebrating their 50th anniversary at a luncheon. (1 to r) Bob (Puddy) Reardon, David Hope, Peter Butler, Robert Sumarah, Sean Lombard, John Murrans and John Stuart. 2) Jacob Deng (BComm'10), Founder and Executive Director of Wadeng Wings of Hope delivers a moving and powerful speech at the inaugural event. 3) 2001 Vanier Cup Team 10 year Reunion (1 to r, back) Ryan Jones (BSc'02), Nathan McHugh (BComm'05), Joe Bonaventura, Pierre-Paul Huet (BComm'04), Domenico Bartolacci (BComm'02), Jean-Michel Sylvain (BComm'02), Kris Sembarlus, (1 to r, front) Ross Argante (BA'01), Dean Jones (BComm'03), Paul Fleming (BA'03) Photo by Mona Ghiz 4) The Fifty, a group of alumni from 2004 -2009, held their annual gathering during Homecoming. The event was organized by Jeff Lohnes (BComm'08) and Matt Graham (BComm'07). It was a night of great memories for the core 55 joined by a total of 150 alumni and friends. Photo by: Jared Hochman 5) The inaugural Silver Grad Luncheon was enjoyed by several SMU Belles (1 to r, back) Heather Harris (BEd'74, MA'72, BA'70), Heather Fitzpatrick (Director of Development), (1 to r, front) Ann MacGillivray (MBA'95, BComm'71), Judy Dietz (MA'07, BA'84) and Elizabeth Ryan.



The One World Alumni Dinner raised over \$7,200 for the education of children in South Sudan.

On Thursday, September 29, Saint Mary's Alumni and friends gathered in the Loyola Conference Hall for a very special evening. The One World Alumni Dinner kicked off Homecoming 2011 events and helped raise money for Wadeng Wings of Hope, a registered charitable society that raises funds to help give the gift of education and improve the well-being of children in South Sudan. Guest speaker Jacob Deng (BComm'10) is the founder of Wadeng Wings of Hope. As one of the Lost Boys of the Sudan, he shared his remarkable story.

a community-based school in Duk Padiet which will not only benefit children, but also their families and the village elders. It is Deng's belief that the Sudanese child of today who has the opportunity to get an education will be the leader of this new country in the future.

The One World Alumni Dinner, hosted by the Saint Mary's University Alumni Association, marked the launch of Wadeng's Brick by Brick project and is the single largest fundraiser to date for the charity. One hundred percent of ticket sales were donated to

“Hope is all I had as a boy. But it was with hope that I took great risk to gain my freedom through education. Education is the key to a better world.”

—Jacob Deng

Deng was born in the village of Duk Padiet in South Sudan and at the age of seven, fled from a government-supported insurgency which ravaged his community and saw many of his family members and friends perish. He spent the next 15 years in a refugee camp in Kenya, where he sought an education, willing to risk his life to obtain this basic right. He sold his clothes for tobacco, traded the tobacco for goats, and sold the goats to raise enough money to go to school. For Deng, education was synonymous with freedom.

After moving to Canada, Deng wanted to give back to his homeland by providing the gift of education, and so Wadeng Wings of Hope was born with the goal to build

Wadeng, which totaled \$7,200 and a large number of copies of *A Hare in the Elephant's Trunk*, a book inspired by Jacob's story, were sold.

During the dinner, enthralled guests listened to Deng tell his remarkable and inspiring story and share his hopes for a better future for his village and country. In the global reach of the proceeds of this dinner, our Alumni have demonstrated that they are truly citizens of the world, and that by working together, they can make a difference.

For more information on Deng, the book *A Hare in the Elephant's Trunk*, and Wadeng Wings of Hope, please visit www.wadeng.org. □



The Belles celebrate their induction.

Sports Legends Enter Hall of Fame

Induction Ceremony Honours Field Hockey Team, Team Doctor and Basketball Star

Never quit. Don't underestimate the power of teamwork. Cherish the stories of your past for they may be the foundation of your future.

These were just a few of the lessons athletes from Saint Mary's sporting past shared with an appreciative crowd Oct. 1 as an athlete, a team and a doctor were inducted into the Saint Mary's University Sport Hall of Fame.

The 2011 inductees included hoop star, Alfred E. Brown Jr.; 30-year team doctor, Dr. David Petrie; and The Belles, a trailblazing Women's Field Hockey team from 1977-78.

Brown, now a Baptist Minister living in New Jersey, told the crowd that coming to Saint Mary's was one of the best decisions of his life. Although he lives in the U.S., he said every time he travels into Canadian airspace a smile crosses his face.

"Just being able to play was a victory," he told the crowd, noting that at age three he wore braces on his

legs and was told by doctors he would never be able to participate in any kind of physically demanding activity.

He persevered and when he got to Saint Mary's he set numerous university and league records. He still holds the university rebounding record with 1237, and set a single game record of 24 rebounds in a CIAU tournament against Western Ontario.

Downplaying his own skills and rebounding ability, Brown said the 1967-68 team may not have been the most talented to ever hit the boards, but it was unified and played with intensity.

"We were an afterthought in the league. Dal was heavily favoured, but we beat them and went to nationals where we almost took everything. I like to say we were the mouse that roared."

Perseverance also drove the Belles to victory. Kathy Mullane, a Hall of Famer and coach of 77-78 Belles Field Hockey Team, said with more



The family of long time Huskies team physician Dr. David Petrie was on hand to celebrate his induction into the Sport Hall of Fame on October 2.

rookies than veterans on the field, few predicted the team would be able to get past the reigning national champs at Dalhousie.

With hard work and determination, they not only beat Dalhousie, but they also came within one game of becoming national champions, “I actually think of the team as national champions because we lost by just one goal, but we had two goals that were called back on infractions of rules that were dropped the following year.”

Belles team Captain Joan Langley said she was unsure what secret ingredient made the team so successful, “but after spending a few hours with the girls again this weekend, it’s clear we’ve still got it.”

The Belles was the first female team inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Also on hand for the induction ceremony were several members of the late Dr. David Petrie’s family. His son David Alan Petrie, told the crowd his father would have been humbled with the entry to the Hall.

He recalled attending many games at Saint Mary’s and watching his father’s face light up when someone would pop out from the dressing room and say “Hey Doc, we need you.” □

ATHLETICS SIGN PARTNERSHIP WITH SUMMIT DENTISTRY



A two-year deal signed between Saint Mary’s Athletics Department and Summit Dentistry of Bedford will give all SMU student-athletes access to dental services, as well as a custom made mouth guard.

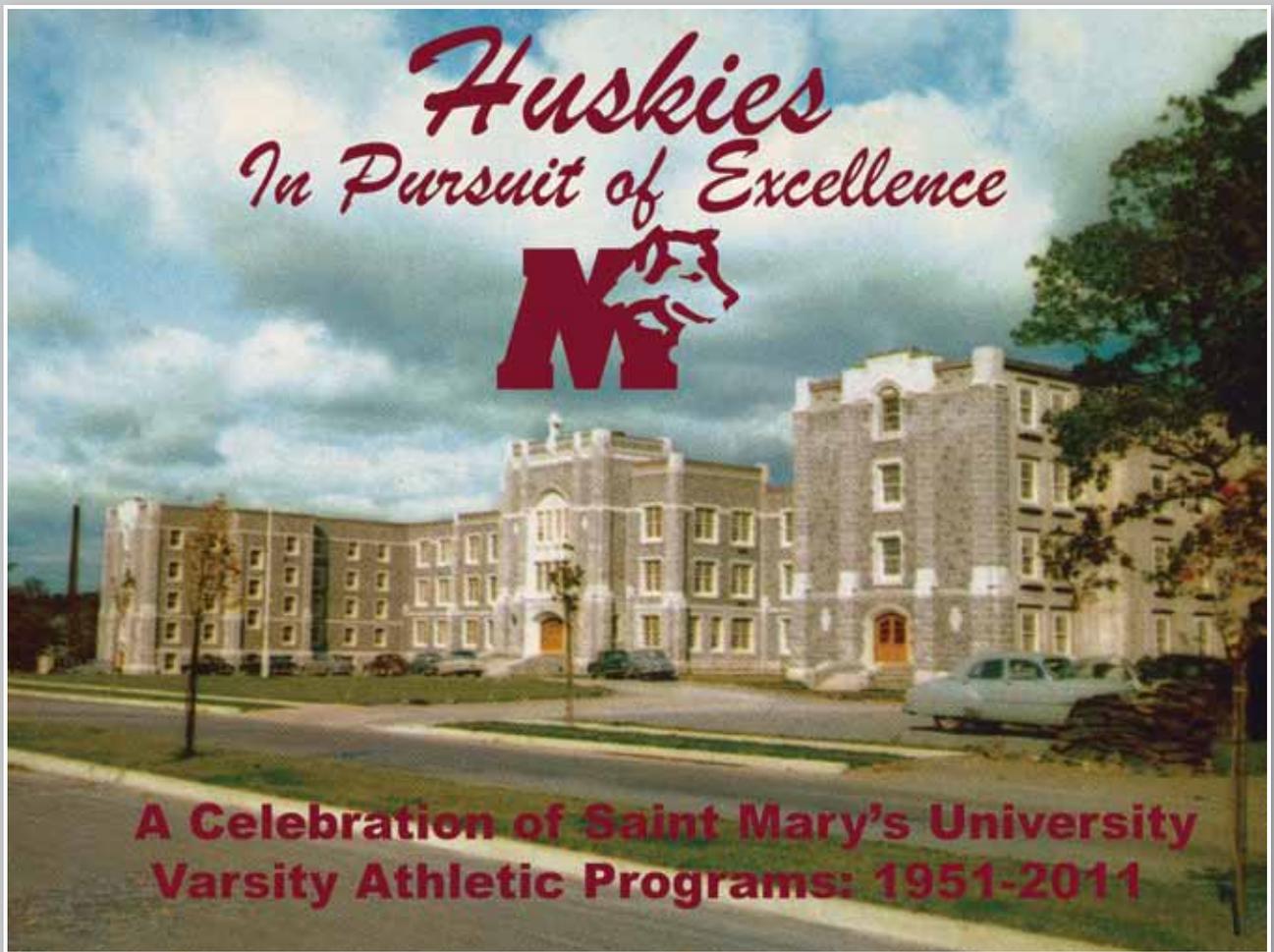
Athletics and Recreation Director Steve Sarty says with the agreement Saint Mary’s becomes the only university in Canada offering such a service at no cost to the athlete. The mouth guards are the only type endorsed by the Academy for Sports Dentistry and are the choice of NHL, NFL, NBA and MLS team dentists.

Summit Dentistry is located in the new Bedford Commons development and offers a full range of dental services, with a few unique services like laser dentistry. Drs. Michael Salyzyn, Michael Creighan and Greg Power are Eastern Canada’s only certified Team Dentists through the Academy for Sports Dentistry.

The trio were also the lead dentists for the 2011 Canada Winter Games held in Halifax and Dr. Salyzyn was a member of the dental team for the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Whistler. He is also working with the Canadian Olympic Association in developing a dental team across the country to screen our athletes and address any dental needs prior to next year’s London Olympics.

“When one of my players got his jaw broken Summit Dentistry was there with prompt service and superior care to see him through his recovery,” said Trevor Stienburg, Men’s Hockey Coach. “The custom fitted sport guard is second to none in quality and my players tell me it’s very comfortable.”

Mr. Sarty said Summit Dentistry offers first class service and their partnership is truly beneficial for the department, and the University as a whole. □



Reliving the Moment

Sixty years of bone-crushing tackles, last minute baskets and jaw-dropping, come-from-behind victories will be documented in a new book slated for release in the early spring of 2012.

A project of the Steering Committee of the Saint Mary's Sport Hall of Fame, *Huskies: In Pursuit of Excellence* is a collection of stories, essays and remembrances from

student athletes, coaches and friends of Saint Mary's who have witnessed the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat during the last six decades.

The book will tell the stories of the players, coaches and supporting cast who worked together to build the programs and sporting legacy that has brought Husky fans to their feet since the 1950's.

“It will be the first comprehensive history of any university varsity program in Canada,” says Paul Puma, Chair of the Committee, and one of a small team of workers helping to organize the submissions of 43 different individuals.

“We worked very hard to make sure the people writing about a sport, or a particular championship team, were deeply connected with it,” says Mr. Puma. “By having someone like Peter Halpin write about basketball, after having been a key part of the program himself, there is a special dimension to the narrative.”

The book is expected to be just over 200 pages in length and will be full of vintage and full-colour photographs. It will be published by New World Publishing of Halifax with all profit going toward maintaining and improving the Hall of Fame with its memorabilia, paintings and photographs.

“Our hope is that as people read the book, they will be drawn back in time. Not only will they recall a certain game or a certain player, but they will remember the day they cut class to watch THE game or met their first girlfriend while sitting in the bleachers at the gym,” says publisher Frank Mitchell.

Information on pre-ordering can be found on the publisher’s website, www.newworldpublishing.com or by calling 1-877-211-3334 with a credit card to order your copy. Brochures are also available from committee members or at the Athletic Department Office in the Tower.” □

HUSKIES AT HOME

Basketball

- Nov 23 vs. StFX
- Women 6pm & Men 8pm

Men’s Hockey

- Nov 30 vs. StFX
- 7pm at The Halifax Forum

Women’s Hockey

- Nov 26 vs. UPEI at 7pm
- Nov 27 vs. MTA at 2pm

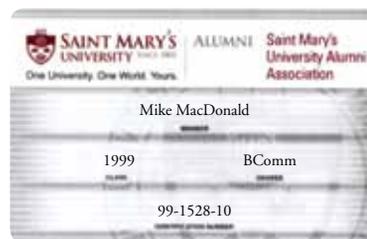


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and Cheer on
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On behalf of the Saint Mary's University Alumni Association and our 22 bursary recipients, we would like to thank all of our golfers, sponsors, volunteers, Granite Springs, and everyone else who helped to make this year's tournament a success!

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Presented by:

August 23, 2012 † Register today at www.smu.ca/alumni/golf



Frank Ross (DipEng'69), President Aecon Buildings Group, watches as student athlete Josh Domingues puts a drive down the centre of the fairway during the annual Alumni Golf Tournament held at Granite Springs. The day raised more than \$22,000 for student scholarships.

Alumni Golfers Chip In

Bruce Hopkins has played in the Saint Mary's Alumni Golf tournament for 35 years, but the Class of '74 graduate says the tournament never seems to get old.

"It's an opportunity to see people you went to school with that maybe you don't see any other time of the year," he said. "There's lots of laughs, lots of storytelling and in a good year some pretty good golf."

Although Hopkins' current team of 20 years failed to capture the title at this year's tournament at Granite Springs, he takes solace in the fact they have won in the past and will have a shot again next year.

"We have a remarkable number of second place finishes," he said with a chuckle.

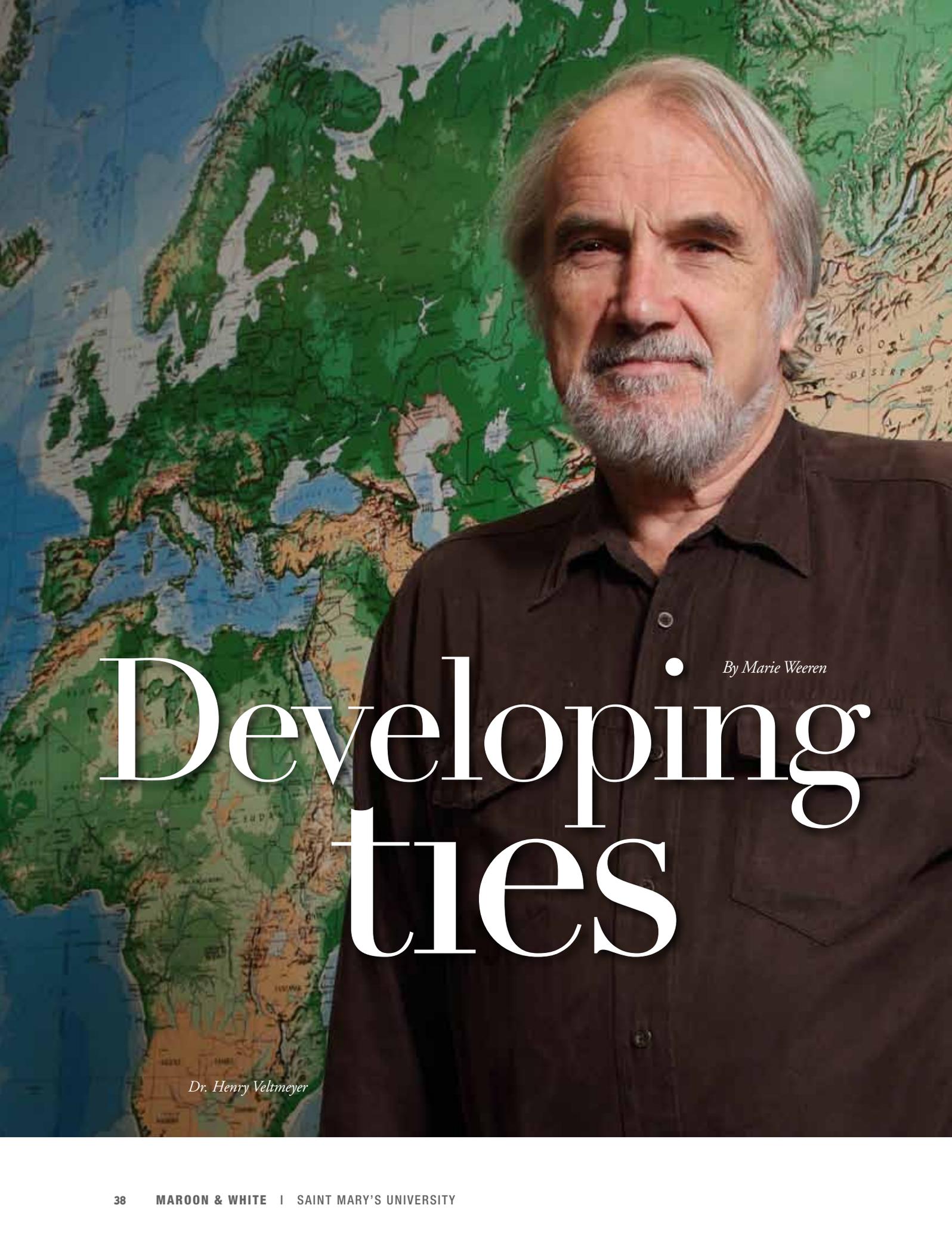
Pat Crowley, the outgoing Director of Alumni who made the tournament his last official event, said the event would not be possible without the longstanding support of presenting sponsor Aecon and numerous returning sponsors and supporters.

"We have players who have been with us from the beginning," said Crowley, "and more recent grads who were here for the first time but they got along like they had known each other forever. It was easy because they share a single bond, Saint Mary's."

At the end of the day, the team from RWAM Insurance bested 26 other teams to take the 2011 championship, but the real winners of the day were 22 students who each received \$1,000 scholarships as a result of money raised by the event.

The student recipients were Odane Finnegan, Kate Lynn Shediak, Stephanie Clarke, Amy Crider, Jahmeek Murray, Jessie Heim, Allison Prosser, Jaime Whynot, Danielle Yorke, Stephanie Holland, Kelsey Murphy, Paul Boudreau, Mitchell Cooper, Kayla Rafuse, Taylor Shupe, Mandy Avery, Sarah Maynard, Ryan Gottschalk, Mark Holden, Josh Domingues and Rileyn Halpin.

The 36th Annual tournament is on August 23, 2012. Watch the Alumni website for details. □



● *By Marie Weeren*

Developing ties

Dr. Henry Veltmeyer

It was an itinerary that would make most people flinch. In the space of just one month, Dr. Henry Veltmeyer was to travel to Bolivia, Mexico and Brazil to teach and to give a talk at a UNESCO conference on the ethics of development.

Latin America is the focus of Dr. Veltmeyer's research, as the books that line a shelf in his office attest. (He's edited, co-authored or authored an average of two a year over the past 10 years.)

"This is my work, and I enjoy my work," is the simple answer to the question of what drives the International Development Studies and Sociology professor.

Dr. Veltmeyer is quick to put his efforts in the greater context of the IDS program.

"We are concerned with the social and economic development process in developing countries in what we call the Global South, which is, more or less, Latin

"Development is an academic discipline, but it is an applied discipline as well."

America and the Caribbean, Africa and Asia," he says. "Different people in the program have different regional research interests. Mine happens to be Latin America."

His interests in poverty reduction, social movements and government policy all come together in Bolivia, the poorest country in South America. According to Dr. Veltmeyer, Bolivia is the first country in the world in which indigenous people have acquired state power, giving them a chance to overcome centuries of oppression, neglect and paternalism.

"They came to power through a combination of social movements and an electoral process. It is unique in that regard," he says. "You have actually a plurinational and multi-ethnic state that formally recognizes the territorial rights of more than 20 indigenous nationalities. This is of transcendental significance."

In a country where peasant farmers and workers make up the majority of the population, there is much to be

done to improve social conditions. Dr. Veltmeyer has shared his expertise in economic and social development by offering courses and workshops for officials from municipal and national governments and through government consulting projects.

Saint Mary's IDS program is part of a network that includes academic institutions in Mexico, Bolivia, Brazil and Chile.

"The idea is to generate development knowledge based on an exchange of ideas and collaborative research, working together, North and South," Dr. Veltmeyer says. This exchange has included helping two universities in Bolivia develop graduate programs in development studies.

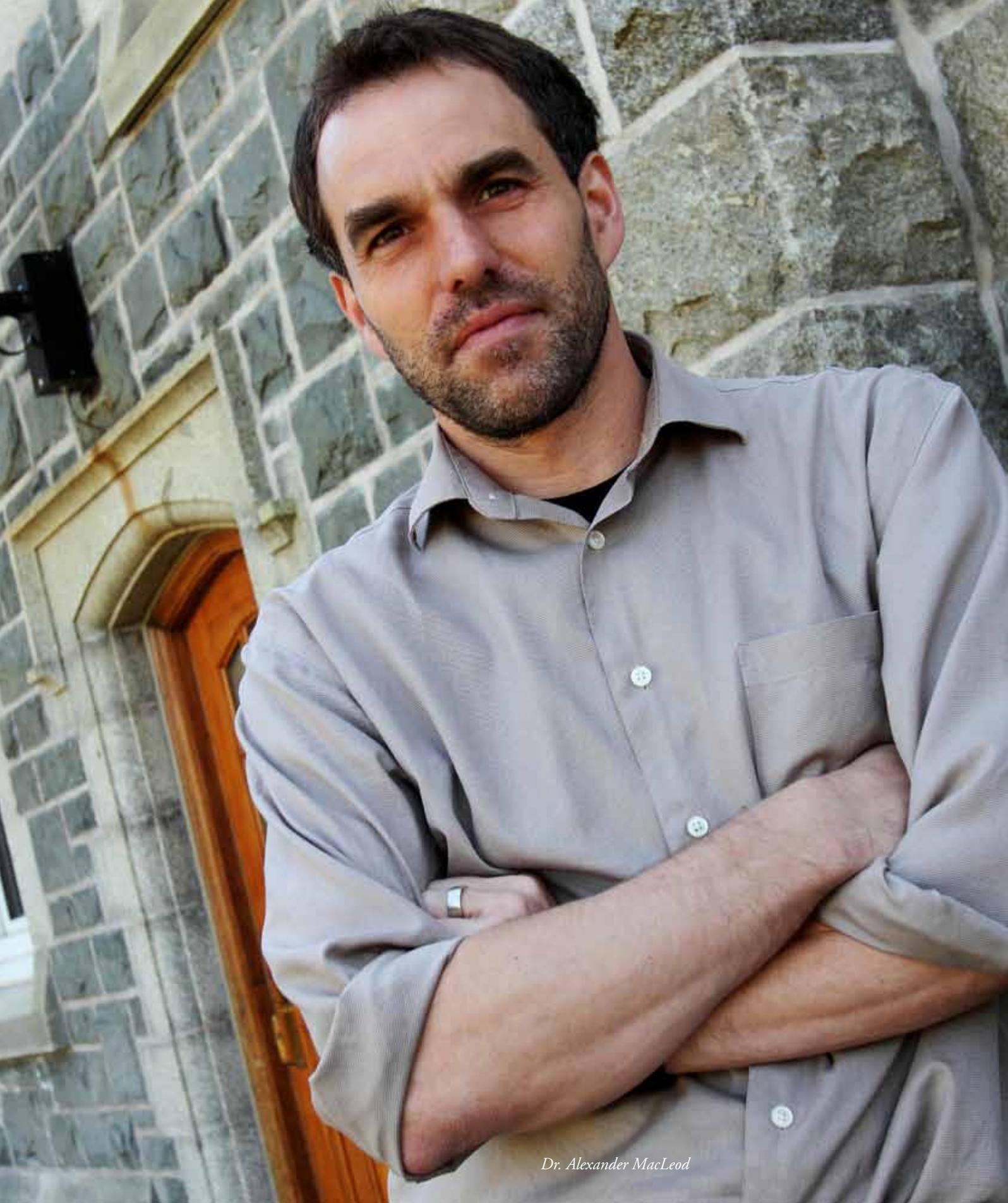
Students in the Saint Mary's program have also benefited from the network as they carry out research abroad. Beginning this fall, a three-year internship program will see two students each year spend a number of months working with non-governmental organizations

in Bolivia. In turn, Bolivian students will come here. The University's International Activities Office is administering the program.

"Development is an academic discipline, but it is an applied discipline as well," Dr. Veltmeyer says. "Graduates from the program will work with non-governmental or governmental organizations to do program design and evaluation, as well as conduct research. This provides very good experience in terms of research, implementing development projects and working in the field overseas."

One of the most rewarding aspects of Dr. Veltmeyer's research is working with people in the social movements and communities that he studies.

"Rather than doing interviews, which most researchers engage in, we tend to have conversations and exchanges of information," he says. "That's my methodology ... to travel on a two-way street." □



Dr. Alexander MacLeod

Alexander MacLeod's Wild Chase

By Suzanne Robicheau

Saint Mary's English Professor Alexander MacLeod has been on a wild chase for almost a year.

"I don't know if I'm running after something or being pursued," says Dr. MacLeod, whose debut collection of short stories, *Light Lifting*, had only been out for a few days when it was shortlisted last October for the 2010 Scotiabank Giller Prize, the largest literary award in the country.

He had just completed a book talk near Guelph, Ont., when he heard the news.

"It was a crazy surprise," he says, "completely out of the blue. Nobody saw it coming."

Light Lifting has since become a national bestseller, snagged the much-covered Margaret and John Savage First Book Award in May and recently was shortlisted for the world's largest short story prize, the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award.

There are lots of places where I wouldn't have been able to do this, but I recognized from the very beginning that I'd be able to do it here.

Born in Inverness, Cape Breton, Dr. MacLeod was raised in Windsor, Ont., where his father, Alistair MacLeod—renowned short story writer and author of *No Great Mischiefs*—taught at the university. While the Windsor area provides an edgy setting for the seven stories in *Light Lifting*, Dr. MacLeod maintains that there is nothing specifically Canadian about his writing.

“I don't see Canada as a separate, untouched pure space where we're unaffected by what's going on everywhere else in the world,” he says. “My people are often caught up in forces that are not uniquely Canadian.”

Many of these forces spring from what Dr. MacLeod describes as a critical incident of decision. In one story, an elite runner retaliates against a group of taunting children; in another, a swimmer accepts a challenge to dive from a dark rooftop into the Detroit River.

“These are the tense moments when a character chooses to take a significant action,” he explains. “Some of them we see coming. Others are split-second decisions that come out of nowhere. Either way, there's no way around them, and the world will look different before and after.”

For Dr. MacLeod, the decision to teach at Saint Mary's has changed the look of the world for the better.

“This is the perfect place for me,” he says. “When this job became available, I was hoping and hoping that I would get it. Being here has allowed me to reconnect with my past and also to extend myself in a direction I've always wanted to go.”

“Saint Mary's has given me everything I wanted to build a weird project that braids together four or five different

disciplines. There are lots of places where I wouldn't have been able to do this, but I recognized from the very beginning that I'd be able to do it here. We've built some great things already, and it's full steam ahead as far as I can see.”

Dr. MacLeod's enthusiasm is fuelled by the students who enrol in the University's creative writing workshop.

“It's a hidden treasure of the University,” he says, crediting Saint Mary's Creative Writing Director Brian Bartlett.

“We've run these workshops for decades, and the students who go through them have gone on to do great things,” says Dr. MacLeod, who teaches the intermediate and senior fiction workshops.

“The critical-creative divide really isn't a divide for them. They get strong grades, their transcripts are good, and their writing is good. Our students win scholarships all over the place, and this year alone, Kris Bertin published six or seven stories and received one of the country's top awards, The Malahat Review's Jack Hodgins (Founders') Award for Fiction.”

At 38, Dr. MacLeod is gathering material for his next book, but he's taking a break before the writing begins, balancing his commitment as the co-ordinator of Saint Mary's Atlantic Studies Program with his teaching, long-distance running and family responsibilities.

“You only go into your quiet, separate place when you're fuelled by everything you do outside it,” he says. “It's great to have kids; it's great to have friends and work. When you do finally get a quiet moment, you can really sort things out.” □

Snippets

2008

Mark Layman (BComm) Moving from a position at Emera Energy Inc., Mark has accepted the role of Energy Marketer in Fuels, Energy, & Risk Management at Nova Scotia Power.

2007

Rammi Hassan (BSc) graduated in May, 2011 with a Doctor of Dental Surgery from Dalhousie University. Six other Saint Mary's alumni were among his graduating class: *Jordan d'Eon (BSc'07)*, *John Rector (BSc'02)*, *Heather Johnson (BSc'06)*, *Genevieve Poitras (BSc'06)*, *Claire Kanasewich (BSc'06)* and *Jeffrey Clarke (BSc'07)*

2005

Capt. Craig Law (BA'05) graduated from Advanced Flying Rotary Wing, Canadian Armed Forces Flight School in Manitoba, and obtained his wings on March 20, 2009. Capt. Law has been assigned to 423rd Squadron Sea King, Shearwater, N.S. He is married with three children and lives in Fall River, N.S.

2003

Catherine Robar (BComm) was given Ryerson University's highest honour, the Ryerson University Gold Medal Award. This award is given to the student who has achieved the highest academic GPA (4.33) and who has demonstrated outstanding community service. Catherine was chosen for her anti-poverty work with South African non-governmental organization the Themba Development Project Association, which she founded in 2008.

2002

Tonya (Veinotte) Frowd (BA) and her husband *Kevin (BComm'93)* would like to announce the birth of their son, Ethan Thomas, on November 2, 2010. Ethan enters a Saint Mary's alumni dynasty as his grandfather *Harley Frowd (BComm'55)*, aunt *Amy (Veinotte) Wamboldt (BA'03, MA'04)* and uncle, *Tracy Frowd (BA'86)* are all graduates of the University. Kevin and Tanya live in Lunenburg, where Kevin is a logistics manager for High Liner Foods Inc., and Tanya is a teacher.

2000

Alex Handyside (MBA) and his wife, Janet, proudly announce that their eldest daughter, Georgina, started her BA at Saint Mary's in September 2011. Another Husky in the Handyside family!

Kimberly Saulnier (BA) is proud to welcome a baby girl, Kara Ann Saulnier-Phelan, born March 12, 2011.

1999



Zane and Patty (Dimmell) Swim (BComm) and big brothers Ethan and William, are pleased to introduce Oliver James Declan, born on July 13, 2011.

1998

John (Jackie) Barrett (BComm) won four medals in the powerlifting competition at the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Athens, Greece. He won three gold medals and a silver and set a new Special Olympics world squat record. One of the top four men's powerlifters pound for pound, he made his third appearance in the Summer Games.

David Hayman (BSc) and *Alana (Murphy) Hayman (BA, BSc)* are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Quinn Thomas, on June 19, 2011. David works as a biologist with the City of Calgary, and Alana teaches sciences at Rundle College in Calgary.

1995

G.A. (Sandy) Watson (BA, MBA'07) was named Halifax Regional Municipality's Top Volunteer for 2011 and awarded a lifetime achievement award as one of Nova Scotia's Representative Volunteers of the Year. He was also awarded a Maritime Forces Atlantic Bravo Zulu for his work to involve the seven Keptins of the Mi'kmaw nation, local community, Navy League cadets and military for the HMCS Micmac namesake presentation at the Grand Chief Membertou ceremonies. Sandy also nominated Saint Mary's for a Canadian Forces Liaison Council Award.

1994

Joy (Hattie) Tuck (BA) is back in Canada after spending four years teaching French in Atlanta, Ga., and working as a cultural ambassador. Time to return to Halifax for a donair!

1993

Hugh O'Toole (BA) joined the Ottawa Police Service in 1994 and has enjoyed a distinguished career as a crime investigator. In 2004, he received the Canadian Police Association's Award of Excellence and was recently promoted to staff sergeant. Hugh is currently a Juris Doctor candidate (2013) at the University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law. hotoo040@uottawa.ca

1992

Andrew Stuart (BComm) has been appointed President and CEO of VW Credit, Inc., effective January 2012. Andrew has been Executive Vice President and CFO for VW Credit, Inc., since 2008 and has over 20 years of experience in the automotive industry.

1988

Warren Solomon (BComm) had the pleasure of hosting a wedding & honeymoon symposium in Tobago in July, and one of the dynamic presenters was *Natalie John (BComm'96)*, CEO of Dreamy Weddings in St. Kitts. Maroon & White all the way!

1987

Craig Condon (BComm) works part-time as the Office Manager for Mersey Branch (#38) of the Royal Canadian Legion and is also employed part-time as the bookkeeper for Saint Gregory's Roman Catholic Parish, both in Liverpool, N.S.

Dale McClare (BA'86) hosted Husky alumni *Mike O'Brien (BComm'90)*, *Ken McOnie (BComm'86, MBA)*, and *Mike Brown (BA'87, MA'95)*, this summer at his cottage in Fox Point, N.S. The four made up Larry Uteck's Huskies defensive backfield in the mid-'80s.

Please send address changes, suggestions for stories and snippets to:

Saint Mary's University Alumni Office
923 Robie St., Halifax, NS B3H 3C3
T: 902.420.5420 F: 902.420.5140
E: alumni@smu.ca www.smu.ca/alumni/

1985

Sharon Findlay-MacPhee (BEd) retired from the Nova Scotia School Board Association on June 1 after serving for 24 years as the association's communications manager.

1979

Mark A. Canty (BA, LLB), is living and practising law in Quispamsis, N.B., and is a partner in Canty Lutz Delquis Grant, a firm he helped found in 2006. He was awarded his Queen's Counsel in November 2010 and became President of the Law Society of New Brunswick in July 2011. He lives with his fiancée on their horse farm in Hammond River.

Malcolm Millar (BComm), CA, was recently appointed Deputy CAO of the City of Summerside, P.E.I. Malcolm and his wife, Rosalyn (Lacovetsky) (BComm'79), are proud to live in Summerside, where the municipally owned electric utility gets 46 per cent of its power from wind.

1977

Elizabeth F. (Gloade) Paul (BA, MBA'79), MSW, is proud to announce that daughter, Juliana Paul, is a B.S.W. student at York University in Ontario, but this summer took advantage of her time at home to complete a science course at Saint Mary's. Elizabeth was happy to have her daughter attend the school and is surprised at all the changes on campus.

1972

John Webb (BA) retired in May after 37 years of social service, 12 years with Halifax Social Services and the last 25 years with the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services. He is looking forward to travelling, spending more time with his grandchildren and attending more Saint Mary's sporting events.

1969

Richard Franklin (BComm'69, DComm'99), MBA is the proud father of swimming's newest breakout star, Missy Franklin. At the recent FINA World Championships, "Missile Missy" won five medals overall — three gold, a silver and a bronze as part of the US team and also set two American records. She is the youngest member of Team USA.

Blair Lopes (BA) retired from the Federal Public Service Commission in 1995 as Atlantic regional director and was then appointed to the Faculty of Management at Dalhousie University in the School of Public Administration. He also started a management consulting firm. In December 2010, he retired once again and now spends his time with his wife, Eileen, watching the tides rise and fall at their seaside home in Owls Head Harbour, N.S.

1959

Burriss Devanney (BA), Doctor of Civil Law, and author of *African Chronicles: A Memoir*, continues his work in Africa through part-time mentoring of professional development and community outreach programs with teachers unions in Ghana and Uganda. Burriss is twice retired as a teacher/administrator with the Halifax School Board and as executive director of the Nova Scotia Gambia Association.

1958

Rod Jessome (BA), MSc, is happy to announce that there are now three generations of SMU graduates in the Jessome family: *Jessica Friesen (BComm'08)*, *Rod Jessome, Kaelah Friesen (BComm'11)* and *Darrell Jessome (BComm'82) CA, CMA*.

1954

Dr. Terry Murphy regrets to inform the Saint Mary's community of the passing of his brother-in-law, *Gilbert Bento Correia (BA'54)* on August 28, 2011. Born in Bailey's Bay, Bermuda, Gilbert was the first Bermudian to graduate from Saint Mary's, and among the first students to live in residence in the McNally Building. He died at his home in Saint John, NB and is survived by his wife Claire Murphy Correia, four sons, and seven grandchildren.

1947

Anse A. MacDonald (High 1947) received the Basketball Nova Scotia Frank Baldwin Award in March 2011. A resident of New Glasgow, Anse has been involved in local basketball for three decades, most recently with the North Nova Gryphons.

In Memoriam

Pauline Hartling
BA'60
February 5, 2011

Manley Bennett
MED'87
April 4, 2011

R.L. Joseph Walsh
BComm'52
April 27, 2011

Rt. Honourable Garrett Fitzgerald
DCL'85
May 19, 2011

Wilfred Warner
HS'46
May 25, 2011

John Regan
MED'95
June 9, 2011

Peter Whelley
BEd'97, BA'74
June 10, 2011

Dr. Peter Aucoin
DCL'11, BA'64
July 7, 2011

David Randall
Assoc'08
August 12, 2011

Vicki Lynn DaBreo
BComm'83
August 18, 2011

Gilbert Correia
BA'54
August 28, 2011

Roy Keast
BA'62
September 12, 2011

With Sympathy

Rowhanieh Vladi
January 12, 2011

Dr. Kevin Bonnycastle
June 6, 2011

Archbishop Austin Burke
August 12, 2011

When the McNally Building Was the Entire Campus

As I walk around the McNally Building today I can't help but think about my undergraduate years at Saint Mary's from 1958 to 1961.

There's no question a recent \$26 million facelift has been a blessing. The iconic building is beautiful inside and out. What brings a smile to my face is that in my day the McNally Building was the only campus building: it housed classrooms, labs, offices, residences, a library, a chapel, a gymnasium. Everything!

But even in 1958, six years after it officially opened, the fifth floor of the student residence wing remained unfinished and unoccupied except for a couple of squatters and the office of the Journal. And there was no stone or brick facing on the north, east and south sides of the building; only the west side facing Robie Street was finished.

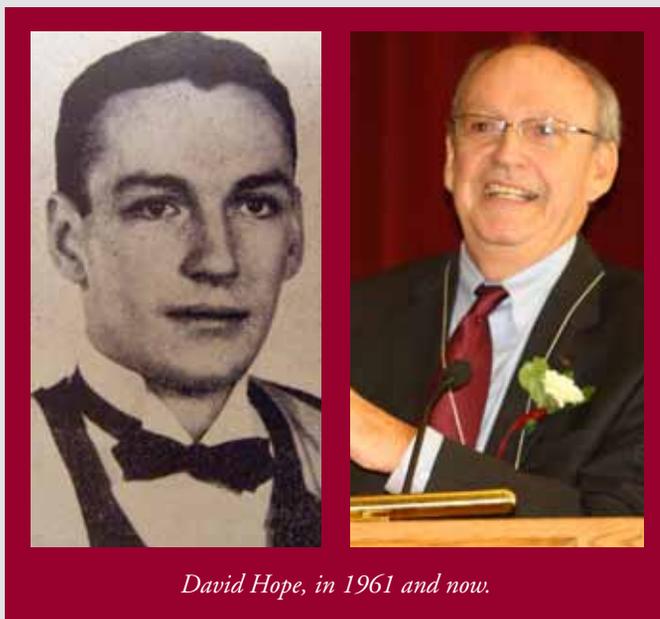
Even with just one unfinished building, I could see Saint Mary's was moving toward what we know it to be today.

In 1958, the gymnasium was officially opened. With a new facility, a truly good coach, Frank Baldwin, and the beginning of serious recruitment, pride in varsity basketball grew. That was also the year that Bob Hayes was hired as Director of Athletics. This announced to the world that the Jesuits believed sports were important in the life of the students at Saint Mary's.

As intercollegiate sports became a big part of the Saint Mary's identity a team name was required, so in 1960 the name Huskies was chosen by a student vote. A mascot, a live husky, and a doghouse behind the south wing soon followed. The dog house became the second building on

the campus, if you didn't count the boarded-up house of Enos Collins that fronted on Tower Road.

Changes weren't just happening on the basketball court and the football field. The classroom was changing as well. Between 1958 and 1961, the number of lay faculty increased by 50 percent. In that same three year period the number of students jumped from 250 to 450, with a rush of enrolment from beyond our borders. In 1961, almost 20 per cent of the student body came from 13 countries outside Canada.



David Hope, in 1961 and now.

Another change was not initiated by the administration or the board. On October 4, 1957 the USSR launched Sputnik 1, starting the Space Age. The immediate impact was an increase in the demand for technical education. In the year after Sputnik was launched, 39 freshmen registered in the engineering program, up from only 10 in the previous year. By 1961, 31 students graduated with the Diploma in Engineering, nearly 30% of the graduating class.

In my years here Saint Mary's was actively building for the future. It was still a small school, but the Jesuits and the Board were determined that it would be a good small school. Even if the one building was a work-in-progress, I believe that the drive for improvement going on around us enhanced our growth as individuals.

Since those years when I was an undergraduate student, Saint Mary's has grown and matured, just as we all have. Yet the foundation on which Saint Mary's stands today is recognizable, even 50 years after graduation.

David Hope is a Halifax resident and a proud member of the Class of 61. □

Did a Saint Mary's moment change your life? A first kiss, shift in thinking, a mentor or a life-long friend? Send your story to alumni@smu.ca and you could be featured in a future issue.



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