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For Alumni and Friends of Saint Mary's University

Fall 2019

SMU ENTREPRENEURS

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CELEBRATING LITERARY SUCCESS
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EDITOR: Elizabeth Peirce

ART DIRECTION/DESIGN: Spectacle Group

COVER PHOTO: Kelly Clark

CONTRIBUTORS: Erin Elaine Casey, Gail Lethbridge, Cale Loney, Elizabeth Peirce, Joanie Veitch, Jordan Whitehouse

ALUMNI DIRECTOR: Mary Ann Daye BComm'85

ALUMNI OFFICERS: Chantal Caissie BA'13, Emily LeBlanc

VICE-PRESIDENT, ADVANCEMENT: Erin Sargeant Greenwood

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COVER PHOTO: Sitting in the new Volta Labs student space are faculty member, Ellen Farrell MBA'88 (far right), CEO of Volta Labs, Jesse Rodgers and 3rd year Commerce student, Vimbayi Handara (left).

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Please send address changes, suggestions, 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 | smu.ca/alumni

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Welcome to the Fall issue of your alumni magazine. It's been a busy time since our last issue with lots of planning for summer activities like our annual Golf Tournament and Homecoming weekend in the fall.

We also had our Annual General Meeting in September and I am once again your President for the upcoming year. I am honoured to serve our more than 51,000 alumni around the world. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing Council volunteers for their service and welcome our newest members.

In this issue of our magazine, you'll hear more about our newly opened arena, the Dauphinee Centre. Our Homecoming this year was an opportunity to welcome back over 250 hockey Huskies from both the men's and women's teams. We also celebrated our very first women's hockey coach Lisa Haley and the men's AUS Championship team from 2001–02, along with football player Noah Cantor BA'94 with their induction into Sport Hall of Fame. I encourage everyone to get themselves to a hockey game back on campus in the new rink. It's a beautiful space for our varsity and club teams to enjoy along with members of the community.

You'll also learn about faculty members winning awards in writing, you'll find out what's happening at the university's Entrepreneurship Centre, and discover great programs from all over campus for our students and alumni. We were fortunate to have *MasterChef Canada* winner and Atlantic Canada Studies alum Jennifer Crawford back on campus for a visit after their big win. You can read about their experience in this issue as well.

I hope you enjoy reading up on the activities and stories of our alumni. If you have a story to tell, please let us know and don't forget to follow us on social media. ✧



Scott McElman BComm'91

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY *Fall Homecoming 2019*

One of the best parts of my role as President is welcoming alumni to Homecoming each year and seeing how Santamarian values have shaped lives and careers. Homecoming 2019 was very successful: over 1,200 alumni attended 25 events over five days on campus, from BBQs to game-day openers and skating parties. In this issue of *Maroon & White* you will meet some of the individuals and classes who came back to campus and shared their stories with us.

One highlight was watching members of former men's and women's hockey teams tour the new Dauphinee Centre where the ice is freshly set and the paint barely dry. It is very fitting that some of the first people to walk through the dressing rooms in the new Centre were the athletes who played such noteworthy roles in varsity sports years and decades ago. I invite you to read their stories, and also to learn about the Dauphinee Centre and the people behind it, people whose personal commitment to this university is changing lives and helping shape future generations.

While Homecoming is about looking back and remembering, there is also a strong sense of forward momentum at Saint Mary's. Indeed, the future is here! The university is creating the next generation of leaders and innovators and nowhere is that more evident than in the Saint Mary's Entrepreneurship Centre. At Saint Mary's, entrepreneurship is for everyone, and we are making sure our rich internship and experiential learning opportunities are attracting students from all disciplines. See how our Entrepreneur in Residence, Gregg Curwin BComm'90, inspires and coaches our students.

Along with faculty and staff, I will be visiting alumni at forthcoming events in Toronto, Ottawa and beyond so please watch the Alumni e-newsletter and website to track where we will be next. It's so interesting to meet alumni from across the country who are doing amazing things. I learn so much from meeting you and hearing how Saint Mary's shaped your careers and inspired you to contribute to the community, the region, and the world. ✧



Robert Summerby-Murray

Saint Mary's University is in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the original Mi'kmaq People. We are all treaty people.

SOMETHING'S HAPPENING HERE

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



DR. MICHAEL DURLAND NAMED CHANCELLOR OF SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

"We are incredibly honoured and proud that Michael Durland BComm'87 DComm'10 accepted the role of Chancellor of the University," said Saint Mary's

President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Robert Summerby-Murray. "His long and successful career in corporate Canada and as an entrepreneur and investor positions him as an excellent role model and inspiration for our students and our community. This appointment builds upon his loyal and generous support of our students as a mentor and university champion and through the Durland Innovation Fund and Durland Scholarships." Dr. Durland is the former Group Head and CEO, Global Banking and Markets, for Scotiabank. He retired from Scotiabank in 2016 to pursue a variety of business, philanthropic, and academic interests. Today, he is the CEO of Melancthon Capital.



YOUNG HISTORIANS SHINE AT PROVINCIAL HERITAGE FAIR

The future of history is in great hands if the Nova Scotia Provincial Heritage Fair is any indication. Eighty students from across the province showcased their excellent and

informative history projects on June 6 and 7, in the McNally Theatre Auditorium at Saint Mary's University. Ranging from Grades 4 to 9, the students researched everything from local theatre and Louisbourg to maple syrup and "Canadian stereotypes, eh?" Cultural heritage also had a strong showing, with detailed projects about Viola Desmond, the '60s Scoop, an Inuit family tree, the Underground Railroad, Portuguese and Dutch immigration to Canada, Celtic fiddles and Acadian culture.



FOSTERING RECONCILIATION AND RESPECT

Saint Mary's is working with the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre (MNFC) in Halifax to promote respect and understanding. A new agreement signed in 2019 opens the door for shared programming, projects and research, and will see the university work with the MNFC on how to enhance support for Indigenous students, faculty and staff. The partnership also makes it possible to have an Elder on campus.



DR. ELLEN FARRELL RELEASES RESEARCH FINDINGS ON ATLANTIC ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEM

A major research project led by Saint Mary's University suggests Atlantic Canadian startup businesses need to look further afield for innovation, information and funding. A three-year, \$210,000 research project exploring the startup community in Atlantic Canada has delivered its final report. The research shows that while the region's entrepreneurial ecosystem is highly interconnected, companies can achieve

greater benefit by reaching out globally for information on technology and product solutions. By relying more on “weak ties” or relationships outside of the Atlantic region or Canada, the Atlantic entrepreneurial ecosystem can improve innovation and results. The research also suggests firms explore venture capital availability outside of the Atlantic region.



SAINT MARY'S PHD STUDENT TO RECEIVE RESEARCH NOVA SCOTIA QUEST AWARD

Brendan Grue, a Saint Mary's University (SMU) PhD in Applied Science student, is the 2019 recipient of Research Nova Scotia's (RNS) prestigious Quest Award. “I was surprised and honoured to be chosen,” said Grue. “I think it reflects the growing research community here at Saint Mary's.” Grue is researching the development of a new class of orthopedic implants to hopefully reduce the use of metallic plates and alleviate the need for autograft surgery. He is working under the supervision of Dr. Samuel Veres, an associate professor for the Division of Engineering at Saint Mary's University.



SAINT MARY'S PART OF NEW \$6.5 MILLION OFFSHORE DE-RISKING PROJECT

Saint Mary's University is part of a major new initiative that adds genomics technologies to traditional geoscience

with the aim to reduce the risk for oil exploration in Nova Scotia's offshore. The \$6.5 million project, Validation and Integration of Genomics Solutions for Offshore Oil Exploration in Nova Scotia and Beyond, was one of 20 projects across Canada awarded through Genome Canada's Genomic Applications Partnership Program (GAPP). The project is co-led by Dr. Todd Ventura (Saint Mary's University), Dr. Casey Hubert (University of Calgary), and Adam MacDonald (Nova Scotia Department of Energy and Mines) and is managed by Genome Atlantic in partnership with Genome Alberta.



UNLOCKING OVERLOOKED HISTORY FROM A 2,200-YEAR-OLD ROMAN VILLA

When modern technology meets buried remnants from the early Roman Empire, collaborative research has the potential to unearth new chapters of human history never previously analyzed. That's the thinking behind The Villa di Tito Project: Reexamining Roman Villas, helmed by Dr. Myles McCallum of Saint Mary's University. The rural Villa site is located amid olive groves on the north slopes of the Velino river valley in central Italy, in the province of Reiti. One of the project's goals is to find evidence to prove the theory that the Villa was originally built by Titus (Tito), a member of the Flavian family and the Second Dynasty of the Roman Empire. More importantly, it aims to reconstruct the lives of the workers – the people who made bricks and wine, grew crops, pressed olives for oil, or engaged in mining, woodworking and metalworking.

SPELLING SUCCESS: DR. NICOLE CONRAD WINS \$92,000 FUNDING FOR LITERACY RESEARCH

Dr. Nicole Conrad has won an Insight Grant worth \$92,000 from the Social Sciences and Humanities



Research Council (SSHRC). Dr. Conrad's grant will be used to pursue research on the role of spelling on the development of reading skills in elementary school children. Dr. Conrad and her undergraduate students will perform their next study in Nova Scotia schools. The project involves administering reading and spelling tests to establish a benchmark and then teaching words with certain orthographic patterns to early readers. The researchers will then retest the children to study what effect learning about the patterns of letters used to

represent words in print has on the children's spelling and comprehension. This research will provide important insight into the best instructional practices for spelling.



SAINT MARY'S PHD GRADUATE WINS INTERNATIONAL AWARD

Dr. Samantha A. Penney, a recent PhD graduate in Industrial/Organizational Psychology, has received the prestigious 2019 Kenneth E. Clark Student Research Award from



We want to hear from you!

We're looking to hear about and profile the amazing work being achieved by Saint Mary's University alumni entrepreneurs.

Connect with us at www.smuec.ca/alumni

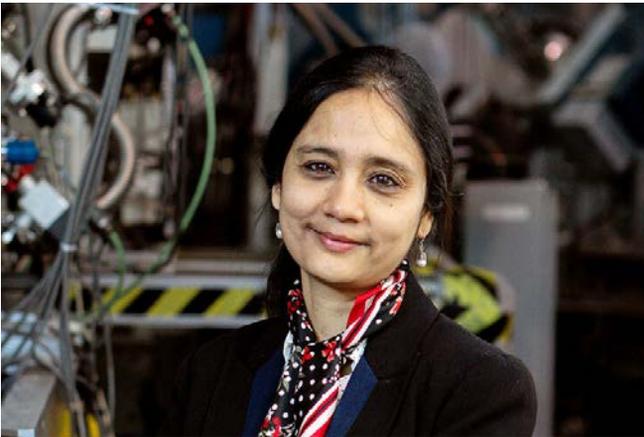


ENTREPRENEURSHIP
CENTRE

the Center for Creative Leadership and the International Leadership Association. “It is an absolute honour to have my dissertation research recognized internationally,” said Dr. Penney. In her award-winning paper on leadership titled “Fostering a Psychologically Healthy Workplace through Leadership”, Dr. Penney created and validated a scale to assess leadership behaviours that contribute to a healthy workplace, and then designed a workshop and phone-based coaching program which she delivered to leaders in eight organizations across seven provinces.

MAJOR NSERC FUNDING AWARDED TO SAINT MARY’S RESEARCHERS

Saint Mary’s researchers will receive funding worth more than \$1.2 million over five years from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) for eight Discovery Grants plus a Discovery Development Grant. The Discovery Grants Program, NSERC’s largest program, supports ongoing natural sciences and engineering research projects with long-term goals. “For a university with a relatively small number of faculty members, being awarded 10 new NSERC research grants in one year – with professors from eight different departments, representing all three of our Faculties – is a true demonstration of the strength and breadth of the research enterprise at Saint Mary’s,” said Dr. Adam Sarty, Associate Vice-President, Research and Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research.



SAINT MARY’S RESEARCHER NAMED A FELLOW OF THE AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY

Saint Mary’s University physicist Dr. Rituparna Kanungo has been named as a Fellow of the American Physical Society (APS) for her outstanding research on rare isotopes. This honour goes to scientists who have made significant innovative contributions to the field of physics. No more than one half of one percent of the Society’s membership

who have been nominated by their peers are elected as Fellows. Dr. Kanungo’s nomination was for research which encompasses several projects in Canada and abroad. She has a large network of national and international collaborators, bringing together undergraduate and graduate students, post-docs and collaborating scientists from around the world.



UNDERGRADUATE ASTROPHYSICS STUDENT PUBLISHES A LEAD-AUTHOR SCIENTIFIC PAPER

An exciting milestone usually accomplished by graduate students has been achieved by Sophia Waddell, a third-year undergraduate student in Astrophysics. Waddell is the lead author of a scientific paper with the Royal Astronomical Society. After coming up with the idea for the paper in her High Energy Astrophysics course, she wrote the paper and worked with Dr. Luigi Gallo on a series of revisions. Waddell’s paper, titled “Multi-epoch X-ray spectral analysis of the narrow-line Seyfert 1 galaxy Mrk 478”, explores X-ray data from a supermassive black hole (SMBH) called Mrk 478. “This black hole in particular is called an active galactic nucleus (AGN), which means that it is actively sucking in material, forming an accretion disk around the black hole,” explained Waddell. “The material located closest to the black hole gets so hot, that rather than radiating optical light (light our eyes can see), it emits high-energy X-rays. Using special space-based observatories, we can study the X-rays coming from active black holes, which can tell us about the structure and properties of the innermost regions.” ✦

“OUR JOB IS EXPOSING PEOPLE TO WHAT CAN BE AND WHAT’S POSSIBLE”



The Enactus Saint Mary's team celebrates at the National Exposition in Vancouver in May 2019, where they finished in the top 3 in the country.

Growing entrepreneurs at the Saint Mary's University Entrepreneurship Centre

BY ERIN ELAINE CASEY

Saint Mary's University has been in the business of entrepreneurship education and scholarship for more than 25 years — much longer than the vast majority of Canadian institutions. And the Saint Mary's University Entrepreneurship Centre (SMUEC) is the beating heart of entrepreneurship, on campus and off.

“Entrepreneurship has a long history at Saint Mary's University,” says Harjeet Bhabra, Dean of the

Sobey School of Business. “We've offered it as a major in both the Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Arts programs for many years, and we now offer the very popular Master of Technology Entrepreneurship and Innovation. Saint Mary's and the Sobey School of Business have also developed a reputation for engaging with the community to share our knowledge and help develop the capacity of businesses and organizations. The Saint Mary's University Entrepreneurship Centre is a recognition that these two aspects of

our work have grown in importance in terms of our ongoing impact on the province and region.”

“Our goal is for all students, regardless of discipline, to receive an entrepreneurial experience before they graduate,” adds Michael Sanderson, Director of the SMUEC. “It's about giving them opportunities to leverage what they're learning in the classroom in the real world.”

The SMUEC provides multiple services and opportunities for students. The Spark Zone, in partnership with NSCC, MSVU,



There was lots of celebrating on campus when RBC visited in February 2019 to announce a \$695,000 gift through their RBC Future Launch program to create the RBC Talent Hub at SMUEC. Photo: Kelly Clark

King's, NSCAD, and the Atlantic School of Theology, brings together students and community members to develop and launch business ideas; the Pipeline (a social innovation accelerator) helps students and community groups launch sustainable social enterprises; and the Student Consulting Program allows business owners to access quality business advice at an affordable price. Students can also complete internships and co-op work terms at the SMUEC.

Our RBC Talent Hub connects students with work opportunities in start ups," adds Sanderson. "Or if students are running their own businesses, they can work here in the Centre. We have a dedicated Entrepreneur-in-Residence, and we're creating an Entrepreneurial Success Certificate that will eventually be available to all students."

SMUEC services for

business include the Innovation Assessment and Growth Matters tools, The Runway entrepreneur incubator at Halifax Stanfield International Airport, and expert business coaching. The RBC Talent Fund and Access Ability help companies grow by providing employers with a wage subsidy, coaching, and additional supports to hire recent graduates. Finally, a SMUEC membership connects students, new graduates, and

early stage entrepreneurs to advisory sessions and the SMUEC community of innovation and support.

A couple of key collaborations help keep the entrepreneurship momentum going at the SMUEC. One is with Enactus, the largest student leadership organization in the world. The Saint Mary's chapter is one of 73 nationally, and with more than 130 members, one of Canada's biggest. Bachelor of Commerce students Leena

Chowdhury and Bethany Ripoll are co-presidents this year.

"Enactus Saint Mary's is a society on campus that aims to improve the lives of others through entrepreneurial actions," says Ripoll, who's been involved for four years. "We do this by running projects that improve people's lives."

"It's the world's biggest experiential learning platform," adds Chowdhury, a Finance major in her third year with



Chris Ronald, RBC Regional President, Atlantic provinces and Saint Mary's University President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Robert Summerby-Murray during the RBC Future Launch gift announcement. Photo: Kelly Clark

2018-2019

3500+ volunteer hours and **\$168,000** in revenue generated by Enactus Saint Mary's

\$121,486 invested in youth through Options Youth

\$211,997 invested in Nova Scotia businesses and **60+** recent graduates placed in career-related positions through Work Smarts

TO DATE

27,000 meals provided and **117,000 lbs** of produce diverted through Square Roots

150 youth supported by Youth Options over 5 years

Enactus SMU.

Enactus SMU runs several programs, three of them related to Square Roots, a social enterprise that redirects perfectly good food that would otherwise be thrown away by farms and restaurants. The Square Roots Bundle Service purchases produce, considered to be "seconds," in bulk and sorts it into ten-pound bundles, which are then sold for \$10 or \$5 in a dozen communities across Nova Scotia by local community managers. With the Square Roots Token Service, you can purchase a \$5 token and redeem it for a delicious meal from any of 17 participating restaurants in six communities.

Square Roots has also developed a product line that includes dog bone broth (Beer for Dogs); and 14 Carrot Gold beer, brewed by Boxing Rock. "The beer was made of 'ugly carrots' that can't be sold," laughs Chowdhury. "There are 1.4 carrots in each bottle! We sold 2000 bottles in two weeks at the NSLC last April." Other products under consideration are juice, kombucha, and baked goods.

Enactus also runs employment and skills programs. In partnership with Service Canada, Options Youth provides a significant wage subsidy to employers to facilitate hiring youth in Halifax between the ages of 15 and

30 with barriers to employment. "We hire youth who have barriers like a criminal record or non-completion of high school, for 20 weeks," explains Chowdhury. Access Ability is a similar program, but supports inclusive hiring through federal wage subsidies to employers in the Atlantic region. "We help youth who self-identify as having disabilities find a job or start a business," says Ripoll. "Our goal is to help them become independent."

In addition, Enactus coordinates Options Nova, a program that works with previously incarcerated men to help them reintegrate into society. "The men plant ten garden beds behind the Jamieson Community Correctional Centre. We teach them to plant, harvest, and maintain the vegetable beds throughout the summer, and then they eat them," says Ripoll. "They're experiencing new things, learning new skills, forming healthy relationships, and working as a team. We pay them with help from a grant from Correctional Service Canada."

Finally, with an investment from RBC, Enactus is building a platform to take their employment training online. "Youth will be able to sign up for free and get access to those workshops," says Chowdhury.

"At the SMUEC, we're equipping

students with skills that most people don't develop until much later in life," says Sanderson. "Social enterprise and social innovation resonate a lot with youth. That's why Enactus is so popular, because it's about changing people's lives and solving real problems that need solving in the world."

"Students can also be assigned to Square Roots to complete their service learning at Saint Mary's, so we have undergrads running a business that our service learning students can work for! That kind of capacity building and leadership is incredible."

Saint Mary's University also has a notable collaboration with Volta, Canada's East Coast innovation hub located in downtown Halifax. Entrepreneurship students can now book office and meeting space there.

"I believe we should transcend our physical space and be part of the larger ecosystem," says Sanderson. "We're the beginning of the funnel. Seeds are planted here, and we want to formalize connections with other organizations. Faculty teach classes at Volta, we get tickets to all Volta events, attend workshops, and rub shoulders with startups."

All these keen entrepreneurial students have to come from somewhere. In fact, they come from

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Ross Arsenault BComm'17 MTEI'18, (right), with fellow owners of Ashored Inc. won \$10,000 and was named 2019 Student Entrepreneur National Champion by Enactus Canada. The company also came second out of thousands of companies in the MassChallenge out of Boston and received \$75,000USD. Also pictured from left are Aaron Stevenson MTEI'19 and Max Poole BComm'17. Photo: Riley Smith

across the university, from all faculties and backgrounds. “We have varsity athletes; local, international, science, and arts students; and people who are running their own businesses already. They’re from BC to Boston to Bangladesh,” says Dr. Ellen Farrell, Professor of Entrepreneurship and Venture Capital at the Sobey School of Business.

“We actually have 17 separate courses focused on entrepreneurship,” she explains. “Everyone goes to university to learn how to solve problems, but it’s the entrepreneurial thinkers who can see and define those problems. Most people see change as a threat. Entrepreneurs think broadly, creatively, and flexibly, and see change as an opportunity.”

“The students in our programs end up at the SMUEC doing all the other things we want them to do,” adds Dr. Farrell. “We are totally integrated. A strong academic record and participation at the SMUEC are closely intertwined. It’s our living laboratory.”

Making sure students get out of the classroom to places like Volta, Digital Nova Scotia, pitch and innovation competitions, and work opportunities ensures they’re building a network that will serve them after they

graduate. Not surprisingly, alumni with an entrepreneurial mindset are highly valued by employers in all sectors. “We are not necessarily always trying to create new businesses,” explains Dr. Farrell. “We’re trying to create people who have that capacity to look at things and say, ‘This is how it can be done better.’”

Sanderson agrees. “You expose students to things they never knew existed in Halifax and our region — and they stay here. Our job is exposing people to what can be and what’s possible, and then support them as they get there.”

For Dr. Bhabra, the Saint Mary’s University Entrepreneurship Centre brings the essential pieces of a meaningful entrepreneurship education together: “The SMUEC allows us to keep developing student-centred entrepreneurial learning and experiences while helping foster a culture of innovation in the community at large.”

For the students who work and learn at the SMUEC, it’s a family. “This is definitely a safe place to work and grow as a person, as a student, and as a professional,” says Ripoll. Chowdhury agrees. “The first time I met the team here, I thought ‘I belong here, I’m going to be here for life.’” ✧



EVERYTHING'S COMING UP *Jennifer!*

SMU Alum Wins \$100,000 Prize on MasterChef Canada

BY ELIZABETH PEIRCE

What does a master chef like to eat when they're not the one doing the cooking?

If that chef is Jennifer Crawford MA'07, winner of CTV's 2019 *MasterChef Canada* amateur chef competition, the answer is simple.

"Treat cereal and Three-Cheese Pizza Pops. These were special occasion foods when I was a child."

Crawford—who is non-binary and uses they/their pronouns—won over the judges during a grueling twelve-episode season culminating in a three-hour, three-course finale on June 10th. Their final dessert invention? "Elevated treat cereal": a bowl of hand-puffed rice, cocoa soil, ganache, marshmallow, a sugar-cured

yolk and tea-smoked milk. A stellar performance on the show propelled them to an emotional victory and a \$100,000 prize.

For Crawford, a lifelong lover of good food, the win is a testament to the magic they experience when preparing meals for others, something they've always relished.

"I used to host an experimental supper club out of my house, and I've hosted homemade ice cream socials with experimental flavours. After a decimating experience with PTSD, cooking helped me to rebuild my creativity and gave me confidence to audition for *MasterChef*. My recovery became my superpower."

One of the talents required of a

chef, according to Crawford, is a high degree of resourcefulness and the ability to use a limited number of ingredients to create something unique.

"Good cooking is about the level of love and skill, not expensive ingredients. Creativity comes from limitations—having limits frees the brain. Michelin chefs often impose artificial limits on themselves to inspire creativity in the kitchen."

As a kid growing up in Kingston, in Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley, Crawford learned about making do with limited resources. They would often gather berries near the railway tracks when they got hungry instead of heading home for a snack.

They credit their versatility in the kitchen to these early experiences: “My imagination was born from my rural upbringing—how I make my fun is from my imagination.”

For Crawford, creating inspired meals from scratch is a profound and emotionally satisfying experience.

“Food makes my day better. It has the capacity to strike to the heart of what matters to people—for me, those things are joy, love, being silly. I enjoy helping people experience vulnerability, watching their faces light up like kids when eating one of my meals. The judges did that...”

After a decade of working as a government policy analyst in their adopted home of Toronto, Crawford has dreams of returning to Nova Scotia to open a rural “Supper and Sleep,” an idea they hope to bring to fruition in 2020.

It’s been a long and meandering journey from Crawford’s days as a graduate student at Saint Mary’s, where they were enrolled in the Atlantic Canada Studies programme, graduating with a Master’s degree in 2007.

SMU’s Assistant Director of Residence Life Kati Kilfoil offered Crawford a job as Residence Coordinator of Vanier Residence in 2004, and later Loyola Residence in 2006. She remembers them very fondly:

“Jennifer was a sheer pleasure to work with, and possessed a creative energy and passion as an RC. Jennifer also liked to think outside the box and try new things. I saw this translate into their cooking on the show each week.”

Kilfoil followed Crawford’s progress on *MasterChef* with keen interest and rejoiced when her former employee made it all the way to the season finale. When the two connected again after the show was

“Good cooking is about the level of love and skill, not expensive ingredients. Creativity comes from limitations—having limits frees the brain. Michelin chefs often impose artificial limits on themselves to inspire creativity in the kitchen.”

JENNIFER CRAWFORD MA’07

over, Crawford joked, “I’ve come a long way from bananas and peanut butter on toast at the caf!”

Crawford’s Master’s thesis supervisor was Dr. Peter Twohig, former Canada Research Chair in Atlantic Canada Studies, and currently Associate Dean of Arts.

He recalls his former student as both “widely read and politically engaged,” making them something of a rarity on campus.

The pair shared an interest in the areas of health, gender, and sexuality. Crawford’s thesis looked at the early days of sexual health education in Nova Scotia, a topic often steeped in controversy. Twohig saw his role as supervisor “to guide Jen through their work in terms of thinking of the deeper political issues and meanings around sexual health education.”

Crawford’s thesis subject proved timely: in 2004, the Nova Scotia Department of Education had unveiled its new sexual health curriculum, offering public school students in the province a much broader exposure to the

range of human sexuality than its predecessors. Because the focus of the document was not primarily reproductive, many school boards rejected the document, some teachers refused to teach from it, and there was a public outcry against it.

“The reproductive focus [in a sex education curriculum] is of course a political question and Jen was able to unpack that as part of their research. Their level of political engagement was distinctive and memorable from a professor’s point of view. I’ve had many great students, but I don’t often get ones who are

deeply politically committed to the work that they’re doing.”

In addition to their studies, Crawford also served as a volunteer coordinator for the SMU Women’s Centre at a time when the Centre was struggling to survive. Twohig recalls being impressed with Crawford’s commitment to women’s issues on campus in the days before the #metoo movement:

“They did a lot of the grassroots political work to build it back up.”

Twohig says he was surprised to see his former student on television.

“I had no idea they were so interested in cooking, food, and food culture. I would sometimes see them in the ads for *MasterChef* and say, ‘That’s Jen!’”

What shouldn’t surprise anyone is that a person with Crawford’s energy, passion, and creativity would go far in life. Their *MasterChef* experience is a testament to the value of commitment and sheer hard work.

Or, in Crawford’s words, “Being able to trust that if you try your hardest, something’s gonna come up Jennifer!” ✧

SMU PROFESSOR WINS PRESTIGIOUS O. HENRY PRIZE FOR SHORT FICTION

BY ELIZABETH PEIRCE

“I’ve been travelling by rabbit a lot this year!” laughs Alexander MacLeod. The professor of English and Atlantic Canada Studies has reason for mirth: his story “Lagomorph,” featuring a pet rabbit as a main character, was chosen as the 2019 winner of the internationally-recognized O. Henry Prize for short fiction.

Dr. MacLeod got the news last November while driving to Cape Breton with his History Department colleague, Dr. Karly Kehoe. The pair was en route to Mabou to teach a session of SMU’s Emerging Researchers program to high school students. It’s a drive they made once a week last fall while continuing their teaching duties at SMU.

“I was super excited,” MacLeod recalls, adding that at the time, he didn’t fully appreciate the immediate effect winning the prize would have on his writing career. “It proved to be bigger news than when it landed in the car.”

MacLeod’s win comes at a significant time: the award turns 100 this year, so “Lagomorph” will be included in *The O. Henry Prize Stories 100th Anniversary Edition*, due out this fall.

Some of the award’s prestige has come from the uncanny ability to identify short fiction classics hot off the press.



As MacLeod explains, “The O. Henry Prize recognized those stories that we now have in our textbooks, but it recognized them when they were a week old, right out of the gate in their first magazine publication.”

Some of his literary idols—William Faulkner, Flannery O’Connor, Raymond Carver, Alice Munro—are past winners.

“I love the short story form. It can do things that a novel can’t.”

He credits the editors of the British literary magazine *Granta*, where his story was first published in the fall 2017 all-Canadian issue, with being patient as he struggled to finish this “most stubborn” short story that explores the mysteries of our connection with animals and the compromises of domestic life.

“I tried to quit that thing fifteen times! It was so frustrating, but so rewarding.”

MacLeod’s first short story collection, *Light Lifting*, was a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, the Commonwealth Book Prize, and the Frank O’Connor International Short Story Award. He’s currently at work on a new collection that’s one story away from completion.

“I need to lock myself in a room and just bang it out,” he says.

Winning the prize means there hasn’t been much time for writing. In July, MacLeod travelled to Japan to speak

at a Canadian Embassy forum on social trends as seen in Canadian short fiction, and he’s been on the road for much of the past year with writing-related events in London, Paris, Ireland, and Spain.

The chair of the SMU English Department, Dr. Goran Stanivukovic, sees the broader significance of MacLeod’s award for the Saint Mary’s community.

“The O. Henry Prize is one of a kind in the world. For a university like Saint Mary’s that boasts an international outreach and vision, this is an occasion to celebrate that vision in a way that adds distinction to the University nationally, and beyond.”

“Alexander’s prize makes all of us proud to be his colleagues.” ♦

A NEW BUILDING FOR AN OLD TRADITION

The Dauphinee Centre

BY GAIL LETHBRIDGE



Members of Bob Dauphinee's family and friends sit in the maroon seats for a group shot during a sneak peek at the arena in August.

When you first see the Dauphinee Centre on the campus of Saint Mary's University, you might think you are looking at a business school or a newly-minted administration centre.

It is modern, angular, shining, sophisticated, with lines that are very twenty-first century.

That is a long way away from the old-school rinks of yesterday.

But when you walk inside, there is no question of its purpose. This is a rink and hockey will be played here as it has been played at Saint Mary's for many years. The new complex carries on a long tradition of hockey at Saint Mary's.

The new varsity hockey season is already well underway in its new home since the official ribbon cutting at the Dauphinee Centre in September.

People at Saint Mary's are genuinely excited about this arena. It's put a spring in the step of the whole SMU sports community.

"It's modern, bright and truly the right size for our campus," says Director of Athletics and Recreation, Scott Gray. "Every time I walk into the facility it brings a smile to my face."

That smile has been replicated many times over as varsity athletes, Saint Mary's students, and members of the community enter this brand-new building.

And no wonder.

Inside this modern complex is an NHL-sized ice surface surrounded by seating that will accommodate 850 fans with excellent sightlines. With standing room, the Dauphinee Centre can hold a capacity crowd of 1200.

Not bad for a university campus rink.

The ice will be home to the women's and men's varsity hockey teams and the club women's ringette team.

"I think it brings students, alumni, and the community together, and allows those who live on campus or nearby, to experience a true university hockey game."

This facility isn't just for varsity teams. It will also be used for staff and student recreational skating is available for local hockey teams and community skating.

And this rink has something else that many students, parents and fans have probably wished for as they sat watching early morning hockey practices and game: there is a warming room and fan box overlooking the ice. Even when there isn't hockey games, many SMU

“Every time I walk into the facility it brings a smile to my face.”

SCOTT GRAY, DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS AND RECREATION



(L to R) Men’s hockey coach, Trevor Stienburg and Athletic Director, Scott Gray stand with Glen and Nancy Holmes in the Pseudio Link in front of the doors to the arena.

students can be found up there studying or socializing.

There is an overhead enclosed walkway, the Pseudio Link, that connects the centre to the Homburg Centre for Health & Wellness.

All of this is possible due to philanthropy.

The Dauphinee Centre is named in honour of the late Bob Dauphinee BComm’60, a SMU alumnus and community champion, who donated \$2 million for an arena through his estate. Dauphinee was a varsity athlete in football and hockey at Saint Mary’s.

The warming room and other facility enhancements were made possible by another gift of \$2 million, this one from local

entrepreneurs Glen and Nancy Holmes who are the parents of two current Saint Mary’s students.

The Holmes’ are the owners of a national chain of retail stores, which include Pseudio, Samuel & Co and Envy Clothing Company.

The warming room, also known

as The Barbara Holmes Gathering Centre, is named for Glen Holmes’ mother.

The entire complex cost \$15.45 million to construct and occupies the former site of the Saint Mary’s Alumni Arena which was torn down to make way for this project.

Just as the Alumni Arena defined the hockey tradition of Saint Mary’s for the last fifty years, the Dauphinee Centre will characterize hockey, student life, and community for the next fifty years. ✧



Gabe Morrison, Vice President, Finance and Administration, (front row right) sits with hockey coaches and members of the men’s and women’s hockey teams in the fan box of the Barbara Holmes Gathering Centre.



Hockey reunion honorary co-chair Bob Warner BA'75 poses with men's hockey captain Anthony Repaci ahead of the men's hockey meet & greet.

A HUSKY HOMECOMING

BY CHANTAL CAISSIE

At this year's Homecoming, more than 250 former varsity hockey Huskies from across Canada, the US, and even overseas, returned to campus in what was the largest hockey reunion in the university's history. Throughout the weekend, hockey alumni across seven decades reconnected with former teammates at a number of events including meet & greets with the current teams, tours of the new on-campus arena, the Dauphinee Centre, and a night of fun at the Gorsebrook.

The reunion was also a chance to celebrate the achievements and contributions of former Huskies, as both the 2001-2002 men's Hockey team and former and first women's

Hockey Coach, Lisa Haley, were inducted into the Saint Mary's University Sport Hall of Fame.

The weekend was filled with a

years ago and more.

Huskies fans and alumni, including recently installed Chancellor Michael Durland BComm'87 DComm'10, and his wife, Catherine BComm'87, packed the Dauphinee Centre Saturday to watch both the men's and women's teams. Maroon & white filled the arena and fans cheered as both teams came out victorious against Dalhousie and UdeM, respectively.

Honorary reunion co-chairs, Bob Warner BA'75 and Courtney Schriver-Richard BA'11,

led ceremonial puck drops alongside three Huskies representing teams from the 1950s – Art Flynn DipEng'53, Bill Bailly BComm'56, and Fred Gallagher DipEng'57; a true highlight



Players from the current women's hockey team celebrate a shut-out victory over UdeM during a meet & greet with varsity alumni at the Barbara Holmes Gathering Centre.

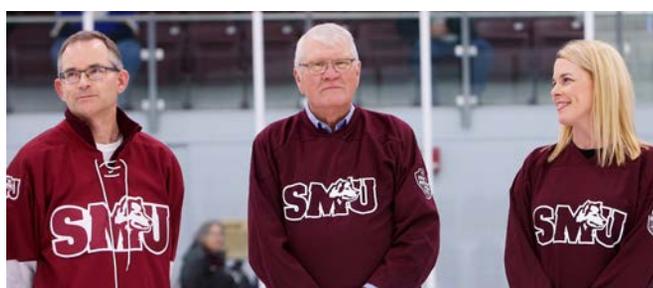
number of special reunions, including members of the 1969 men's Hockey team who reconnected during Friday afternoon's Golden Grad Luncheon, celebrating those having graduated 50



Sport Hall of Fame Class of 2019 inductees from the 2001-2002 men's hockey team enjoyed a tour of the recently-opened Dauphinee Centre, along with a look at the new locker rooms.



Our 1950s Hockey Huskies took part in the ceremonial puck drop during the men's hockey game against Dalhousie. A good luck charm, as the Huskies came out victorious! *Photo: Nick Pearce*



Puck drops for both games were announced by CBC broadcasters and SMU alumni Signa Butler BA'96 (right) and Steve Armitage BA'68 LLD'09 (middle) standing alongside President Robert Summerby-Murray (left). *Photo: Nick Pearce*

of the reunion. The puck drops were announced by CBC broadcasters Signa Butler BA'96 and Steve Armitage BA'68 LLD'09, who was one of the first announcers at the old Alumni Arena, fondly known as "the Barn" to many.

Thank you to all hockey alumni who joined us for this special weekend and to the organizing committee, led by Chris Larsen and Marcel Pineau. Keep an eye out for more hockey events in the new Dauphinee Centre in the future.

Go Huskies! ✧



Our honorary co-chairs, Courtney Schriver-Richard BA'11 and Bob Warner BA'75, along with President Robert Summerby-Murray and Athletics Director Scott Gray, kicked off our double-header by leading the puck drop during the women's hockey game. 4. *Photo: Nick Pearce*



Members of the very first varsity women's team from 1997-98 had the chance to reconnect with Sport Hall of Fame inductee and their coach, Lisa Haley (far right) during a meet & greet on Friday afternoon.

HOMECOMING EVENTS 2019

VISIT SMU.CA/ALUMNI FOR THE LATEST ALUMNI EVENT INFORMATION AND PHOTOS

BY CALE LONEY

Hundreds of alumni and friends filled the campus from October 2nd – 6th for Saint Mary's Homecoming. This year's events included our Huskies Hockey Reunion, a panel on Canadian Women and Philanthropy presented by TD, the One World Alumni Awards Gala, varsity sports games, and lots of fun at the Gorsebrook! Chancellor Mike Durland BComm'87 DComm'10 was on campus to attend many of these events. This year, we also hosted our first "Homecoming away from home" event in Toronto, where alumni gathered to watch the Huskies football game through livestream. Thank you to John Sime BComm'08 for hosting our Toronto event! Check out our Facebook page for more event photos.



Time, Talent, Treasure: Canadian Women in Philanthropy presented by TD

Panellists Jane Roy BComm'84, Sylvia Gawad BSc'14, Jo-Anne Ryan, VP of TD Wealth, moderator Margaret McKee PhD Mgmt'09, and Karen Oldfield BA'82 shared their thoughts on women's role and impact in philanthropy.



One World Alumni Awards Gala

The Nova Scotia Gambia Association (NSGA) received a One World Award, valued at \$7,500, from TD Insurance. Members of NSGA are pictured here with President of the Alumni Council Scott McElman BComm'90, President of SMUSA Mary Navas, and Scott Grant of TD Insurance.



The Saint Mary's University WUSC Society received a One World Award, valued at \$7,500, from TD Insurance.



Golden Grad Mass and Luncheon

The Class of 1969 celebrated their "Golden Grad", along with other 50+ year alumni at the Golden Grad Mass and Luncheon. The luncheon was emceed by Chris Butler BA'69 BEd'70 and featured remarks from Dr. Richard Franklin BComm'69 DComm'99, Dr. Robert Summerby-Murray, University President, Dr. Mike Durland, University Chancellor, and Scott McElman BComm'91, Alumni Council President. Mass was officiated by Fr. Jim Richards BA'67.



Chris Flynn Jersey Retirement

SMU retired a jersey for the first time ever and celebrated the accomplishments of football legend Chris Flynn BA'97. Flynn played for the SMU Huskies from 1987–1990. Athletics Director Scott Gray and University President Dr. Robert Summerby-Murray join Chris Flynn for the unveiling of his framed jersey, which will hang in the SMU Sport Hall of Fame.



Game Day BBQ

Alumni, students, and friends enjoyed a BBQ in the quad with free food, music, games and giveaways before the SMU Huskies football game.



Game Day Brunch

There was plenty of catching up going on at The Gorsebrook Lounge during Homecoming! Alumni got together at Flashback Friday and the Game Day Brunch.



Skating at The Dauphinee Centre

The Dauphinee Centre hosted its first open skate for the community during Homecoming. Alumni and visitors came by to see the building, skate, and enjoy some free hot chocolate. Huskies hockey players lend a hand to Maxson, son of Marisa and James Colzie, women's soccer coach and men's football coach, respectively.

UPDATE YOUR INFO

Don't forget to update your information at smu.ca/alumni/update-your-address to ensure you receive invitations to future events in your area.

GOING GREEN

25 Years of Trees at Saint Mary's University

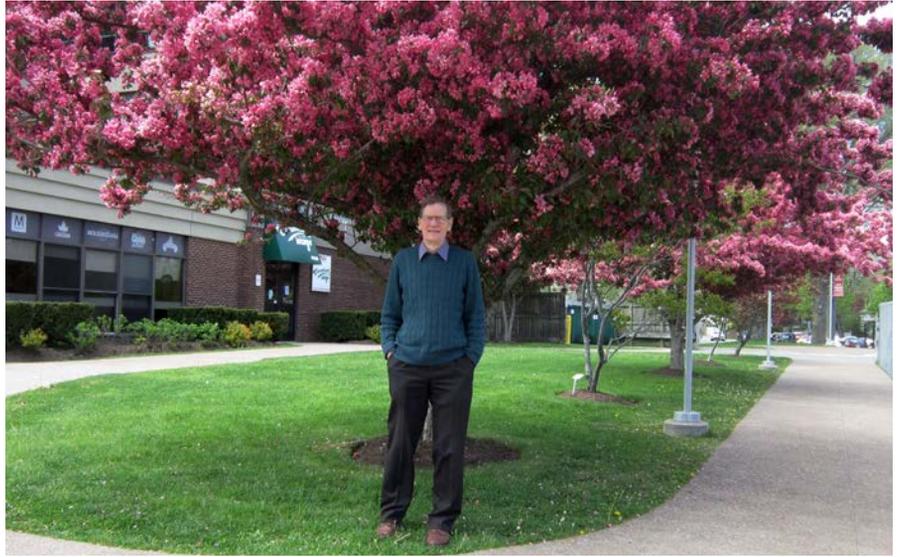
BY DR. DAVID RICHARDSON

When I arrived at Saint Mary's University as Dean of Science in the autumn of 1992, I noticed a lack of young trees on the campus and uninteresting wide open spaces. Many of the existing trees were clearly nearing the end of a long life, and there was a very limited number of species growing on the campus.

With a small budget available to me as Dean, I purchased a collection of small trees less than two metres tall from local nurseries. These were planted by the late Gordon Grovenstein and Carmen Cranley, both technicians in Biology, along with several faculty members in the Biology Department, and student volunteers. The first trees were planted in the spring of 1993 and annually thereafter.

As a botanist by training, I selected species that were of botanical interest like ginkgo and dawn redwood, (alive at the time of the dinosaurs) and species that were threatened or endangered in Canada such as the butternut, pawpaw and hickories. The aim was to have a wide variety of trees on campus that were both visually pleasing (like our collection of magnolias) and useful teaching and research subjects. One SMU student decided to study the biology of silk worms and used the leaves of the mature white mulberry on campus for the project.

In total, over 100 different tree species were planted around the Saint Mary's University campus by volunteers, a process that continued until my retirement in 2006.



Dr. Richardson stands in front of one of the trees planted over 25 years ago.



Students and faculty planting the original trees in the early 90's.

Many of the first trees we planted are now large like the black walnut, European larch, and hackberry. Others are so unusual that they still attract attention, like the brightly coloured capsules and seeds of the spindle tree.

After I retired, the University employed a landscaping firm to plan and plant trees, a situation which has sometimes resulted in repeated plantings of the same species that are not needed as teaching tools. However, for specialty trees, my advice was and is still sought. The

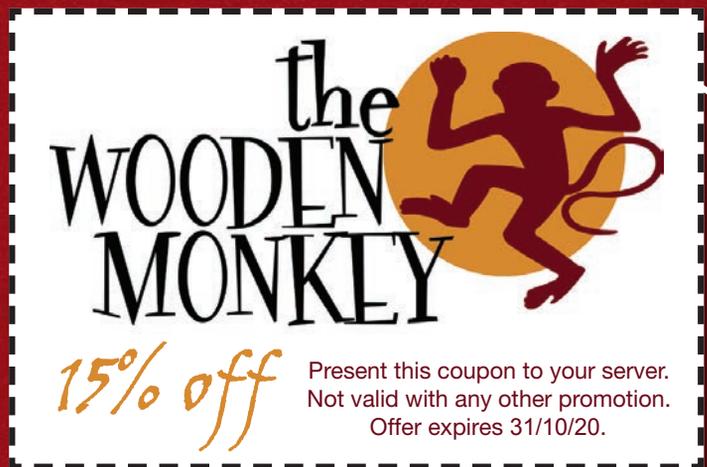
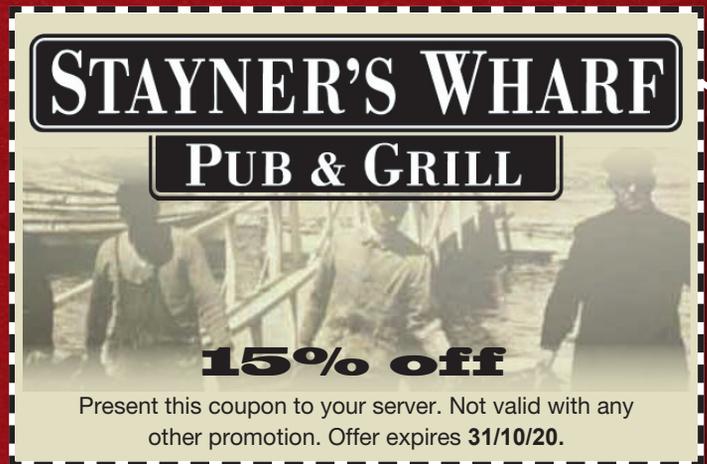
result of 25 years of attention and effort has been that first group of trees are now of significant size and make for a unique and visually appealing campus experience. Tree identification labels containing their English and Latin botanical names are put out each spring and taken in each autumn.

Thanks to this long-term campus greening initiative, visitors and students alike can learn a lot about both native Canadian and exotic decorative trees right in their own backyard. ✧

The Wooden Monkey, Darrell's Restaurant, and Stayner's Wharf Pub & Grill are all great supporters of our student athletes.

When deciding where to dine, please consider visiting one of these fine establishments.

Use one of these coupons and receive a 15% discount!



WHEN HUSKIES GET THE BLUES

Jeff McKercher's Stanley Cup Dream Come True

BY JOANIE VEITCH

When the St. Louis Blues defeated the Boston Bruins to win the Stanley Cup last June, it was the culmination of a lifetime dream for Jeff McKercher, an Ontario-based scout for the Blues and former defenceman with the Saint Mary's Huskies.

"I did everything I could to make the NHL as a player. I fell short of that but to get back into the league as a scout and to win the Stanley Cup, well, I've basically been chasing that dream since I started playing hockey at three and a half years old. It was incredible."

Growing up in Moose Creek, a small community of about 400 people less than an hour's drive from Ottawa, McKercher played for both the Barrie Colts and the Peterborough Petes with the Ontario Hockey League and was a strong enough player to make it to the seventh round of the 1997 NHL draft. After two years of professional hockey, he enrolled at Saint Mary's University, arriving in Halifax in



Jeff McKercher and his family enjoying their Stanley Cup moment.

January 2000.

Now 40 and a police officer with York Region, north of Toronto, McKercher reflects on how he went from NHL dreams to studying at Saint Mary's and playing with the Huskies from 2000 through to his graduation with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology in 2004.

"When I was playing with the OHL it was always known that after your OHL career had run its course,

going out east to play university hockey in the Maritimes was the best option," he says. "I remember being on these long bus rides and just thinking about everything. By that point I knew I wasn't going to play in the NHL so I had to start planning for a life after hockey. I loved being on the road and being with a team, and knew I wasn't someone who could sit behind a desk from nine to five; it just wasn't me. I started thinking about becoming a police officer. When I think about it now, policing is almost like playing

on a hockey team— playing as an individual doesn't really work out; everybody has to work together to be able to get home safe."

McKercher loved his time in Halifax, living off campus in a self-described "hockey house" with eight other Huskies players. He was named assistant captain in his final year at Saint Mary's and to this day credits Trevor Stienburg with being the best coach he ever had.

McKercher keeps in regular contact with the Huskies coach and many of his former teammates.

“We had a strong team under coach Stienburg. In 2002, the team went on to win the AUS [Atlantic University Sport] championship,” McKercher recalls.

In that championship game, Alex Halat scored the winning goal in Game Five against the Dalhousie

recognition given by the Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association for combined excellence in university athletics and academics.

“Once I got that, I knew I wanted to achieve my best every semester. It was almost like a challenge and I just got it done somehow. I guess too, when you’re on the road a lot, on the team bus, there were always hours to spare

As time went on, his work with the Petes brought him to the attention of Doug Gilmour, a former professional hockey player and then-manager of the Kingston Frontenacs, who asked him to scout for that team.

“Doug Gilmour was my favourite hockey player of all time— there was no way I was going to say no to him.”

“I’ve basically been chasing the Stanley Cup since I started playing hockey at three and a half years old.”

JEFF MCKERCHER BA’04

Tigers. “It was the last game and we were in double overtime—Halat was just one of those guys, an unsung hero on the team. He was a fourth line guy and Trevor Stienburg joked afterwards that he wasn’t even supposed to be on the ice but there he was, and he ended up scoring the winning goal... it was such a great group of guys.”

The team worked hard and played hard, McKercher said, adding that developing good time management skills was crucial. “We would practice a couple of hours a day, and we’d usually hit the gym as well. It could be challenging to find the time for my studies, but I always managed.”

Keeping his grades up and doing well in school was a big motivator for McKercher. While at Saint Mary’s, he twice received the Academic All-Canadian Award, a

during the travel time.”

Managing his time wisely is a skill that has served McKercher well. Juggling night shifts as a police officer, coaching his two children’s hockey teams, (daughter Kayla is 9, and son Austin, 7) and scouting for the St. Louis Blues, there’s not a lot of down time in his life these days.

“I’m definitely the busiest I’ve ever been in my life, and I’ve always been pretty busy,” he laughs.

McKercher began working as a police officer with York Region in November 2004. It was while he was in police college that McKercher made the connection that began his sideline in hockey scouting. Becoming good friends during training with a guy whose father managed the Oshawa Generals, McKercher’s scouting work for that team eventually lead to a scouting job for the Peterborough Petes.

After scouting for the Frontenacs for several years, McKercher got a call one day from a Missouri phone number. “I figured it would be a telemarketer, but the voice on the other line told me my name had been pushed forward to scout for the St. Louis Blues as the Ontario guy and asked me if I was interested.”

Now, going into his third year with the Blues and still riding the high of his team’s Stanley Cup win, McKercher balances work with coaching and driving the kids around to various games from their home in Newmarket, just as his parents did for him.

His advice to his kids as a dad and a coach is the same: “Go out and have fun. You’re not going to have your best game every time you go out, but work hard and don’t let your teammates down. Give it your best.” ✧

CLASS NOTES

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR CLASS NOTE IN THE NEXT ISSUE, EMAIL ALUMNI@SMU.CA

Allan Reid, BA'14

After receiving his BA, Allan went on to complete a Bachelor of Education at Memorial University in 2015. In 2016, he moved to Natuashish, Newfoundland and Labrador, where he taught high school Physical Education for three years. Three of Allan's Natuashish students were members of the winning Team Newfoundland and Labrador volleyball squad at the Atlantic Indigenous Games held in July 2019 at Saint Mary's University. For their former teacher, being back at Saint Mary's for this proud moment was like life coming full circle.

Steve Foran, DipENG'84 MBA'07

Congratulations to Steve Foran, SMU alumnus and former faculty member of the Sobey School of Business, for receiving one of Canada's Trusted Advisor Awards from MacKay CEO Forums. This award recognizes the significant contribution that CEO Trusted Advisors make, in the leadership field, to the success of the Canadian business community. Steve is also the creator and CEO of Gratitude at Work and StatusGRO, programs that help business leaders and their teams bring more gratitude to work each day.

Alana Green, BComm'07

Alana joins McGill University's Desautels Faculty of Management in the position of Masters Recruitment Officer. In this position Alana will be travelling within Canada and across the globe to find top talent for McGill's MBA and Master of Management programs. Alana began her career in higher education as a Global Recruitment Officer at the University for the Creative Arts in the UK. Since returning to Canada three years ago, she has served in the role of International Recruitment and Admissions Officer at Mount Allison University. Alana is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Higher Education Administration and Leadership at Royal Roads University.

Kelly Thompson, CertHRM'99 BA'07

With over ten years of experience working in real estate property management and administration, Amherst, NS-based Kelly Thompson has chosen to take her career in a new direction by creating her own startup business. That business, GoHire Consulting, assists companies with human resource requirements such as staffing and recruitment, candidate reference checks, and more. GoHire

Consulting is a member of CPHR Nova Scotia and can be found on LinkedIn.

Matthew Moore, BComm'05

Halifax native Matthew Moore currently works in the field of marketing, strategy and business development with several Atlantic Canada-based real estate businesses, including Oceanstone Seaside Resort, Premiere Self Storage, Moore Executive Suites and Student Living, and two vacation villas in Barbados. Matthew recently travelled to Freetown, Sierra Leone where he joined forces with Ben John, executive director of Help2Overcome, an organization that provides clean water and toilet facilities to schools in Africa. For this project, Matthew's team worked for eight days at FAWE (Forum for African Women Educationalist) school for girls, building a toilet facility using sustainable toilets imported from the Swedish manufacturer EcoLoo. Matthew's experience at FAWE was an eye-opening experience and made him grateful for the basic living necessities, like running water and flush toilets, that Canadians take for granted. The 700 students at FAWE were similarly grateful for the gift of safe sanitation.

David Grant, BComm'97

Nasuni, a leading provider of cloud file services, recently announced the appointment of David Grant as the company's Chief Marketing Officer. Grant has extensive senior leadership experience in marketing roles at industry-leading technology companies. In his new position, he will oversee Nasuni's next stage of growth in the face of unprecedented demand for Nasuni Cloud File Services.

Alice Walsh, BA'97

Now a resident of Gander, NL, Alice has written fourteen books for children and adults. One of her earlier books, *Uncle Farley's False Teeth*, has just been reissued by Nimbus Publishing. Children who read the book when it was first published in 1998 are now reading the same story to their children.

Margaret Ludlow, MA'85

Margaret (Peggy) Rupcich-Ludlow BA'62 (USask), BEd'69 (USask), MEd'84 (Dal), MA'85 (SMU) of Dartmouth, NS, was the 2019 recipient of the Canadian Teachers' Federation's International Program Volunteer Recognition Award. This award is presented to an outstanding individual for significant voluntary contributions to the development cooperative work

of CTF-FCE and one or more of its partner organizations. Some of Margaret's volunteer teaching assignments have been in Tanzania, St. Kitts, Nepal, Malawi, Liberia, Jordan, and Ghana.

Blair Beed, BComm'77

Halifax native Blair Beed BComm'77 was the recipient of the 2019 Charitable Irish Society Service Award in recognition of his research into the support given by Irish Americans after the Halifax Explosion of 1917. An authority on Nova Scotia history, he is the author of *The 1917 Halifax Explosion and the American Response*, and *Titanic Victims in Halifax Graveyards*.

His work has also appeared in *National Geographic Traveller*, *The Los Angeles Times* and *The Boston Herald*. He has been featured in both local and international media and is now heard weekly on News Talk Radio 95.7 FM in Halifax, sharing his knowledge of local history with listeners. As a guest speaker, he has given talks at the prestigious British Titanic Society in Southampton, England and The Belfast Titanic Society in Northern Ireland.

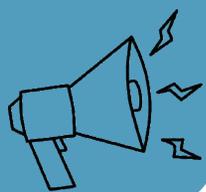
Closer to home, Blair holds a lifetime membership in the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia, The Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society, The Atlantic Titanic Society, and the Monarchist

League of Canada. He has worked closely with heritage projects in the province and has served as the Heritage Canada Foundation Mainstreet Co-ordinator. Deeply involved in restoration efforts at Saint Patrick's Church, Blair also curated an exhibition at the church on the centenary of the Halifax Explosion which garnered much attention throughout Canada and the United States.

Mike Chambers, BA'72

The Saint Mary's community was saddened to hear of the recent death of alumnus Mike Chambers BA'72. A native of Philadelphia, Mike was

recruited to play varsity basketball at Saint Mary's by the late Coach Les Goodwin. He played for the Huskies from his rookie 1968–69 season to his senior year, 1971–72. In his final season, he was co-captain of a young Huskies squad led by first-year coach Brian Heaney. Coach Heaney was a recent graduate of Acadia University and one of the Axemen's all-time great players. He and Mike competed against each other in Coach Heaney's senior year at Acadia. Mike Chambers was a fine player, an excellent teammate, and an all-round popular figure on the Saint Mary's campus. ✧



Calling All Snowbirds!

Escaping the Canadian winter by heading south? Let SMU Alumni know!

We'll be holding an **alumni event in Florida this winter** and want to make sure all our Snowbirds get the chance to join us!

Send an email to alumni@smu.ca or call **902-420-5420** to let us know if you'll be in Florida this winter so we can send you an invitation to our upcoming event.

For SMU Alumni event details, visit smu.ca/alumni



TRUE SANTAMARIAN

ELMER MACGILLIVRAY BED'59 (1927-2019)



Elmer MacGillivray (2nd from left) poses with fellow alumni and longtime friend, Terry Moore BA'63 and President Robert Summerby-Murray (far left) and his wife Susan at an alumni reception in Edmonton in 2018.

BY JORDAN WHITEHOUSE

In 1956, the Saint Mary's football team became the first East Coast squad to play in a national playoff. The next year's edition of *The Santamarian* summed up the legendary feat: "1956 will always be remembered as a season ... made glorious, made thrilling, by enthusiastic student spirit, a superb team of 30 Saints, and a soft-spoken rookie coach by the name of Reverend Elmer MacGillivray, S.J."

It was the same Elmer MacGillivray who had arrived at Saint Mary's High School in 1944 from Reserve Mines, Cape Breton, the same Elmer MacGillivray who was a superb Saint Mary's student-athlete himself a decade earlier,

and the same Elmer MacGillivray who would later, as his Saint Mary's Sport Hall of Fame induction reads, "inspire so many others to find their rightful places in the games they play."

This May, Elmer passed away in Edmonton at the age of 91.

Though he called Alberta home for the four decades prior to his death, it's clear Saint Mary's remained an important part of his life.

University President Robert Summerby-Murray's wife, Susan, had the pleasure of meeting Elmer at a couple of alumni events in Edmonton in recent years. "He struck me as embodying the hard work ethic, loyalty, and Saint Mary's pride we

have come to associate with so many alumni," she says.

After his time at Saint Mary's, Elmer entered the Jesuit Order in the Catholic Church, was ordained to the priesthood, and put his Saint Mary's education degree to work as a teacher at Saint Mary's High School in Halifax and at schools in Winnipeg and Toronto. He later left the priesthood and went to work for Labatt Brewery, where he stayed for 17 years.

"The bottom line," says his friend Paul Puma, "is that Elmer MacGillivray was a wonderful human being. The world would be a better place with more Elmer MacGillivrays." ♦

DR. JOHN YOUNG

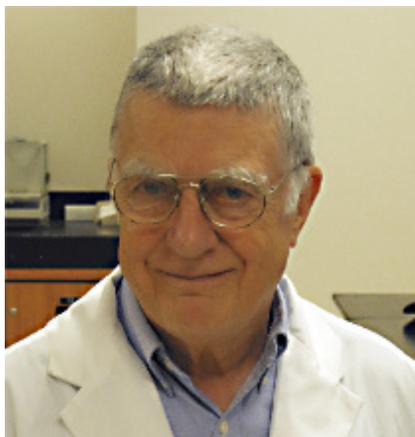
BY JORDAN WHITEHOUSE

Who says you have to spend your golden years with your feet up, awaiting the inevitable? Certainly not Dr. John Young.

The Professor Emeritus in the Chemistry Department celebrated his 90th birthday in September, and he is still publishing articles in his field. In 2019 alone he published twice.

“Almost every day, he has coffee and reads the paper before coming in to room S209 of the Science Building at around 10 A.M. and not leaving until tea time,” says former Dean of Science Dr. David Richardson. “His papers continue to be published regularly and are widely read and cited.”

For those who know him, none of



out of his Advanced Fluids Research Group, which between 1970 and 2008 carried out contract projects for Canadian and international government agencies and private corporations in areas of aquaculture, solar energy, and large-scale energy storage and delivery systems.

“His papers continue to be published regularly and are widely read and cited.”

DR. DAVID RICHARDSON, FORMER DEAN OF SCIENCE

this is surprising.

“Over his time as a professor at SMU and continuing into his retirement years, Dr. Young has been highly committed to Chemistry education, university service, and Chemistry research,” says Associate Dean of Science Dr. Lori Francis.

Dr. Young joined the Chemistry Department as an associate professor in 1972, and became a full professor in 1980. Ten years later, he was named Acting University Vice-President, Academic and Research. He “retired” in 1995.

Much of his own research came

Dr. Young may be most remembered around the Saint Mary’s community, however, for playing a leading role in designing the first and later versions of the computer-linked first-year Chemistry laboratory.

“This was a pioneering and incredibly successful development and has been adopted at other universities,” says Dr. Richardson.

Who knows what other recognitions or research endeavours are still to come for Dr. Young, but thank goodness there are no signs of him putting those feet up any time soon. ✧



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A Tribute to DR. KATHLEEN (KAY) TUDOR

BY MOMODOU SABALLY

Momodou Sabally is the former Secretary General and Minister of Presidential Affairs, The Gambia

As one of the first graduates of the Saint Mary's University Extension Programme in The Gambia (SMUEP), I was privileged to have been a student of the late Professor Kathleen (Kay) Tudor.

The SMUEP, which served as the nursery bed for the creation of the University of The Gambia, started off with three major courses from late 1995 to early 1996. The first two courses were Calculus taught by the late Professor Ken Dunn and Global History, taught by Professor Jim Morrison. The two classes merged into one big

class in early 1996 to study Introductory English and the professor identified to fly to Banjul to teach this course could not have been better chosen.

Professor Kay Tudor came in with her royal stature and unmatched academic brilliance, ready to deliver the academic goods.

Many bright students, renowned for their proficiency with the language were shocked with the strict marking and attendant unflattering comments the professor made on our assignments. I still remember those remarks for they became catchwords we, henceforth, played with: "wordiness," "awkward," "tautology." The lessons learned were well

worth the trouble and the improvement in our language skills was remarkable.

I never had plans or thoughts of becoming an author when I studied under Professor Tudor, but when I decided to pursue writing as a passion and a trade, the knowledge attained through her class became a golden treasure.

Adieu, Professor Tudor. I am a witness to your distinguished service to humanity. I am not sure if this tribute itself would meet your exacting standards, but I am confident you would be pleased that the seeds you sowed many decades ago were not planted into barren soil. Your lessons endure and their fruits will surely mature in time. Rest in peace, our dear old Professor. ✧

In Memoriam

Greg Babin ALUM'74 May 31, 2019	Norman Fergusson MEd'61 March 20, 2019	Brian Julian BComm'65 September 26, 2019	Margaret McDougal BA'00 May 14, 2019	Paul Trainor CertCRM'97 June 27, 2019
Chris Baldwin BSc'04 August 29, 2019	Denise Chase BA'02 October 10, 2019	Janet Kitz DComm'04 May 10, 2019	John Miller BComm'54 July 27, 2019	Dr. Kathleen Tudor Faculty July 19, 2019
Paul Bowie BComm'75 March 3, 2019	Dr. Frank Dougherty ASSC'97 August 14, 2019	Bruce Little BSc'88 August 19, 2019	Raymond Mombourquette BA'60 July 31, 2019	Cleelyn Wall MA'76 May 16, 2019
Christopher Bowie BComm'70 June 27, 2019	Allan Edwards BSc'72 April 15, 2019	Vincent MacDonald BA'72 August 2, 2019	Gerald Pottie DipENG'46 July 11, 2019	John Walton BA'69 July 3, 2019
Laura Cainey BA'11 April 28, 2019	Hazel Freehan BA'75 BEd'76 September 5, 2019	Grant MacDonnell BA BEd May 10, 2019	Maliya Rajpaulsingh BA'97 May 17, 2019	James Whelley ALUM'40 June 27, 2019
Bernard Downey BComm'69 March 21, 2019	Mark Hayward BA'97 September 11, 2019	Elmer MacGillivray BEd'59 May 2, 2019	Ralph Rickard BA'72 April 26, 2019	Elbert White BA'69 May 23, 2019
Janet Campbell BEd'88 August 14, 2019	John Hennigan HS'53 March 6, 2019	James MacQueen BA'71 February 16, 2019	Donald Scott BComm'77 September 6, 2019	
Victor Catano Faculty May 10, 2019	William Jandron BA'75 BEd'76 July 19, 2019	Michael Martin BComm'90 May 30, 2019		

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- Douglas and Mary Rigby,
The Robin Rigby Trust

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