

# MAROON & WHITE

For Alumni and Friends of Saint Mary's University

Fall 2015

## FEELING WELCOME

*Robert Summerby-Murray  
steps into his role as the 34th  
President of Saint Mary's*

PLUS

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SOMETHING'S HAPPENING HERE

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30 YEARS FOR IDS PROGRAM

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# CIS Academic All-Canadian Breakfast



**Tuesday, November 17, 2015**  
**Loyola Conference Hall, Saint Mary's University, 7:30-9:00am**

We will honour over 70 Academic All-Canadian student-athletes at this year's event.

*"We are proud of the achievements of our student-athletes who excel in both academics and athletics. These are our future leaders and excellent role models in our community."*

Kevin Downie, Director Athletics & Recreation.

Support our student-athletes by sponsoring this year's event. **Table Sponsor \$1,000**

For details contact Dana Clements at [dana.clements@smu.ca](mailto:dana.clements@smu.ca) or 902.420.5426

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## Letter from the PRESIDENT of the ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Summer is now but a fleeting memory. The 39th annual Saint Mary's University Alumni Golf Tournament at Granite Springs, held on August 20, was a great success. It raised sufficient money to fund 20 student bursaries. Mark August 18, 2016 for our 40th tournament and join us for a wonderful day. Also in August, thanks to assistance of the Alumni Office, the Financial Aid Office and faculty/staff contributors, a Community Food Bank was opened on campus for our students. We are happy to support this endeavor.

We are well into the 2015-2016 academic year. It has been exciting so far. We had a successful Welcome Week for our new students and on September 11 we had the installation of our 34th President: Dr. Robert Summerby-Murray, which coincided with our second annual Santamarian Ceremony for the new students. It was a memorable event.

Our 2015 Homecoming Week from Wednesday, October 14 to Saturday, October 17 is about to happen. It is a great time for our alumni to come back and get reacquainted with the campus and with former classmates. Instead of a One World Dinner, there is an Awards Gala which recognizes the many contributions to the community made by various alumni. On Friday the 16th there will be three convocations on campus and our AGM. On Saturday, the SMU Huskies welcome the St FX X-men for our Homecoming Football Game. Go Huskies Go!

If you don't get to Homecoming this year, think about coming back next year. But drop in any time—the campus has surely changed since you attended SMU. I am always learning about new innovations on campus. It really is a happening place and I am sure that you would be very proud of your alma mater.

My first year as President of your Alumni Association has been very rewarding. I cannot begin to tell you how exciting it is to be taking in all that we do at Saint Mary's—for our students, our community and for the world. Our grads are everywhere and doing very fine work. I always enjoy pictures which our students post—one of whom, from Russia, spent some of the summer volunteering in Peru. This really demonstrates our tagline: One University. One World. Yours.

As you know, times are challenging for all universities but we forge ahead doing what we do best—educating our future leaders to be successful, compassionate and giving individuals.

I am looking forward to my second year as President and would like to thank my Executive; Past President, Mike McKenzie; Vice-President, Sarah Ferguson; and Secretary, Dan Rudisuela. I would also like to thank the Council members for all their support during the last year. I would be quite remiss if I did not express my gratitude to our alumni staff, led by our Director, Mary Ann Daye, for all their hard work and dedication to keeping us all connected.

Please keep in touch and drop in any time. I hope that you enjoy this edition of Maroon and White and we hope to hear from you. Please join us on campus and at alumni events we host outside of Halifax. They are growing every year!

Go Huskies Go!

*Mary-Evelyn Ternan*

Mary-Evelyn Ternan  
BA'69, BEd'70, MEd'88  
President, Saint Mary's University Alumni Association

## SOMETHING'S HAPPENING HERE

BY SUZANNE ROBICHEAU

GET CAUGHT UP ON CAMPUS NEWS, RESEARCH, AWARDS, AND NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS AT SAINT MARY'S.



2015 Enactus Team

### PAYING IT FORWARD PAYS OFF

Well-known regionally for enabling social, environmental and economic progress through entrepreneurial action, the Saint Mary's Enactus team emerged from the Enactus National Competition in Toronto in May 2015 ranked second in the entire country. Saint Mary's also took the national title in the BDC Entrepreneurs First Project Partnership Best Project for The Startup 100, a community development project designed to start 100 businesses in 100 days in 50 communities. In offering young entrepreneurs the chance to develop and implement business ideas, The Startup 100 inspired 127 students from 50 communities, driving economic development across Nova Scotia.

### A FINE BALANCE

Lt. Sarah Gray works hard to balance her academic responsibilities as a criminology major with her training obligations as a reservist in the Canadian Forces, but the 4th year student is quick to admit that she couldn't do it without the support she receives from Saint Mary's. Thanks to a nomination from Lt. Gray, the Faculty of Arts received a Canadian Forces Liaison Council Provincial Award for Best Practices in Support to Student Reservists in March 2015 during a special ceremony at Government House. "Saint Mary's has a reputation for supporting reservists," says Lt. Gray. "The accommodations provided by the Faculty of Arts have made my time as an undergraduate student and Army Reservist much more manageable and far more enjoyable."



left: Lt. Gray receives the award for Best Practices in Support to Student Reservists on behalf of the Faculty of Arts. photo: Copyright Cpl Chris Ringius, Formation Imaging Services Halifax



Staff from SSBDC (from left): Lianne Perry, Senior Project Manager; Jason Turner, Project Coordinator; Carrigan Desjardins BA'14, Project Coordinator for Work Smarts; MPs Scott Armstrong and Peter MacKay; and Work Smarts participant Melinda McCrindle, bits.co.

## MAJOR FUNDING FOR SOBEY SCHOOL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

The Sobeys School Business Development Centre (SSBDC) received almost \$900,000 in federal funding through the Youth Employment Strategy and ACOA's Business Development Program. The lion's share—more than \$620,000—went to Work Smarts for paid internships designed to help recent post-secondary graduates throughout Atlantic Canada. An additional \$275,000 will help the SSBDC provide business development counseling and consulting services to potential and existing small- and medium-sized businesses.

## NEW SUPPORT FOR ABORIGINAL STUDENTS

Building on a long track record of engaging with the Aboriginal community throughout the Atlantic Region, Saint Mary's University called for the creation of an Aboriginal Students Task Force and commissioned a report to advance support for Aboriginal students. Published in May 2015, this report provides a framework through which stakeholders from the Aboriginal community and the University can work collaboratively to build a better learning environment for Saint Mary's Aboriginal students. An Aboriginal Advisory Council will soon be formed to review and act upon the report's recommendations.

## NOTES FROM THE UNDERGROUND

A five-day field school in Northern Ontario took 12 Saint Mary's geology students almost three kilometres underground. After touring diamond drill core logging facilities with Vale Canada, students visited an ore smelter and a nickel refinery. They also took part in a surface excursion of the Sudbury Basin, the second-largest known impact crater on Earth. "Seeing mineral deposits and mining operations up close and personal is an invaluable experience for anyone graduating into this sector of Canadian industry and research," says field school leader Dr. Jacob Hanley, a geology professor at Saint Mary's.



(From left): Jennifer Conroy, Carol Dodds, Malcolm Capstick and Teya Bezanson

## A STIRRING FINALE FOR TIME FOR TEA

On Sunday, June 21, Saint Mary's light-filled Atrium made a pleasant venue for the University's final Time for Tea, a sumptuous English tea party in support of bursaries for single parents who attend Saint Mary's University. The Duchess of Bedford may have introduced afternoon tea in the 19th century, but Saint Mary's has perfected it over the past 15 years. With Carol Dodds' MA'95, MEd'90 leadership as committee chair, the generosity of individual and corporate donors, and the help of a loyal cadre of volunteers, this annual event evolved to become one of the University's most successful fundraisers in support of student financial aid. All good tea parties must come to an end, but Time for Tea will live on in a legacy of support for students at Saint Mary's who are single parents.



Team SMU Science, Collette Robert BSc'15, Deam Smith and student Megan Neil, back on solid ground.

## FOCUS ON HEALTH RESEARCH TO BENEFIT SAINT MARY'S

Evidence-based, responsive, patient-centred, and timely: these are just a few of the words used to describe the Maritime Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research SUPPORT Unit (MSSU), based at Saint Mary's. It's an initiative expected to improve patient care by making it easier for researchers across the country to work together and share data. "It's a huge opportunity to have a unit here," says Dr. Kevin Vessey, Associate Vice-President of Research at Saint Mary's and a member of the MSSU's Training Advisory Committee. "It has the potential to raise our profile for health research and training." Dr. Michael Zhang, Associate Professor of Management Science at the Sobey School of Business, is also involved as a member of MSSU's Scientific Advisory and Patient Engagement Committees.

## TEAM SMU SCIENCE STEPS UP

Team SMU Science battled rain—and nerves—to successfully rappel down Halifax's 13-storey Westin Hotel on June 13 in support of Rope for Hope, an annual fundraiser for Make-a-Wish Atlantic Provinces. In stepping up to step over the edge of a roof, Science team members raised over \$4,000 through a combination of pre-event fundraisers and generous donations from students, staff, and alumni. One of those to rappel down the Westin, Dr. Steven Smith, Dean of Science, raised an additional \$200 by wearing his rappelling helmet for an entire workday. "At least I get to keep my feet on the ground this time," he said happily.

## HEALTHY WORKPLACE, HEALTHY BUSINESS

The Nova Scotia business and research communities came together at the Sobey School of Business to recognize the accomplishments of Nova Scotian employers in promoting and maintaining supportive and healthy workplaces. Held in August during the annual Occupational Health Psychology Summer Institute hosted by Saint Mary's CN Centre for Occupational Health and Safety, the Fifth Nova Scotia Psychologically Healthy Workplace Awards ceremony recognized three local companies for demonstrating a commitment to the psychological health and well-being of their employees: Heritage Gas Limited, Slim Gyms Fitness, and Northwood. "When you treat your employees well and provide a healthy workplace, it pays off in terms of recruitment, retention, and the bottom line," says Saint Mary's professor and Canada Research Chair **Dr. Arla Day**, Chair of the Nova Scotia Psychologically Healthy Workplace Awards Committee.



President Summerby-Murray meets visiting Chinese students.

## CELEBRATING CITIZENS OF THE WORLD

An August reception at Saint Mary's concluded a four-week study program for students from Beijing Normal University (BNU) in China. The 27 Chinese students, nine from BNU's Beijing campus and 18 from the Zhuhai campus, were participants in the Cross-Cultural Communications: North American Studies program jointly hosted by Saint Mary's and Acadia University. "I applaud you for also taking the first steps to become citizens of the world, by leaving the comfort zone of your own culture and lifestyle to explore and learn in a new culture and society here in Halifax," said **Dr. Robert Summerby-Murray**, President of Saint Mary's University. "During this time of discovery, you have also instilled your culture in us, and opened our eyes to interesting thoughts and observations."



Dr. Robert Summerby-Murray, Saint Mary's University President; Ryan LeBlanc from Slim Gyms Fitness for Me; Lorelei Nicoll, Deputy Mayor of Halifax; Chris Smith, President of Heritage Gas; Janet Simm, President and CEO of Northwood; Dr. Arla Day, Chair of the Nova Scotia Psychologically Healthy Workplace Awards Committee

## THE LANGUAGE OF DISCOVERY

THE UNIVERSITY'S COLLABORATIVE ENVIRONMENT PROVIDES SUPPORT FOR ALL.

BY SUZANNE ROBICHEAU

At first glance, it appears that Amberlin Hines is assessing the fare at a seafood buffet. On closer inspection, there's more to Hines—and to the mussel she's holding—than meets the eye.

"Amberlin is a student from Gallaudet University in Washington, DC, a liberal arts university for the deaf," says Dr. Linda Campbell, an environmental scientist at Saint Mary's University. "She spent the summer working with me on an experiment to compare the nitrogen and phosphorus excretion rates of Eastern Elliptio mussels and invasive Chinese mystery snails."

Dr. Campbell always enjoys mentoring promising students and working with them to solve important environmental problems. As a deaf professor in a hearing university, she found it especially enjoyable to communicate with Hines using American Sign Language (ASL).

"Both Amberlin and I use ASL as our preferred language," says Campbell, "so it became our primary mode of communication. It was wonderful to be able to carry out an engaged, scientific discussion in ASL with both Amberlin and her co-supervisor, Dr. Caroline Solomon, an aquatic environment researcher at Gallaudet."

As a sixth-generation deaf person, Hines also appreciates the opportunity to communicate using ASL. "All the profs at my university sign," she says, speaking through the Saint Mary's Faculty of Science staff interpreter. "It's easier to learn in my first language."

Support from Saint Mary's also made it easier for Hines to learn and to immerse herself in the University community. Officially, she was a member of the Department of Environmental Science, but her research project also received considerable technical support from the Departments of Biology, Chemistry, and Geology.

"This kind of cross-department involvement," says Campbell, "underscores one of Saint Mary's greatest assets: a collaborative and supportive environment for all researchers, including students."

Funding for the research conducted by Campbell and Hines came through competitive research grants from



Dr. Linda Campbell (l) with Amberlin Hines, who spent the summer visiting from Washington and studying shellfish.

the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, and the Nova Scotia Research and Innovation Trust. Additional funds came through Dr. Caroline Solomon's research funding from Gallaudet University.

Amberlin Hines returned to Washington in August, taking with her the data she needs to continue her research at Gallaudet and the determination to solve the mystery of invasive mystery snails. "We don't know how they compare to native mussels in terms of the impact they have on water quality," she explains. "It's important to determine the role played by both mussels and mystery snails in controlling the toxic algal blooms that threaten the health of humans and wildlife."

Hines also returned home with fresh ideas to share with colleagues and memories of a friendly maritime campus where people went out of their way to make her feel welcome. "Everyone I met tried very hard to find ways to communicate with me," she says. "When I'd tell people I'm deaf, they'd speak very clearly so I could lip read or pull out a phone to type me a message. Saint Mary's really lived up to its reputation as a friendly university." ✦



*“It’s important to feel welcome.”*

# MAPPING A STRONG FUTURE

BY SUZANNE ROBICHEAU

THE 34TH UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT IS GETTING TO KNOW HIS NEW POST THROUGH CONNECTION AND COLLABORATION.

Robert Summerby-Murray doesn’t skip a beat when asked to describe a daily incident that encapsulates the special qualities of Saint Mary’s University.

“I have these moments every day,” says Saint Mary’s 34th President. “Recently, I stopped to chat with two young women who were walking across campus. One had a babe in her arms and was very excited to be here from Antigua to study. It was a powerful reminder that Saint Mary’s remains true to the kind of accessibility and inclusivity that have defined us for more than 200 years.”

Not surprising, given his own reputation for being personable and approachable—and teaching awards that include a 3M National Teaching Fellowship—Dr. Summerby-Murray sparked another of these evocative incidents when he walked a new Chinese student to her classroom. “I hear it created a bit of a Twitter buzz,” he says, laughing warmly. “She couldn’t believe the University president would take the time to escort her to class.”

In truth, there was nothing unusual about Dr. Summerby-Murray extending a helping hand. As the parents of three sons—David, Iain, and James—he and his wife Susan have both devoted large chunks of time to supporting international students, including through homestay programs with Rotary International. As well, he has often loaned his talents as an accomplished choral director, organist, and pianist to student performances and workshops.

In this way, there was nothing unusual about Dr. Summerby-Murray going the

extra mile for an international student. In addition to valuing a diverse campus and making a commitment to enhance Saint Mary’s reputation for internationalization, he knows how it feels to be far from home. Born and raised in New Zealand, he travelled to Canada in 1986 to complete his PhD in Geography and commence a distinguished academic career that includes senior academic roles at two Canadian universities.

“It’s important to feel welcome,” he observes, “and my welcome at Saint Mary’s has been fantastic. I find it very gratifying to have so many students, faculty, and staff members approach me to introduce themselves.”

Although Dr. Summerby-Murray wasn’t installed as President and Vice-Chancellor until September 2015, his tenure began at the beginning of May with a transition period as President-Elect. “I really appreciate having those months to learn as much as I could from, and about, the people who make Saint Mary’s unique,” he says. “Colin Dodds was extremely generous with his time and made the most of that lead-in period with his encouragement and guidance.”

Dr. Summerby-Murray is also quick to extend his appreciation to the Saint Mary’s University Board of Governors for providing him this preliminary period of engagement and connection.

“The time I had prior to my formal installation was invaluable,” he says. “This kind of a lead-in could be written into best practices as part of a leadership transition.” ♦



Glenn Shaw MA'09, working with UNICEF Zambia, Northern Province, Zambia (circa 2008), after being rescued by these villagers when his vehicle broke down.

# IDS PROGRAM EMBRACES THE WORLD

GRADUATES OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STUDIES PROGRAM HAVE BEEN CHANGING THE WORLD FOR 30 YEARS—AND COUNTING. BY RENÉE HARTLEIB

The year was 1985. A group of committed social scientists, tired of the antiquated disciplinary approach to global problems, decided to try something different. They had an inkling that issues like poverty, environmental change, and gender inequality could be better addressed through an inter-disciplinary program and set out to form one at Saint Mary's University. It was the first International Development Studies (IDS) program in Canada, and over the next 30 years, it would go on to be the leader in this burgeoning field.

With the goal to help countries realize their potential, Saint Mary's worked closely with Dalhousie University in the early days, and both institutions simultaneously established undergraduate IDS programs. However, Saint Mary's led the way, and tremendous student interest and success meant that by 1989 the University was able to offer a Masters degree in IDS, and in 2012, an IDS interdisciplinary doctoral degree. Both of these were firsts in Canada.

"The students who are attracted to the IDS Program are



Jennifer Wilcox MA'15 is the Community Impact Assistant for the United Way in Halifax.

individuals who want to get out into the world and make a difference, and be successful professionals at the same time," says Program Coordinator Dr. Anthony O'Malley. And they do. This unique program has launched over 800 graduates who now live and work in every corner of the world.

"We have a near-100 percent employment rate," says Dr. O'Malley. "There is no end to complex global problems, and this creates many professional opportunities for our graduates. These opportunities range from working with indigenous NGOs in Bolivia on how composting can eliminate expensive fertilizers, to being employed by the United Nations Environmental Program or the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. Our graduates do it all."

Sunyata Choyce is a prime example. The Founding Director of Project COLORS International says her time at Saint Mary's helped clarify her long-time interest in development work. "The more I learned about global issues at large, the more desire I had for international experience," says the 2002 graduate. Two exchanges with Scotland's Glasgow University and University College Cork in Ireland during her time in the program helped her realize how much she enjoyed learning and living abroad and seeing the world from different perspectives.

Initially, it was her parents, Terry and Lesley, who sparked the idea of community work. But it was one of her IDS professors, Gerry Cameron—heavily involved in projects in Africa—who inspired and motivated Choyce to really consider international aid work as a career. Since then, she has taken on UN placements in the Dominican Republic, educational projects in Costa Rica, and seven

years of children's aid and youth development work in South Africa and Sri Lanka.

Today, Choyce runs COLORS International from a home office in Nova Scotia, which coordinates children's aid projects in five countries ([projectcolors.com](http://projectcolors.com)). She has also received a Young Humanitarian Award from The Red Cross and an unsolicited scholarship from Yale University in Advanced Health Care Management because of her international field work in South Africa.

Finding one's own way seems to be a theme with IDS graduates. Glenn Shaw, who received his Masters in 2009, is now an independent consultant working on capacity building and communications for a variety of United Nations organizations and international NGOs. UNICEF, the BBC, War Child Canada, and Right to Play International have all benefitted from his skills and experience.

Travelling in countries where he witnessed first hand some extreme poverty, combined with a keen interest in modern political and cultural histories, is what drew Shaw to the Saint Mary's IDS Program. "I continue to draw on so much of what I learned at school in both my personal and professional life," says Shaw, who now lives in Malawi with his partner and their son. "My degree wasn't just a piece of paper."

He is still in touch with many of the "great minds and personalities" he first encountered here and has been fortunate to call many interesting places around the world home. "I feel lucky to have lived in some pretty exotic places, and experienced a lot of life," he says, "while hopefully making some small contributions."

Not every IDS graduate feels the need to travel abroad. >



The impact of the IDS program is worldwide.

Jennifer Wilcox was offered a job at the United Way in Halifax while she was still studying at Saint Mary's. As the Community Impact Assistant for that organization, the 2015 IDS graduate has had the opportunity to take part in important national discussions right here at home.

She has helped facilitate discussions throughout Canada on youth engagement as part of the Governor General's Round Table. Within the Halifax Regional Municipality, she is actively involved in the Housing and Homelessness Partnership, working to end homelessness in our region.

While at Saint Mary's, the opportunity to complete field research abroad and be immersed in different cultures was of huge benefit to Wilcox. "My education may have been international in focus, and I gained so much from those experiences," she says, "but I am really happy that I have been able to apply what I learned to our local community."

Wilcox loved the close-knit intimacy of the IDS program and the connections she made while at the University. "There were many potlucks, study sessions and coffees had," she says. "And although we all departed to different parts of the province, country, and the world when we finished our course work, we still keep in contact."

In fact, when Wilcox was defending her thesis last spring, support from friends who had already graduated poured in—and those who were still in town were in the audience to offer support.

Sounds an awful lot like family. One big family stretching the world over, separated by distance, but connected by a shared passion to make the world a better place. Congratulations to Saint Mary's acclaimed International Development Studies on its 30th anniversary and all of its "firsts." Its graduates make our "One World" a better place. ✧



## DRIVING CHANGE AND GIVING BACK

MICHELIN'S CANADIAN PRESIDENT STAYS CLOSE TO HOME, DEVELOPING PEOPLE AND GROWING LEADERS.

BY RENÉE HARTLEIB

For as long as he can remember, Jeff MacLean dreamed of being both an engineer and a leader. "My experience of good leaders was that they made such a positive impact—for families and communities, and also for employees, wherever they worked," says the Saint Mary's alumnus. "I wanted to do that."

The President of Michelin North America (Canada) Inc. was raised in Port Hawkesbury, Cape Breton, until he was 12 years old. Then, when his older siblings flew the nest, MacLean's parents decided it was time for them to make some moves

in life. "Being the baby in the family, when my parents started to do some of the things they had dreamed about, I was along for the ride." This meant they moved around a lot—after Port Hawkesbury was junior high in Chester, Halifax for high school, and then back down the South Shore.

As a result of seeing so much of Nova Scotia, MacLean feels he is a true Bluenoser. Although he appreciated the diversity of experiences he was exposed to, he really wanted his children to have a solid and steady hometown experience. Halifax has absolutely become that hometown and Saint Mary's played a big role in building that foundation.

It all started when he chose to study at SMU in 1981. Originally lured in by the Huskies Football Program, MacLean also came to be involved in many other aspects of university life. In addition to his four years of varsity football, he was an AUS track and field champion, played rugby, acted as a residence don, and was the President of the student Engineering Society. "There weren't a lot of engineers playing football, so it was fun to bring those cultures together," he says. "I'm a bit of a high-energy guy so all those activities kept me very focused."

*"We take pride in developing and supporting our people and growing our leaders."*

Thriving on this unique blend of activities was MacLean's first indication of how much he valued variety and different experiences. "That mixture of heavy academics, with both varsity sport and student affairs involvement helped me grow as a person," says the 51-year-old. "Those experiences were really pivotal too, in terms of multi-tasking and dealing with diversity. I encountered all kinds of different and wonderful human energies, whether it was on a playing field or in a boardroom or a classroom."

In 1985, with a Bachelor of Science and a Diploma in Engineering from Saint Mary's, MacLean entered the Technical University of Nova Scotia to complete his Engineering Degree. It was here that he had his first encounter with Michelin when he became one of their co-op students in his first year. It went so well that he was immediately recruited upon graduation.

As one of the largest tire manufacturers in the world, Michelin relies on its co-op program as an essential recruitment strategy. The company employs 3,300 employees at three tire-manufacturing facilities in Nova

Scotia and have a solid reputation as a loyal and caring employer. In fact, the company has an attrition rate—other than retirement—of less than one percent. "We take pride in developing and supporting our people and growing our leaders," says MacLean. "People who come to Michelin generally stay for 30 years or more."

It wasn't that the Saint Mary's graduate didn't have other options upon graduation. He had offers with both Mobil Oil and Northern Telecom, but decided to stay in the place that was home. "I thought that too many of us were moving to other parts of the world and I stayed to be in Nova Scotia," he says, adding that it's worked out, both personally and professionally.

In fact, it's where he met his wife, Denise Dube BComm'84. Together, they have three children: Luke, 21; Keigan, 19; and Kate, 14.

Kids are important to MacLean and he is actively involved in other children's lives as well, largely through coaching sports. He was named one of the top ten amateur football coaches in Canada in 2012 and tries to stay as active as he can with the kids in his community. "Our kids have huge capabilities and I want to make sure they get the opportunities they deserve," he says. "Often

that comes through the adults that reach out to them and encourage them."

Encouragement and caring is a definite theme for MacLean. It's one of the reasons he was so honoured to receive the Business Leader of the Year Award from the Chamber of Commerce last year. "That was a very special award for me because we were nominated by the local community, during a time when we had to announce that we needed to downsize." To be nominated for an award during a time of lost jobs is unheard of, but community members stated that they felt Michelin had acted with great integrity and caring.

It's the main reason MacLean has been loyal to the company that gave him his first job. "Their values are solid and strong. They treat their employees exceptionally well and they do good business in our province, our country, and the world," he says. "They also encourage people to stay and work here in Nova Scotia and I think that's vitally important right now. If true leaders can stay here, together we can drive change and create a better province for all." ✧

# STRENGTH on the STICK

SMU ALUMNUS COACHES OVERSEAS AND TRAINS NHL-ERS AND FUTURE STARS BACK HOME.

BY PHILIP MOSCOVITCH

It may not be the hockey championship JP MacCallum dreamed of winning as a kid on Prince Edward Island, but it's still awfully sweet.

MacCallum BSc'99 led the Tohoku Free Blades to the Asia League title this past season—the team's second championship in his three-year tenure as Head Coach. The Free Blades play in the city of Hachinohe, at the northern tip of Honshu, Japan's main island.

The team's success “kind of rocked the Japanese hockey world, because traditionally the hockey powers have been from the northern island of Hokkaido,” MacCallum says. One title was surprising. Two in three years was shocking.

MacCallum got his start in coaching at Saint Mary's. After growing up on PEI, he moved to the US, attending high school in Connecticut and then spending his first year of university playing for Union College in upstate New York. But the school was not a great fit, and after his freshman year, he decided to move on. Saint Mary's—and Halifax—seemed to present a better opportunity. “I wasn't going to be given much opportunity to play at Union after my freshman year, and a friend of mine—Marcel Pineau, another Island boy—was playing in the US too and it wasn't going the way he wanted either,” he says. “So we both decided to go to SMU.”

MacCallum played two years for the University in the late '90s, then focused on his studies (a Major in Biology with a Minor in English) for his final year. But he also became interested in innovative approaches to training—especially strength training—that were slow in coming to the hockey world.

“I got into training on my own. I'd been working out with my father since I was 15, and I tried to absorb as much knowledge from as many sources as I could,” he says. “There was not a lot of great knowledge out there for sports at the time—it was all about being a bodybuilder and getting big. But through the 2000s there were a lot of advances in the field, and I followed them.

“My teammates at Saint Mary's started to know that I was doing that and began training with me informally in the off-season. I started training full-time in the summer of 2000 and went with it.”

Huskies Hockey Head Coach, Trevor Stienburg hired MacCallum as an Assistant Coach in 2004—and he's still gushing about him. “I love JP!” he says. What impresses him most is MacCallum's combination of knowledge and soft skills. “The fabric of everything he does is pure work ethic and sacrifice. So you mix that with the fact that he's very knowledgeable about the game and strength training, and that's the clicker. There are a lot of guys who know about strength and conditioning but don't know anything about hockey. Not only does he know the game and how the body works, he's also lived it as a player,” Stienburg says. “I burn hot. I'm kind of an in-your-face guy and he has the ability to be very calm. He was sometimes able to wrap up my message much sweeter than I could.”

Meanwhile, word of MacCallum's abilities as a trainer had been getting out among local NHL hopefuls. He rented space in the basement of a Halifax gym and started training elite prospects—something he continues to do even as those prospects have blossomed.

“I've been fortunate to work with some great players who love coming back every summer and being pushed. Brad Marchand and Andrew Bodnarchuk are on their 14th summer of training with me. I started with them when they were 13-year-olds,” MacCallum says. Marchand, of course, has a Stanley Cup ring with the Boston Bruins, and former Mooseheads star Bodnarchuk just signed a deal with the Columbus Blue Jackets. Another MacCallum protege, Alex Grant, was just signed by the Arizona Coyotes.

After leaving SMU, MacCallum landed as a head coach in the Hungarian league, and then as part of the coaching squad for the Hungarian national team in the 2012 Division I World Hockey Championships in Slovenia. That's where he first met Chris Wakabayashi, the Canadian-born Free Blades General Manager.

“The hockey players in Japan had never done yoga before. They were skeptical,” Panacci says. “It was also the first time they had experienced off-ice training the way JP does it—in the gym, with an ethic of working hard. But in that first year, they saw the results: they won the championship, they felt better, and they weren't getting hurt as often.”

While we may not think of Japan as a hockey power, MacCallum says the quality of play is high and that interest shot up after the Women's National Team made the Sochi Olympics. The Asia League has nine teams, including four in Japan, three in South Korea, and one each in China and Russia.

And while Japanese players may be on the small side, MacCallum says the hockey world is learning to see



MacCallum and his training strengths have taken Japan's Tohoku Free Blades to two Asia League titles.

MacCallum says the Free Blades “were interested in me the most because of what I bring on and off the ice. Chris knew that what Japanese hockey really needs is training year-round and getting stronger in the off-season. A lot of the teams were doing great endurance training, but the strength was not where it needed to be.”

He adds, “I knew the level of hockey in Japan was going to be good, but I was surprised by the depth of the teams. The abilities of the guys on all four lines are very good. They could skate circles around most North American players—but where they need the most help is strength on the stick.”

MacCallum and his wife, Mara Panacci, also pitched themselves as a package deal (she teaches yoga and offers nutritional counselling). But getting the players to buy in was not easy—at first.

beyond size. “Bulk alone doesn't work in the game. No matter how big you are, you need to be fast. The game is faster all the time.”

This year, MacCallum plans to spend the coming year focusing on his performance training business and travelling through Central and South America with Panacci and their two daughters. He doesn't know what will come next. “I see the exact same will and desire to win in every spot I've been,” he says, “and it's fun to be a part of that.”

As for Stienburg, he thinks his former assistant has what it takes to make it in hockey's biggest arena. “I wouldn't be shocked if all of a sudden he ended up as a professional coach here in North America,” he says. “All he needs is a chance here—I hope that in a few years I'll be watching him on TV.” ♦



Hartling at work in his studio.

# ARTISAN FROM BIRTH

LEATHERSMITH DESIGNS' JAMIE HARTLING DISCUSSES HIS LIFELONG EVOLUTION.

BY RENÉE HARTLEIB

When Jamie Hartling was 12 years old, he received a Christmas present that would change the course of his life. It was a leather-working kit. By the summer, he was selling at craft shows. By junior high, he had become the go-to guy for teachers and other adults who needed briefcases and purses. And by high school, he had scored a contract for a booth at the Halifax International Airport, selling his wares to travellers on the weekends.

Even before this, both Hartling's artistic sensibility and his entrepreneurial spirit had already been evident. "I started dabbling in things like molded candles when I was just a little kid—10 or 11—and I wanted to sell them, but my parents told me I was too young," says the Dartmouth native, who graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce in 1985, laughing.

His parents, who ended up playing a key role in his future business, were the ones who first introduced him to the uniqueness and quality of hand-made crafts. Their whole family would attend local craft shows and admire the different artisans' work.

When he was still a pre-teen, Hartling's avid interest and keen sense of initiative led him to approach the leather instructor of Dartmouth Continuing Education. He wanted to know if he could sit in on the arts and crafts-related general interest courses that were offered. The instructor said yes, meaning that Hartling was the only child in a room full of adults. Similarly, he befriended a Dartmouth shoe repairman in his teen years.

"I would bike down to his shop after school and hang out until suppertime," says Hartling. "I didn't end up going into shoe-making but I learned a lot and was able to apply the skills I learned to my own work later." It was a chance encounter with a friend who was heading off to Saint Mary's University to study business that turned Hartling's mind away from the science field he thought he might pursue. "I had been running a part-time business at that point for years, and I really liked selling products, so it just made sense."

He worked part-time at his leather business all the way through university, which allowed him to pay for all his school-related expenses. But he never considered it an option as a full-time career until a conversation with his church minister after graduation. "I'd taken a minimum-wage commerce job and felt like I was getting nowhere fast," he says. "I knew it was not what I wanted to do in the long-term."

His minister asked what he really enjoyed doing, what his passion was. Leatherwork. "When I told him it was the thing I most loved to do, he asked me if I'd ever considered making a living from it," Hartling says.

That encouragement was all it took. Hartling quit the minimum-wage job and focused his energies on growing his already established part-time business. The solid foundation of commerce courses at Saint Mary's helped him move in this direction.

Not that this transition was all smooth sailing. The first five years were the hardest. "I quickly realized I needed to get more efficient when making some of my products," he says, "in addition to continuing with the hand-crafting." Hartling invested in special equipment and training, which enabled him to produce more items for the various craft shows that became his main source of income.

Until the internet came along, Hartling divided his time between his shop and the road, travelling around the Maritimes to all the craft shows in the region. His parents, brothers, in-laws, and his wife, Gail, also helped him, selling products in one province while he was in another.

But with the explosion of the worldwide web everything changed. When the internet came along,

it opened up the opportunity to sell across Canada and into the United States. Today Leathersmith Designs (leathersmithdesigns.com) sells almost exclusively to online customers, mostly in the US. They provide a lot of personalized products, such as guitar straps, key tags, wallets, wristbands, belts and dog collars. Besides what they make, they also distribute leather craft supplies to leather hobbyists.

"You need to evolve to stay in business," says Hartling. "Nothing remains constant." One of the biggest changes was learning how to use a personal computer. Luckily,

Hartling's wife Gail was able to help with that. "When I went to SMU back in the early '80s, most people did not own personal computers," he says. "If you needed something printed for your computer course assignment, you had to go to the McNally Building to pick up the printout. The computers there were enormous, like something out of a science fiction movie." Gail taught Hartling how to do his accounting on a computer and also helped with layout and design.

Creating their website was another way the company needed to keep up with the

times. And just a few years ago, Hartling needed to invest significant time, money, and energy into further website updates. Luckily, the business has been successful enough that he's been able to hire employees to help him. NSCAD gradute Alana LeBlanc became a full-time employee 10 years ago and is Hartling's right hand for custom design.

None of this would have been possible without the support of his family and friends, says Hartling. From the junior high friend who helped him make an anvil out of a railway track, to his parents who let him build a shop in their backyard, the artist says he couldn't have accomplished what he has without this kind of extended network. Even his children got in on the action when they were old enough, cutting and assembling products during the very busy fall season leading up to Christmas.

"I'm so grateful to the man who asked me to think about what I would enjoy doing for my life's work," says Hartling. "It helped set me on a path that has led to a life where I feel passion for my career. I always enjoy going to work. It's never been just a job." ♦



Hartling's products include key tags, wallets, belts, and guitar straps.



Christopher Webb BA'97 and Victoria Fougler run the Pavia in Herring Cove and its downtown location in the Halifax Central Library.

## WEBB'S WEAVE

SAINT MARY'S GRAD'S  
CULTURAL CAFE CHANGES THE  
HALIFAX LANDSCAPE.

BY RENÉE HARTLEIB

Christopher Webb has been an artist his whole life. He began painting before he could even talk.

It was his Italian grandmother, Maddelena (Pavia) Asprey, herself an amateur artist, who inspired this passion. In fact, she was so important to Webb that he named his seven-year-old daughter, Maddelena, after her. In addition, he and his partner, Victoria Fougler, also titled their innovative business, Pavia Gallery—part art gallery, part café—in honour of her.

Ironically, it's Pavia's runaway success that has kept Webb away from his easel over the last year. Despite the current lack of time to make art, he still always thinks of himself as a painter first.

"I like to joke that I'm the most important painter to ever come out of the Political Science Department at Saint Mary's University," says the 1997 graduate. Four generations of Webb's family have attended Saint Mary's. His father and his grandmother (the second oldest graduate on record) preceded him and this fall, Fougler's son Alex will study Commerce. "SMU has been a constant for our family," says the 39-year-old Webb. "It's a throughline. The more life I live, the prouder I am to be a part of Saint Mary's."

During his time at university, Webb was heavily involved in student politics. He was a Chair of the Nova Scotia Youth Advisory Council and was elected President of the Saint Mary's University Students' Association in his final year.

After graduating, Webb was immediately recruited into government, in the Premier's office. His calling to be a painter was insistently knocking, though, and after spending a year in Italy, he returned to Canada and tried to make a living from his craft. Due to his political connections, he scored a few good

commissions and quickly gained notoreity as an artist. It's how he met Foulger, who was to become his partner in work and life.

In 2007, Webb, then President of Visual Arts Nova Scotia, was invited to dinner at a colleague's. The colleague was enjoying a visit from his daughter, Victoria, fresh from a trip to Italy. In a synchronistic twist, Webb had just been asked by the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia to lead an art tour in Italy. Turns out both Webb and Foulger had a lot in common, including a passion for all things Italian, and a love of the arts.

Fast-forward seven years and today the couple splits their time between Nova Scotia and Italy. They have their eighth tour lined up for October, just around the same time that the fourth Pavia location at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia opens to the public. Webb and Foulger are thrilled. "It really secures our place as the cultural café in Nova Scotia," says Webb. "It allows us to continue what

looked at the requirements, the more it sounded like us." The couple spent a few solid weeks on their proposal, handwrote the address on the envelope, and dropped it off themselves.

No one was more surprised than Webb and Foulger when they won. Suddenly they were in the big leagues. Two cafés in the new library, a 10-year contract, and a built-in client base that was 50,000 people strong on opening day last fall. "And it felt like every one of those 50,000 had a coffee!" says Webb, laughing. Since then, traffic in the library, and also at the café, has continued to be solid and steady. "People are really using the building. It's exceeded all expectations."

In response, Pavia has had to grow quickly. There are now three full-time bakers and four people in the kitchen, with a driver who runs between the kitchen in Herring Cove and the library up to three times a day. By the time the AGNS Pavia opens its doors this fall,

*"The more life I live, the prouder  
I am to be a part of Saint Mary's."*

we're doing at the library—helping to draw people in to visit culturally significant spots in our province."

Pavia Gallery began as a dream to create a contemporary art gallery combined with an upmarket-style espresso bar. Webb and Foulger found the perfect building in Herring Cove, where they lived, but needed to refinance everything to pay for the necessary renovations. "The overall idea was that we wanted to be good regardless of location. So whether we were in Toronto or London or Herring Cove, we wanted to create something unique and memorable."

That's just what they've done. Coffee imported from a small micro-roastery in Florence, baked goods made from local ingredients on-site, and art shows, which Webb takes great pride in curating, that rival large international exhibitions. One look at their menu or the names of the artists they represent and you'll understand why Porter Airlines named Pavia "one of the best-kept secrets in North America."

Best-kept secret no more. They had been in business two years in 2013 when Pavia was nominated for the Best New Business Award through the Halifax Chamber of Commerce. Of 87 nominees, they won Bronze. This nod gave them the confidence to bid on the Halifax Central Library tender the next year.

"No one really knew who we were and we didn't know if we stood a chance," says Webb, "but the more we

Pavia will boast over 40 full-time employees. A far cry from the early days, when the couple counted as the only employees at a single location and the local community seemed slow to catch on: "For the first six months people drove by and didn't even know we had coffee."

"People were expecting us to fail," says Webb. "Victoria and I knew it was a possibility, but we also believed in our vision. We didn't want to compromise and look back and say 'Oh I wish we'd tried to do what we really wanted.'"

The two refused to make concessions on this vision and have poured their hearts and souls into Pavia. The public is gobbling it up and as their business flourishes, Webb and Foulger keep their values front and centre. They buy high-quality free-range eggs, use only unprocessed meats, and give back to the local community, including a \$24,000 donation per year to the YWCA. Their efforts are not going unnoticed: Foulger has recently been long-listed for the RBC Women of Excellence Award.

There are times when Webb and Foulger still shake their heads in amazement. Like the moments when they happen to be driving by the corner of Spring Garden and Queen and look up and see their business logo. Or the days they overhear a stranger talking about the success of their company. "It's still very surreal," says Webb. "Even when we dreamed big, it never looked like this. It's really very exciting." ♦



## AN ENDURING IMPACT

CALIFORNIA COUPLE MAKE DREAMS OF EDUCATION A REALITY.

BY SUZANNE ROBICHEAU

Saint Mary's University means a great deal to Anne and Albert Isaacs.

"I showed up on campus in 1952 with neither the money nor the means to pay my way," recalls Albert Isaacs, retired Business Development Director for an electronics giant in Palo Alto, California. "I met with Father Malone and he asked me if I wanted to attend university. When I told him I did, he gave me a piece of paper to take to the bursar and two days later I was attending classes."

After graduating from Saint Mary's in 1955 with an engineering degree, Albert married Anne—also a Newfoundlander—and they moved to British Columbia where Albert completed a Master's in Engineering. In 1958, he accepted a research fellowship at Stanford University and the couple moved to Aptos, California, the friendly little community they've now called home for more than 50 years.

A part-time engineering position in nearby Scotts Valley turned into full-time employment for Albert with Watkins-Johnson-Stewart Division, a major innovator in the production of semiconductor-manufacturing equipment and electronic products for the wireless-telecommunications and defense industries.

"I kept to a hectic schedule for more than 40 years," Albert says. "There were many occasions when I'd get

left: The Isaacs stand in the front yard of their home in Aptos, California against the shady backdrop of a Camphor tree.

to the office early enough to put in what amounted to a full day before taking an afternoon flight to attend a meeting in the UK."

With Albert immersed in his work, Anne devoted her time to raising their two sons, serving for several terms as President of the PTA, and helping to organize the World's Shortest Fourth of July Parade in Aptos. Other activities included a 14-year stint as a Sunday school teacher and organizing their church's food pantry program—a responsibility she assumed for 36 years.

"When Albert retired in 2002, he helped with the food bank as well," says Anne. "We both grew up in small towns in Newfoundland, and we know what it's like to have nothing. Where I was raised, in Belloram, if you had two of something, you'd give one to someone else. Helping, sharing, supporting each other, that was just what we did."

Now that Albert has retired, he and Anne divide their time between activities that support their community and enjoying a home that borders the forest of Nisene Marks State Park. A vista of giant redwoods and a beach nearby are just two of the features that convince the Isaacs they live in the most beautiful place in the world.

"We have always felt grateful for the opportunities we've had," says Albert, "and we try to live in a way that reflects that gratitude."

As a way of paying it forward, the Isaacs have established a fund at Saint Mary's to provide financial aid for students in need. The Anne J. and Albert T. Isaacs Bursary will extend opportunities to students who cannot afford to attend university. As well, the Isaacs have plans to endow a permanent bursary fund for the University and make a bequest to Saint Mary's in their will.

"We've supported Saint Mary's for years," says Albert. "When we look back on our lives, it's the start we got there that had the greatest impact." ♦



## CARIBBEAN CONNECTION

STRENGTHENED THROUGH STUDENT FINANCIAL AID. BY SUZANNE ROBICHEAU

Saint Mary's global connections are celebrated in a generous scholarship established by alumnus Dr. Anthony R. Sebastian BSc'71, BA'72 in honour of his grandfather, The Honorable Joseph Matthew Sebastian.

Often lauded as the Founding Father of the Labour Movement of St. Kitts and Nevis, The Honorable Joseph Matthew Sebastian was a member of the legislature, president of the St. Kitts Workers' League, and president of the St. Kitts Trades and Labour Union. A visionary teacher and leader who passed away in 1944, he struggled throughout his life for workers' rights and universal education, eventually becoming the voice of the labour party and the editor and owner of the Union Messenger, forerunner to the current St. Kitts – Nevis daily newspaper.

In his efforts to provide a voice for the people of St. Kitts and Nevis, Sebastian formed the Universal Benevolent Association, established a night school for adults to teach the fundamentals of reading, writing and arithmetic, and developed a system of small metal banks to encourage the poor to save. It is therefore quite fitting that the scholarship established by his grandson, a family physician in Ontario, will provide financial assistance for fulltime students at Saint Mary's who are either from the Federation of Saint Christopher (St. Kitts and Nevis) or descended from someone who was born there.

In September 2014, the Saint Mary's community was pleased to see the inaugural Honorable Joseph Matthew Sebastian Award go to Environmental Studies major Sade Hanley, a graduate of Basseterre High School in St. Kitts. "I was overwhelmed and excited to receive this scholarship," says Sade, "and my family is extremely proud of me."

On hand to present the award were Dr. Anthony R. Sebastian's daughter, Ashley Sebastian BSc'15, a recent Saint Mary's biology graduate, and his son, Matthew Sebastian, now a second-year student in Saint Mary's Faculty of Arts.

It truly is a small world when two generations of Saint Mary's alumni can pay it forward by looking back to the important contributions made by a man who changed the course of people's lives in St. Kitts and Nevis. ♦

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GOLF TOURNAMENT

Thank you to our golfers, volunteers, and Granite Springs for making the 2015 SMU Alumni Golf Tournament a successful event. Thank you also to our prize and hole sponsors: Atlantic Business Interior, Barrie and Langille, Capital Paper, CIS University Cup 2016, Coca-Cola, Granite Springs Golf Club, Golf Central, Grant Thornton, Lord Nelson, Morneau Shepell, Ocean Contractors, Ricoh, Rodd Hotels and Resorts, Siemens, SMUSA, SMU Dept. of Athletics & Recreation, SMU Bookstore, Subaru, TD Insurance Melonche Monnex, Tremco, and Tyco Integrated Fire & Security.

Through your support, we were able to award 20 \$1,000 bursaries to well-deserving students.

Congratulations to Collins Barrow on winning the 2015 Alumni Tournament and taking home the Granville "Bullet" Kelly Trophy. ♦

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## EVENTS

VISIT [SMU.CA/ALUMNI](http://SMU.CA/ALUMNI) FOR THE LATEST ALUMNI EVENT INFORMATION AND PHOTOS**Dr. J. Colin Dodd's Tribute Dinner, April 29**

The Dodds Family—Colin, Carol, and their children James and Lizzie—at Dr. J. Colin Dodds' Tribute Dinner, celebrating Dr. Dodds' 15 years as President of Saint Mary's and over 30 years as a member of the University community.

**Accounting Smoker, May 21**

Jane Roy BComm'84, Phillip Gaunce BComm'84, and Barb MacIntosh BComm'84 at the Accounting Smoker.

**Third Annual Hunger Games, July**

Over 3,500 pounds of food were raised at the Third Annual Hunger Games—a four-week inter-departmental food-raising competition in support of the new Community Food Room. The winning team was the Sobey Squirrels, with 771.8 pounds!

**SMU Sociables: Young Alumni Connect, June 24**

President Dr. Robert Summerby-Murray, Jessica Case BComm'13, and current student Mark Slaunwhite at the SMU Sociables: Young Alumni Connect social at the Garrison Brewery.

**Faculty & Staff BBQ, July 29**

Dongsheng Li BComm'15 and Ting Li BComm'14 at the third annual SMU Faculty and Staff BBQ, hosted by the SMU Alumni Office.

**Welcome to the Family Alumni Luncheon, May 14**

Father Robert Arsenault, CC, University Chaplain, Mary-Evelyn Ternan BA'69, BEd'70, MEd'88, and the 2015 Grad Class Executive, Katie Ryan BSc'15, Juan Sanchez BSc'15, Emma Wicks BA'15, and Colin Walsh BComm'15 at the Welcome to the Family Alumni Luncheon.

**Young Alumni Hosted Grad Cruise, May 14**

The Young Alumni Committee hosted a Grad Cruise for new graduates on the Tall Ship Silva.

**All Canadian Pub Night, June 4**

Russ Stewart BEd'89 at the 9th annual East Coast University Pub Night in Ottawa on June 4.

**Jazz Fest, July 8**

SMU Alumni hosted the VIP tent at the Halifax Jazz Festival during Sharon Jones & The Dap-Kings, along with The Chronos Band! Alumni snacked, drank, and danced the night away.

**Pride Parade, July 25**

Members of the Enactus student society—Leslie Gates, Janet McGuire, John Yu, and Nicole MacPherson—teamed up with SMU Alumni, SMUQ, SMUSA, Residence and the football team at the 28th annual Halifax Pride Parade.

**Husky Howl, August 13**

The 28th Husky Howl Golf Tournament at The Cedarhill Golf and Country Club in Barrhaven, Ottawa. Paul Lynch BComm'76 presented the trophy to Chris, Michael, Brian and Patrick Dennehy.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

TO RSVP FOR UPCOMING EVENTS, PLEASE VISIT:  
[WWW.SMU.CA/ALUMNI](http://WWW.SMU.CA/ALUMNI)

### Halifax

**SMUYA: SMUSociables Autumn Event**  
Saturday, October 17, 2015  
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
The Gorsebrook Lounge

**Annual Movie Night (Film TBA)**  
Thursday, December 17, 2015  
Cineplex Bayers Lake

**SMU Huskies Hockey host the  
CIS University Cup**  
March 2016

### Toronto

**Toronto Argonauts vs  
Winnipeg Blue Bombers  
Alumni Game**  
Friday, November 6, 2015  
6:00 pm Social, 7:00 pm Game  
Rogers Centre

**Alumni Reception with  
Dr. Summerby-Murray**  
Thursday, December 3, 2015  
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm  
The National Club

### Sydney, NS

**Alumni Reception with  
Dr. Summerby-Murray**  
Tuesday, November 3, 2015  
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm  
Cambridge Suites Hotel

### Calgary

**Alumni Reception with  
Dr. Summerby-Murray**  
Tuesday, December 1, 2015  
5:30 pm - 8:30 pm  
Petroleum Club

### Moncton

**Alumni Reception**  
Tuesday, November 17, 2015  
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm  
Crowne Plaza Moncton

### Charlottetown

**Alumni Reception**  
Wednesday, November 18, 2015  
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm  
Location TBA

### Saint John

**Alumni Reception**  
Thursday, November 19, 2015  
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm  
Delta Brunswick

### Washington, DC

**All-Canadian University Holiday  
Luncheon**  
Saturday, December 5, 2015  
12:15 pm  
Cuba Libre Restaurant



### SMU in the Community

**The Parade of Lights**  
Downtown Halifax  
Saturday, November 21, 2015

## CLASS NOTES

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR SNIPPET INCLUDED IN THE  
NEXT ISSUE EMAIL [ALUMNI@SMU.CA](mailto:ALUMNI@SMU.CA)

### 1953

**Chuck Keating SMHS'53** moved to Glen Allen, Virginia in March of this year. Irene, my wife of 56 years, died in November of 2014 and I decided to live with my daughter.

### 1980

**Bruce Densmore, CPA, CA BComm'80, MBA'90** was recently elected president of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nova Scotia and chair of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Nova Scotia.

### 1985

**Michael Whitlock BA'85** is the Adult Clinical Services Supervisor with Community Mental Health—Richmond Centre in Charlottetown.

### 1994

**Dr. Carolyn G. Thomas BA'94** has been made a Paul Harris Fellow of the Rotary Club International. Nominated by the Dartmouth Rotary Club and recognized for friendship and volunteer activities/service to the world. The awards ceremony took place at the Ramada Inn in Dartmouth, NS.

Please send snippets to: Saint Mary's University Alumni Office 923 Robie Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 3C3 [alumni@smu.ca](mailto:alumni@smu.ca) | [smu.ca/alumni](http://smu.ca/alumni)

### 2007



**Daniel Broadley Crim'07:** I had not been back to visit the campus since I graduated until last summer when my wife and I made a trip out east to visit the university and see Halifax. It was an amazing feeling being back on campus. It felt like home. My wife was seven months pregnant when we visited. So, obviously we ended up going to the bookstore and bought some souvenirs for myself and our baby. My wife and I had a healthy baby boy, Colton Broadley. He is now eight months old. We took these photos a couple months ago when he was able to fit into the clothes we bought him.

### 2010

**Devin Aalders, CA (BComm'10)** is now an audit manager with Rector Colavecchia Roche Chartered Accountants in Dartmouth, NS. The firm's partners, Lawrence Roche, CA BComm'86, MBA'97 and Steven Gray, CA BComm'00, are pleased to have another Saint Mary's grad join their team.

## In Memoriam

**Daniel Bonner  
BA'64**  
September 11, 2015

**Ernest Chiasson  
Eng'63**  
June 30, 2015

**Daniel Clarke  
BA'67**  
July 14, 2015

**Margaret D'Entremont  
BA'76**  
September 9, 2015

**Byron Dubblestyne  
BA'77**  
June 21, 2015

**John Duggan  
BSc'65, BComm'71**  
June 17, 2015

**Paul Goldberg  
BComm'72**  
August 18, 2015

**Rev. J Edward Grant  
MEd'79**  
July 26, 2015

**Karen Heighton  
MEd'92**  
August 11, 2015

**Gerald Hubley  
BComm'48, BEd'63**  
July 19, 2015

**Grace E. Janes BA'03**  
May 10, 2015

**Elsie Johnston  
BA'72**  
May 31, 2015

**Marjorie Leahey  
BA'85**  
May 27, 2015

**Dr. Flora I. MacDonald  
PC CC 00nt ONS**  
July 26, 2015

**Thomas Mahoney  
Saint Mary's  
High School '42**  
September 16, 2015

**Bruce Morrison  
BComm'73**  
June 25, 2015

**Dr. Roman Nahrebecky**  
August 28, 2015

**Doug Rossong  
BA'70**  
June 7, 2015

**Anthony Sardo**  
June 19, 2015

**Charles Shaylor  
BA'64**  
April 24, 2015

**Linda Sullivan  
MED'95**  
June 17, 2015

**Dr. Donald Weeren**  
September 14, 2015

**John Vincent  
BA'74**  
September 17, 2015

**Saul Zwerling  
BComm'54**  
September 4, 2015



## A LEGACY OF LEARNING

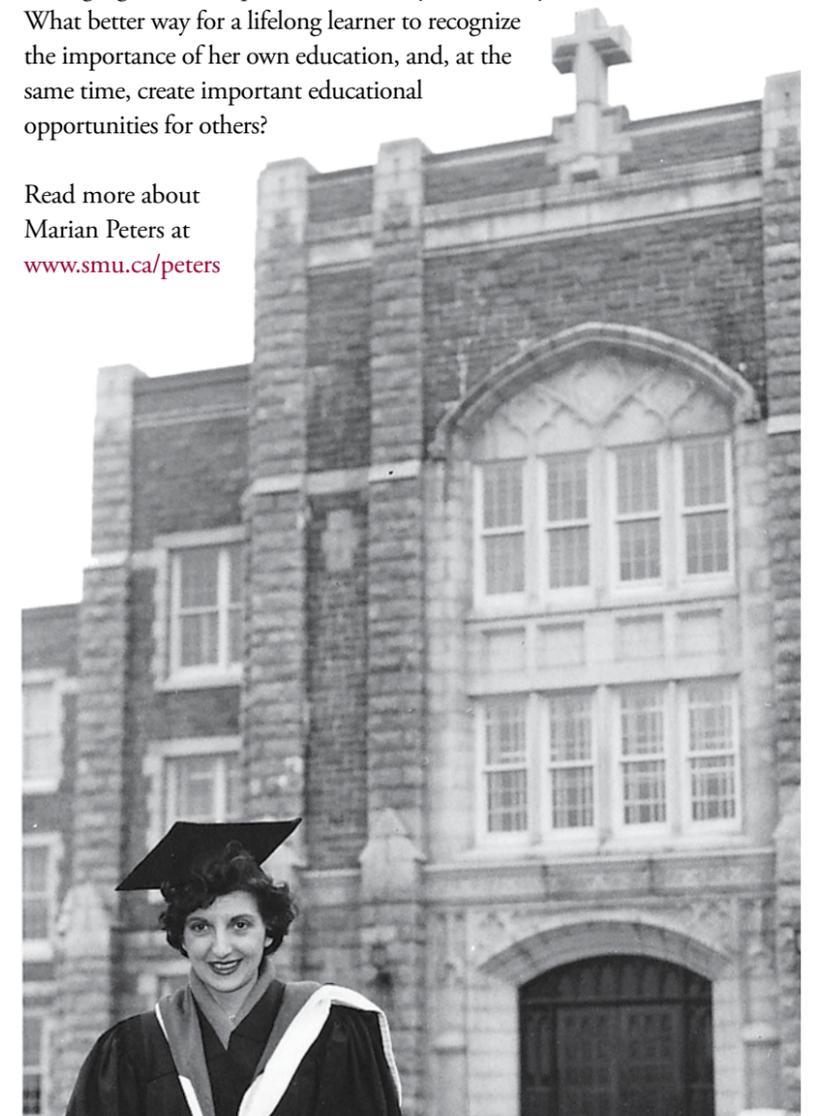


There was no one more committed to education than Saint Mary's University alumna **Marian Peters**. Born and educated in Halifax, Marian graduated from Saint Mary's with a Bachelor of Arts (summa cum laude) in 1962, a bachelor's degree in education (cum laude) in 1964, and a Master of Arts degree in 1975. In that same year, a thesis on Kahil Gibran, completed while Marian taught at HMCS Stadacona, earned her an invitation to Boston for the dedication of a monument to the renowned Lebanese American poet and philosopher.

A long career as a teacher took Marian Peters from coast to coast in both Canada and the United States. Retirement afforded her the time to earn a Fine Arts degree in her late 80s. "She was the consummate life-long learner," says Ruby Theriault, a friend of Marian's and co-executor of her estate.

A proud member of the Class of '64, Marian passed away in August 2014, leaving a generous bequest to Saint Mary's University. What better way for a lifelong learner to recognize the importance of her own education, and, at the same time, create important educational opportunities for others?

Read more about  
Marian Peters at  
[www.smu.ca/peters](http://www.smu.ca/peters)





## PUT A RING ON IT (FINALLY)

BY MARY ANN DAYE BCOMM'88  
DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

*More than 30 years later—with the help of the Alumni Office—a football player is reunited with the symbol of his championship.*

Cliff Pelham is a proud member of the 1973 CIS Men's Varsity Football Championship team. He had the ring to prove it, engraved with his initials, and he wore it proudly. That is, until the occasion of his wedding in May 1979, when he was honeymooning with his bride, Gina, at a Montreal hotel.

Gina was not a fan of the large championship ring. "I called it a weapon!" she recalls. "I made him take it off." After the honeymoon, they returned home only to discover that Cliff no longer had his ring. They contacted the hotel but there was no sign of it. Cliff was devastated.

So devastated that years later Gina, feeling somewhat responsible for the ring's disappearance, had a replica made of the ring and gave it to Cliff. This was not to last either—that ring was lost in a house fire.

Gerry Matheson was a teenager living in Montreal in May of 1979. Over the years, he had become a collector of memorabilia and even had a business selling collectibles and old jewellery. Today, Gerry lives in Enfield, Nova Scotia. He'd been cleaning out his basement, getting ready to sell his house, sorting the stuff he'd collected. He was going through some old jewellery and came across a CIS Championship ring from 1973. "I was going to put it in with the rest of the stuff I was getting rid of, but I thought, "This ring means something to someone," says Matheson. "I should see if I can get it back to the owner."

Once Matheson reached out to the Alumni Office and his former teammate Joe Simatovic, it didn't take long for the mystery to be solved. With input from Simatovic and Senior Director of Student Services Keith Hotchkiss (another former teammate), contact was made with Gina (without Cliff knowing). Gina decided to surprise him with the ring at a family gathering when all of their grown kids would be present.

On May 4, 2015, I arranged to meet Gerry Matheson in the parking lot of Sobeys in Fall River. It did feel a little surreal. Once we figured out who the other was—him in a blue Subaru station wagon, me in a black Fiat—we met and he handed me the ring. He said at this point, he was worried he was going to lose it and I felt, after 36 years of it being missing, that I needed to treat it like gold. Neither of us wanted the responsibility of losing this ring again. Matheson said he didn't really know how he ended up with the ring. He was in Montreal at the time, but there was no connection to the hotel. He was very pleased to be getting it back to its owner.

I returned to my office that day and put the ring in my desk drawer. It felt a little careless to be treating this ring with such irreverence. I kept opening the drawer and checking on it every now and then. Gina dropped by a few days later. I was thrilled to have solved this mystery and hand her the ring that had gone missing almost 36 years to the day.

Cliff was even more thrilled than I was. He has his ring back. He and Gina would like to meet Gerry some day. They're very grateful that he took the time to try to get it back to its owner. And so are we. Our jobs in the Alumni Office are about connecting. We all feel pretty good about making this connection happen. ✦

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