



Dr. David Sobey Appointed New Chancellor of Saint Mary's.

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Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia

The TIMES



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Saint Mary's Students Take Honours at UN Conference

Students from Saint Mary's were Canada's best at the National Model United Nations (NMUN) Conference held in New York from April 22 – 26, 2008.

The NMUN conference in New York is one of the largest collegiate level model UN conferences in the world, with the opening and closing ceremonies taking place in the UN headquarters. More than 4,000 delegates attended this year's conference.

The Saint Mary's delegation, representing the central African Republic of Chad, was selected as one of eight delegations – and only Canadian delegation – to receive the \$1,000 Brian John Hayden Grant of the National Collegiate Conference Association (NCCA) of the United States.

The other grant recipients included Hawaii Pacific University, Indian River Community College, University of Alaska at Fairbanks, Wilson College, Universidad de Valle de Mexico, Vienna University (Austria), and Yonsei University (Rep. of Korea).

Saint Mary's attends the conference as part of the University's fourth-year Model United Nations course offered by the Department of Political Science. This was the fourth time that Saint Mary's has sent a delegation to the conference.

This year's 18-member delegation was the largest ever sent by the University. Students in the delegation included Kaitlyn Sawyer, Thomas Finlayson, Sarah Rushton, Lisa Gillich, Mitch Gillingwater, Nicholas Kunysz, Jeremy Legere, April Bateman, Danny Melvin, Huay Woon Chee, Laura McDaniel, Yulduz Kutlieva, Oghenefejiro Isukuru, Rebecca Winn, Lorah Jensen, Brian LeBlanc, Jenna McGrath, and Sonia Gilroy along with Dr. Marc Doucet, Department of Political Science.

In March, students from Saint Mary's won major awards at the Canadian International Model United Nations Conference in Ottawa: Brian Leblanc won *Best Delegate* for his work in the General Assembly Third Committee as a representative of Chad and subsequently Israel; Rebecca Winn won *Outstanding Delegate* for her work in the General Assembly Special Session on Terrorism as a representative of Cameroon; and Daniel Melvin won *Verbal Honorable Mention* for his work in the General Assembly Special Session on Terrorism as a representative of Chad and subsequently Iran.

Above: The 2007-08 Saint Mary's University Model UN delegation in front of the headquarters of the United Nations in New York. Back row, left to right: Kaitlyn Sawyer, Thomas Finlayson, Sarah Rushton, Lisa Gillich, Mitch Gillingwater, Nicholas Kunysz, Jeremy Legere, April Bateman, Danny Melvin and Dr. Marc Doucet, Department of Political Science. Front row, left to right: Huay Woon Chee, Laura McDaniel, Yulduz Kutlieva, Oghenefejiro Isukuru, Rebecca Winn, Lorah Jensen, Brian LeBlanc, Jenna McGrath and Sonia Gilroy.

Saint Mary's Cuts Ribbon on Newly Renovated Science Building and Turns Sod for New Atrium

On April 29, 2008, students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends gathered on campus to celebrate the official opening of the newly renovated Science Building and to turn the sod for a new Atrium Complex that is set to begin construction.



Left to right: Dr. J. Colin Dodds, President, Saint Mary's; Paul Sobey, Chair, Hearts & Minds Capital Campaign; and Paul J. Dyer, Chair, Saint Mary's University Board of Governors

Dr. J. Colin Dodds, President of Saint Mary's, stated that the newly renovated and extended Science Building and upcoming Atrium Complex reflect the University's strategic plan for renovation and renewal and will help attract the best and brightest faculty and students from Atlantic Canada and around the world.

"We must provide our students, faculty and staff with state-of-the-art tools and learning spaces that foster discovery," said Dodds. "Our country's prospects for economic growth and societal well-being will greatly depend on its capacity to develop and apply new technology."

The \$25.5 million Science Building Renewal Project began in May 2005 and included the renovation and modernization of the University's existing five-storey, 71,500 square foot science building as well as the construction of a five-storey, 22,500 square foot addition to the north end of the building. The building houses the applied science faculty departments of Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Sciences and Geology along with related programs and services.

The new \$17.5 million Atrium will be a 43,000 square foot, three-storey building located in the northwest corner of the campus and will attach to the Science, Patrick Power Library and Burke Buildings. It will feature a main floor Global Learning Commons – a wireless, student-centred, barrier-free communal learning space that encourages interaction between faculty, students and staff, and will provide more opportunities for community engagement. Other unique features of the Atrium include an interior bio-wall and a green roof. The second and third floors will house teaching and study space, along with space for offices and computational sciences research. It is scheduled to be completed by September 2009.

Both buildings are designed to meet *Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)* standards.

Paul J. Dyer, Chair of the Saint Mary's University Board of Governors and Chair of the campus community division of the *Hearts & Minds* capital campaign, said the investment in the Atrium Complex is the result of the commitment and support from the University's alumni and friends who believe in Saint Mary's mission to be the "University of choice for aspiring citizens of the world".

"Saint Mary's has always been at the forefront of education and community development," said Dyer. "I am proud to be a part of an organization that inspires the kind of vision and commitment to excellence that is unmistakable when you look at our campus."

President Dodds agreed, calling the newly renovated Science Building and the planned Atrium "a celebration" made possible in large part through the support received from donors and the Government of Canada, as well as the success of the \$40-million *Hearts & Minds* campaign led by Paul D. Sobey.

"This is more than bricks and mortar. This is an investment in people, ideas and processes—an investment in the future—and we are committed to helping people reach their full potential," he said.

To learn more about the newly renovated Science Building and the Atrium Complex, visit www.smu.ca/academic/science and www.smu.ca/administration/facman/atrium.html.



Dr. David Wicks, Dean, Sobeys School of Business, congratulates MBA student Indu Rajagopal, winner of the 2008 Krista Harris CBC Fellowship.

Saint Mary's MBA Student Wins Krista Harris CBC Fellowship

A Saint Mary's MBA student is getting her wish to see the inside workings of the CBC. Indu Rajagopal, a second-year student in the MBA program at the Sobeys School of Business at Saint Mary's, is this year's winner of the *Krista Harris CBC Fellowship*. The fellowship includes a \$2,000 bursary and a six-week paid immersion at CBC Halifax.

"I'm excited to be a part of the CBC," said Rajagopal. "I've always gazed down at their buildings in downtown Halifax and wondered how it would be to actually get in there and see them going about their work."

The fellowship is awarded annually to a student who demonstrates leadership in extra curricular and community activities as well as a knowledge and interest in local and national current affairs and culture.

"It's an honour to win the fellowship," said Rajagopal, who is from Delhi, India. "As an international student, this fellowship is an encouragement and an indication of my personal qualities. It's also an endorsement of Saint Mary's influence on my life and I hope to make Saint Mary's proud."

Rajagopal holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree as well as a post-graduate diploma in public relations from India. Before coming to Canada, she worked at an image consulting firm, gaining an in-depth understanding of various industries including liquor, tobacco, heavy automobiles, sport marketing and food service. Based on this experience, she hopes to pursue a career in marketing. She decided to make the move from Delhi to Halifax because she considers the Saint Mary's MBA program the best international business degree to complement her multinational experience.

"Among the universities in Atlantic Canada, Saint Mary's offered a comprehensive business program, coupled with an opportunity for tremendously valuable interactions," said Rajagopal.

While at Saint Mary's, she has made the most of those valuable interactions. She regularly participates in events and activities organized by the MBA department to promote business, as well as activities hosted by organizations such as Nova Scotia Business Inc. and the Halifax Chamber of Commerce. She was part of the 2008 John Molson International Case Competition held in Montreal, represented Saint Mary's at the Financial Executive Institute Case Competition held in Toronto, and recently won second place for Saint Mary's in the P&G case competition organized by Dalhousie University – all of which contributed to her win as the 2008 Krista Harris fellow.

"What attracted me to the fellowship was the personality of Krista Harris – particularly how strong and successful she was," said Rajagopal.

Krista Harris graduated from Saint Mary's with a Bachelor of Commerce, *summa cum laude*, in the spring of 1987, earning the *Birks Medal* for the highest standing in the Faculty of Commerce. She was a fervent supporter of public broadcasting, and held a variety of positions at the CBC from 1994 through 2006, including regional director of operations for CBC Radio in the Maritimes; regional director of CBC Radio in the Maritimes; and executive director of production and resources for CBC Radio nationally. She also served as a professor for a number of years at Saint Mary's, with many students admiring her enthusiasm in the classroom.

Rajagopal said she shares Harris' commitment to values such as leadership, ethics and compassion, and is thrilled to have the opportunity to work at CBC for six weeks. She said the \$2,000 bursary is a welcome bonus, but expects her time at CBC will prove to be the most valuable part of the fellowship. She hopes that the six-week term with CBC will provide her with exposure to various aspects of work within the CBC, whether radio and television or the business side of the operation.

Faculty of Arts Colloquium on Research With/In Communities

Submitted by Dr. Renee Hulan, Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Arts

The Faculty of Arts Colloquium was held on March 19, 2008 with presentations on "Research With/In Communities" by Dr. Stephen Davis, Anthropology, and Dr. Trudy Sable, Office of Aboriginal and Northern Research and Anthropology. Dr. Davis opened the colloquium with a presentation entitled "Forbidden Topics in Archaeology." In it, he described projects that represent the three kinds of community involvement in archaeological research: "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly." According to Dr. Davis, the quality of interaction between community and researchers depends on the goals and intentions of the parties. In the excavation of the Birchtown site, the "good" case, the successful completion of excavation was assisted by the cooperation between members of the local community and archaeologists. Members of the community, especially the Black Loyalist Heritage society, have further disseminated the results of the excavation which continue to educate the public. In other projects, such as the Government House and the Bedford Barrens, the relationship with various parts of the community was not as constructive, demonstrating the pitfalls of working with/in communities. The colloquium presentation can be found on the Department of Anthropology webpage. In addition to numerous articles, Dr. Davis is the author of *Mi'kmaq: Peoples of The Maritimes* (1992), now in its third edition.

Dr. Sable discussed a collaboration between the Office of Aboriginal and Northern Research and the Innu Nation to develop educational programs for Innu youth. This new project, which has been funded by grants from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council's (SSHRC) Aboriginal Research Program and Northern Research Development Program, builds on work done through the Innu Environmental Guardians Program, a partnership between Environment Canada, the Innu Nation, and Saint Mary's. In the presentation, which described how the program takes youth out on the land as part of each learning module, Dr. Sable stressed the importance of incorporating indigenous knowledge in the educational programs devoted to youth at risk, a process that often challenges the epistemology embraced by the academy. By working together, elders and academics learn from each other while sharing knowledge with each other and with the community. In the discussion that followed, the participants discussed ways to address the challenges posed by working in communities.

Dr. Sable is the author of *Preserving the Whole: Principles of Sustainability in Mi'kmaq Forms of Communication* published in *Indigenous Worldviews: Scholarly Challenges to Anti-Indian Hegemony* (2006) and co-author of *The Ashkui Project: Linking Western Science and Innu Environmental Knowledge* published in *Local Science vs. Global Science: Approaches to Indigenous in International Development* (2006). More information on Dr. Sable's research can be found on the Gorsebrook Institute website.

The Faculty of Arts Colloquium is a series which was established to celebrate research conducted by scholars working in the Faculty of Arts.

Saint Mary's University and Halifax Public Libraries: Celebrating 30 Years of Fruitful Partnership

Submitted by Linda MacDonald, Associate Director, Continuing Education

"University classes are fabulous!" These are words that every professor wants to hear. This enthusiastic response comes from a lifelong learner attending a Saint Mary's University credit course at Halifax Public Libraries. The University and the Library have partnered to deliver credit courses as free, open lectures which members of the community can attend for one class or the whole semester. March 19, 2008 marked an anniversary of considerable significance for both Saint Mary's University and Halifax Public Libraries: 30 years ago, this very special and unique partnership was launched. No university and no public library in Canada can claim a comparable partnership of such longevity.

On March 19, this partnership took collaboration to a new level with the celebration, *Thirty Years of Growing Minds*, held in the Sobeys Building on campus. The Library and the University welcomed Marq de Villiers, winner of the *Governor-General's Award* for non-fiction, who presented the public lecture, "Water: Our Most Precious Resource." The presentation was supported in part by the Environmental Studies Program, the Saint Mary's University Sustainability Task Force, the Visiting Speakers Committee under the Office of the Vice-President (Academic and Research), and the President's Office, as well as the two longstanding partners: Halifax Public Libraries and Saint Mary's University Division of Continuing Education.

Over the past 30 years, nearly 100 courses have engaged about 6,000 learners in topics ranging from "On Native Grounds," jointly planned and taught with the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'q'maw and the Native Council of Nova Scotia, to "The Atlantic Economy Today" to "Media of Everyday Life" and Shakespeare's Comedies. Individuals might attend a course for one lecture of special interest; however, more often, they attended all 12 sessions of the course in a spirit of curiosity, a genuine enthusiasm for learning, and a sense of intellectual fellowship. Many have returned the following year and the next year too, with some participating in this learning project for 30 years!

Drs. Krishna and Surendra Patel helped us to *Imagine the World We Want*. Dr. Jamal Badawi brought us understanding of *Islamic Religious Traditions*. From *Masterpieces of Western Literature to Science Fiction*, from *The Enlightenment to Looking Back at the Millennium*, this partnership has benefited everyone: credit students get to appreciate that learning is not only campus-generated; the blending of age groups provides an exchange of ideas, experiences and insights; the Library gets quality assurance in its adult programming; the University extends its outreach to a wide range of learners in central and north end Halifax, in Dartmouth and in Sackville; and life in Halifax area is much the richer.

Saint Mary's University has also benefited. The partnership has been the stimulus for new courses such as *Moving Images of Atlantic Canada*, *African-Nova Scotian Cultural Studies*, *Post-Colonial Literature*, and *Halifax and the Military Since 1749*. Many of these new courses were developed in partnership with the Library and local community organizations.

As publicly funded institutions, universities and libraries have special responsibilities to contribute to sustaining democratic society and an informed citizenry. In bringing together diverse groups of people bonded by a love of learning and a desire to understand and build a stronger community, this 30-year partnership has indeed been a cause for celebration.

And what do lifelong learners have to say about this unique learning opportunity? Wall to wall people in the room speaks for itself. "I will definitely recommend the Saint Mary's University library courses to others." "A very special series! Please continue this program; it is wonderful!"

Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia

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Scholarly Professional DEVELOPMENT

ENGLISH

Dr. Brian Bartlett has published his fifth full-length collection of poetry, *The Watchmaker's Table* (Goose Lane Editions). It is being launched with readings in Pictou, Saint John, Fredericton and Halifax.

Dr. Renée Hulan was an invited speaker at "Rethinking the Great White North: Race, Nature and the Historical Geographies of Whiteness in Canada" hosted by Queen's University in February.

Dr. Sean Kennedy's edited collection, *Beckett and Ireland*, has been accepted by Cambridge University Press. He also delivered a lecture, "Saints, Scholars and Sinners," to the St Patrick's Church Restoration Society (Halifax) on March 13.

Dr. Michael Larsen presented the paper, *The Legal Crime Fiction of William Deverell* at the annual Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Conference in San Francisco in March 2008.

HISTORY

Dr. Michael Vance gave the keynote address, "Oceans, Memory and History' and the Study of Scottish Migration," at History Across the Disciplines: Oceans, History and Memory, a History Graduate Student Conference held at Dalhousie University, March 14-16, 2008 which drew participants from across Canada and overseas.

Keith Mercer has been awarded an \$81,000 SSHRC post-doctoral grant to be held at Saint Mary's. He will be working with Dr. John Reid (History/ACS) on a project entitled "The British navy as a cultural institution in Georgian Halifax, 1749-1820." The award is one of two SSHRC post-doctoral grants for the entire Atlantic region and the only one in History.

Dr. John Reid toured India for three weeks in January and February 2008 as a Canadian Studies Visiting Lecturer sponsored by the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute. He lectured on linkages between history and Canadian aboriginal issues at eight universities. At Gujarat University (Ahmedabad), he spoke at the launching of *Development has a Woman's Face*, a new book by Saint Mary's adjunct professor Dr. Krishna Ahojapatel.

Dr. Tim Stretton presented the paper, *Coverture and Unity of Person in Blackstone's Commentaries* at the international William Blackstone Symposium in Adelaide in December 2007. In April 2008, he gave the talk, "Contract, Debt Litigation and Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*" as part of the Adelaide University Law School's 125th anniversary Distinguished Speaker Series.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Dr. Saturnino ('Jun') M. Borrás Jr., Canada Research Chair in International Development Studies, has the following recent publications:

Borrás, Saturnino Jr., Marc Edelman and Cristobal Kay, guest editors, (2008). *Transnational Agrarian Movements Confronting Globalization*, a special double issue of the *Journal of Agrarian Change*, Volume 8, Nos. 2 and 3 (April & July 2008).

Borrás, Saturnino M. and Jennifer C. Franco (2008). *Democratic Land Governance: A Framework for Analysis*. Oslo: United Nations Development Program, Oslo Governance Centre (UNDP-OGC), April 2008.

MODERN LANGUAGES AND CLASSICS

Dr. Myles McCallum presented the paper, *Imperial Villas in Southeast Italy: The San Felice Project* on April 1, 2008 to the Department of Classics, Memorial University, St. John's, Newfoundland.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

On March 15, Dr. Stella Gaon chaired the panel, *Issues in Human Security*, at the 3rd Annual Dalhousie Graduate Society of Political Science Symposium. This year's theme was "Challenging Canada: Strategic Threats and Shared Responsibility in an Insecure World." In addition, an essay submitted in her political theory class, *Modern Theories of the State*, written by Alex Colgan, won the Fall 2007 SMU Writing Centre award for best upper level undergraduate essay in the Faculty of Arts.

Dr. Carlos Pessoa has been awarded the *SMUSA Teaching Excellence Award* for the Faculty of Arts.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Dr. Paul Bowlby was given the award from SMUSA for *Overall Excellence in the Field of Education*. He was also invited to write a paper and attend a national roundtable on pluralism in Canada sponsored by the new Global Centre for Pluralism in Ottawa on May 13.

Dr. Nancie Erhard, Dr. Magi Abdul-Masih and Dr. Paul Bowlby presented at the 10th annual National Metropolis Conference, April 3-6, on Religious Diversity in Halifax. This presentation is based on the grant awarded by Heritage Canada (Multiculturalism) entitled "The New Religious Diversity in Halifax Regional Municipality."

SOCIOLOGY & CRIMINOLOGY

Dr. David Flint participated in a curriculum development workshop in Iloilo City, Philippines from February 26-29 as part of the Ocean and Coastal Governance Project organized by Lester Pearson International at Dalhousie University and sponsored by CIDA. Dr. Flint also participated in the 10th National Metropolis Conference in Halifax from April 3-6 and presented a paper, *Making Rural Connections*. In addition, his article, *Recent rural immigrants in a rural Nova Scotia county: A tentative typology* was published in *Our Diverse Cities* no. 5 (Spring 2008).

Dr. MacDonald Ighodaro has been selected by the African Students' Society as the 2008-2009 winner of teaching excellence in International Human Rights, Equity and Anti-Racism Practice. This recognition by the African Students' Society is considered the highest mark of anti-racist scholarship and teaching achievement.

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

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



Dr. David F. Sobey

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

Sobey's appointment comes as a result of a significant amendment to the Saint Mary's University Act of 1970. Passed in the Nova Scotia Legislature in December 2007, the amendment redefines the role of Chancellor. Under the original Act, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Halifax automatically served as the University Chancellor while the Vicar General served as Vice-Chancellor. Following the amendment, the Board of Governors became responsible for selecting a lay Chancellor, the Archbishop is now known as "the Visitor," and the President assumes the role of Vice-Chancellor, a move that brings Saint Mary's in line with other universities.



In the News...

By Blake Patterson

Dr. J. Colin Dodds, Paul J. Dyer, Paul Sobey, Dr. Esther Enns, Dr. Malcolm Butler, Dr. David Richardson, Gabrielle Morrison, and students Bilguun Ankhbayar and Amy Holland were included in television coverage by ATV at the opening ceremony of the newly renovated Science Building and the sod turning for the new Atrium Complex. Coverage of the grand opening also appeared in the *Chronicle Herald*.

Brian Fulton was noted in the *Biz Bytes* section of *allnovascotia.com*. Fulton, a Saint Mary's Arts graduate, was recently named the President and Chief Executive Officer of Mercedes-Benz Financial Canada.

Dr. Jonathan Fowler, Anthropology, was interviewed by Costas Halavrezos on CBC Radio (Maritime Noon) about the discovery of a silver cross during an archeological dig at the Grand Pre national historic site.

Dr. Andrew Harvey, Economics, was featured on the Andrew Krystal Show (Maritime Morning) to discuss the high price of gasoline. Dr. Harvey also appeared on the Global Evening News to discuss an increase in Nova Scotia's minimum wage and a census report by Statistics Canada about income and earning in Canada.

Donnie Jeffrey, Student Services, and recent business graduate Dana Duncanson were interviewed for a story in *Metro* news. The story examined the transition from school to the workplace.

Dr. Kevin Kelloway, Psychology, was featured on CBC Radio (Information Morning) to talk about his new book about the secrets to the success of local entrepreneurs.

Keith MacMillan, a second-year defender on the Huskies soccer team, was quoted in Joel Jacobson's *Bright Spot* column in the *Chronicle Herald*. The column talked about students giving back to their communities.

Dr. John McMullan, Sociology and Criminology, was quoted in an article that appeared in the *Saint John Telegraph-Journal* about a reported practice of police officers exchanging shifts for cash.

Dr. Hugh Millward, Geography, was featured on CBC TV (Halifax) in a piece about how increasing gas prices will make it difficult for commuters to make a living working in Halifax. His interview appeared on CBC News at Six (Halifax), CBC News: Business (Toronto) and CBC National. Dr. Millward also appeared on ASN-TV (Nightside) to talk about the financial hit HRM residents will take as municipal tax rates and assessment values increase.

Dr. David Perrier, Sociology and Criminology, was interviewed by Stephanie Domet on CBC Radio (Mainstreet) for a story about the training and safety of Nova Scotia's jail guards.

Former Saint Mary's linebacker Tim St. Pierre, was noted in the *Chronicle Herald*, *Metro* news and *Globe and Mail* as the Edmonton Eskimos' third-round selection in the Canadian Football League draft. Marc Beswick and Jeff Zelinski were also noted as Huskies taken in the draft.

Harv Stewart and Trevor Steinberg of the Saint Mary's hockey team appeared on CJCH-AM Halifax (Hotline 1) to talk about fighting in hockey.

Dr. Madine Vanderplatt, Sociology and Criminology, was featured on CBC Radio (Information Morning) to talk about the International Metropolis Project, a forum for bridging research, policy and practice on migration and diversity.



Left to right: Rebecca Fitzgerald, Project Manager, International Activities; Aleksey Ermilov, Professor and Director of the Institute of Economics and Finance of Yugra State University; Irina Semenova, Head of the Innovation Technologies Office and Head of the Informative-Consulting Office of the International Affairs Department of Yugra State University; Liudmila Alferova, Head of the Traditional Culture and Finno-Ugric Connections Office and First Vice-President of the social organization "Yugra Saving"; Nikolai Savrasov, Head of the Management Natural Resources Office of the Department on Issues of Indigenous Small-in-Number Peoples of the North Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Region, Yugra; Elena Lapshina, Professor and Deputy 1st Pro-Rector of Yugra State University for International Cooperation; Nikolay Shimukovich, MBA student, Sobey School of Business (interpreter); and Dr. David Wicks, Dean, Sobey School of Business

Russian Delegation Visits Saint Mary's to Plan New Business School in Siberia

A delegation from Russia recently visited Saint Mary's University to gather information about how to establish a business school in Siberia for the indigenous peoples of the North.

The five-member delegation, from the Khanty-NMansiysk Autonomous Region in Russia, was in Halifax from May 5 – 12 to learn how Canadians train specialists in small and medium-sized enterprises. They plan to establish a business school at Yugra State University to train indigenous peoples and help support business development enterprises connected with traditional trades and culture of Northern peoples.

During their stay, the delegation met with faculty and staff from the Sobey School of Business, the Business Development Centre, Public Affairs, the Office of Aboriginal & Northern Research, the International Activities Office and Student Services. The group also toured the Millbrook First Nations site in Truro and held a meeting with staff of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

The visit was made under the umbrella of the Canada-Russia Northern Development Partnership Program (NORDEP), a four-year program funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) with counterpart funding from the Russian partners and managed by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC).

Yugra State University was founded in 2001 by the Russian federation government in western Siberia. It has an enrollment of nearly 5,000 students and is located in the city of Khanty-Mansiysk, a centre with a population of 10,000 that is expected to double within the next 10 years.

University's IMPACT Fund continues to shine at RISE

A team of students from the Sobey School of Business' IMPACT Fund has continued a proud tradition by placing first at this year's Redefining Investment Strategy Education (RISE) competition in Dayton, Ohio.

The RISE competition, which is held annually at the University of Dayton, is the largest of its kind in the world. This year's event, held from March 27-29, included more than 1,500 students from 58 countries. The competition recognizes the best performance by student-managed investment funds based on risk-adjusted returns for the calendar year 2007. The IMPACT Fund team from Saint Mary's placed first in the International Portfolio category of the Undergraduate division. In 2006, they won first place in the Equity Value, Graduate category based on returns from 2005.

"This win shows that our students can not only compete with students at any other university, but also that they have been able to successfully manage a portfolio of real money in what have been volatile markets as of late," said Dr. Greg MacKinnon, who co-founded the IMPACT Fund with fellow Saint Mary's professor Dr. Sean Cleary. "Market volatility has given even professional money managers nightmares recently, but the students on the IMPACT team have been able to stay disciplined, have faith in their approach, and earn very respectable returns in a difficult market."

MacKinnon and Cleary, professors of Finance and Management Science, founded the IMPACT (Investment Management of Portfolios in Atlantic Canada Training) Fund with the goal of providing an elite group of students from the Sobey School of Business with practical, real world experience in money management by interacting with money managers and investing real funds.

The IMPACT Fund was represented at this year's competition by undergraduate Victor Gendy and MBA students Nikolay Shimukovich and Syeda Rakhshanda Amberin. However, as MacKinnon explained, the competition is based on returns earned by the fund for 2007, so the victory really belongs to the whole team. The team was comprised of fund managers in their second year of the program and research associates in their first. The fund managers included undergraduates Bilguun Ankhbayar, Daniel Curren, Xiang Xiang (Betty) Guan, Jamie Hawkins and Aaron Windsor, and MBA students Travis McPhee and Nitchawan Sriviboone. Research associates included undergrads Victor Gendy, Michael Jack, and Joel Muise, and MBA students Nikolay Shimukovich, Syeda Rakhshanda Amberin and Gavin Vieyra.

During the three-day forum, the students made presentations to professionals in the finance industry and had the opportunity to listen to speakers such as Frank Hatheway, chief economist of the NASDAQ stock market, and David Rosenberg, chief North American economist for Merrill Lynch.

Additional information and updates regarding the IMPACT program can be obtained by contacting Drs. Greg MacKinnon or Sean Cleary at greg.mackinnon@smu.ca or sean.cleary@smu.ca, or by visiting the IMPACT website at www.smu.ca/academic/sobey/Impact. For more details on the RISE symposium, visit <http://sbaweb.udayton.edu/rise/>.

RECENTLY PUBLISHED:

Development has a Woman's Face: Insights from within the UN – Dr. Krishna Ahojapatel



Dr. Krishna Ahojapatel, author of *Development has a Woman's Face: Insights from within the UN*, at the Saint Mary's University book launch

Women "are poorer than men anywhere, everywhere," observes Dr. Krishna Ahojapatel in her new book, *Development has a Woman's Face: Insights from within the UN*, which was launched at Gujarat University in Ahmedabad, India earlier this year.

Drawing on her 25 years of work in the UN and as an NGO activist, Dr. Ahojapatel sets out to explain how poverty has acquired a gender bias. Her book charts the evolution of perspectives on development over a 40-year period and explores the emergence of women's organizations throughout the world and examines our current gendered understanding of development. The primary reason for writing the book, she explains, is that "very few persons have had the opportunity of being part of the evolution of concepts from inside the UN system and living the very history one is writing about."

Speaking at the book launch at Gujarat University, Dr. John Reid, History Department, described the book as "important" and refers to its "compelling and often disturbing" analysis.

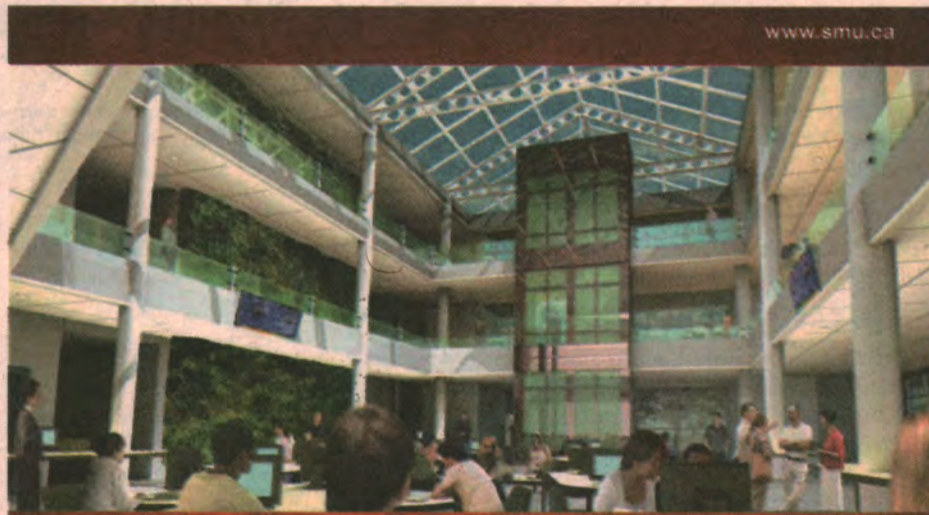
He explains: "Despite what Dr. Ahojapatel shows so effectively regarding the economic importance of women's work and the crucial role of women in development initiatives, it is also shown that gender inequalities and the ravages of violence are global phenomena, which are not necessarily changing in positive directions as we move

further and further into the twenty-first century. Indeed, the kind of economic transformations that sometimes pass for development have the capacity to restrict the creative economic role of women and produce new and damaging inequalities."

In the course of her research, Dr. Ahojapatel talked to policy makers in governments, UN staff from many different disciplines, NGOs and women's organizations, and obtained global information gleaned from the UN resolutions and international standards. She anticipates that many issues brought to light in the book will become the subjects of further research and recommendations for policy changes, such as the low percentage of women compared to men in national parliaments.

Dr. Ahojapatel has been a member of the International Development Studies Program at Saint Mary's University since 1992 and teaches two courses, *United Nations and Development* and *Gender and Development*. She is currently the UN Representative of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), Geneva. In 2004, she was elected president of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Geneva.

Development has a Woman's Face: Insights from within the UN was published in New Delhi by APH Publishing Corporation and is available through the International Development Studies Department at Saint Mary's University. In addition to the launch at Saint Mary's University, Dr. Ahojapatel's book has also been launched at Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, India; Gandhi University, Ahmedabad, India, and the Palais des Nations (European Office of the UN).



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