



Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia

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From left to right: Murray Scott, Nova Scotia Justice Minister; Dr. J. Colin Dodds, President, Saint Mary's; the Honourable Stockwell Day, Minister of Public Safety; and Dr. Stephen Schneider, professor of Sociology and Criminology, Saint Mary's.

More Support for PALS Program at Saint Mary's

Saint Mary's University has received \$342,000 in federal funding to help at-risk children throughout the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). The Honourable Stockwell Day, Minister of Public Safety, made the announcement at a special news conference that was held on campus on January 23, 2007.

The University will offer assistance to children living in disadvantaged environments through a new program called PALS. "Canada's New Government made the commitment to stand up for safe streets and safe communities," said Day. "By taking concrete action to prevent crime from taking place in Halifax, today's announcement shows that we are fulfilling this commitment."

"The PALS program strives to help our youth make good choices and to diminish the chance that they end up committing crimes or joining gangs," he added.

The PALS acronym stands for *Positive role models and mentors, Academic tutoring, Leisure and physical activity, and Social and life skills development.*

PALS is funded through the federal government's National Crime Prevention Centre which is part of the Department of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness.

The program is based on the principle of crime prevention through social development. As such, it addresses some of the key recommendations made in the recent *Nunn Commission* report entitled, "Spiralling Out of Control: Lessons Learned from a Boy in Trouble."

Dr. Stephen Schneider, professor of Sociology and Criminology at Saint Mary's, spearheaded the local development and implementation of the program which began in May, 2006. Currently enrolled in the program are 31 children, ages five through twelve, all of whom are from two social housing communities in the HRM. The third "semester" of PALS began on January 15, 2007.

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Sobey MBA Students Shine at National Competition



Left to right: Evan Cohen, MBA Games Coordinator, and student team members Heather McKelvey, Arup Ganguly, Colin Hebb, and Jay Boutilier

A team of Saint Mary's MBA students have demonstrated that they mean business when it's time to compete. Jay Boutilier, Arup Ganguly, Colin Hebb and Heather McKelvey represented the Sobey School of Business at the 2007 MBA Games, placing second in the Strategic Business Case Competition.

This year's MBA Games were held from January 4-6, 2007 at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. The Strategic Business Case Competition is one of the highlight events of the Games which drew participants from 16 schools across the country.

Evan Cohen, MBA Games Coordinator, said that the Games provide students with a unique opportunity to compete and network with other MBA students from all parts of Canada. Cohen added that the students embraced the responsibility to represent Saint Mary's university and Atlantic Canada. "We feel that there is great value in being representatives of the Sobey School of Business," he said. "Students also get to experience a part of Canada that is new and exciting. For our entire team, this was our first trip to Edmonton."

"The two events that are considered the most prestigious at the MBA Games are the Strategic and Marketing Case Competitions," said Cohen. "It is in these competitions that students have the opportunity to utilize all of the tools that they have acquired while in the MBA program."

Describing the team's second-place finish in the Strategic Case Competition, Cohen stated, "To say that this accomplishment was impressive is an understatement. Our team competed against other major universities such as the University of Toronto, Laval University, York University, and McGill University. To have beaten all these top-notch universities shows the quality of education and caliber of students that the Sobey MBA program offers."

He added, "It is for accomplishments like this that we attend the MBA Games - to reaffirm the Sobey School of Business' position as a leading business school in Canada."

More than 300 students participated in the Games which originated at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. The Sobey School of Business team placed just behind the University of British Columbia (UBC) in the Strategic Business Case Competition.



On February 12, 2007, student members of the Saint Mary's University Random Acts of Kindness (RAK) Squad distributed complimentary hot chocolate to appreciative students, faculty and staff in the Loyola Building. The event served as the Saint Mary's kick-off for International RAK Week.

"The program [PALS] is meant to address – in a comprehensive, complementary and integrated fashion – factors that put disadvantaged children at risk of future criminal behaviour by enhancing their resiliency and fostering a nurturing family environment," said Schneider.

PALS addresses five key areas that are vital to the positive development of children and youth: *education (academic development); life and social skills (behavioural development); physical activity (health development); mentors (positive role models); and effective parenting (a nurturing social environment).*

All PALS activities are delivered at Saint Mary's. The program is highly dependent on student volunteers who provide tutoring, recreational activities, and mentorship for the participating children.

Another key partner in the PALS program is the **Oxford Learning Centre**, a private sector tutoring company that coordinates the academic tutoring component. Oxford will also provide its proprietary curriculum for the project, with Oxford teachers training Saint Mary's students as tutors.

In addition, each child will receive Oxford's unique *Dynamic Diagnostic Assessment* to accurately measure skills and potential. Using the assessment information, Oxford creates a personalized program to meet each child's specific needs. Oxford programs are specially designed to improve each child's learning, thinking, and academic skills while increasing self-esteem and confidence.

"We are particularly pleased that Oxford Learning has agreed to coordinate the tutoring component for PALS," said Schneider. "They have a very innovative, effective and individualized approach to a child's education, and we are thrilled that they are on board."

"Research shows that children who receive tutoring support achieve better academic results, are less likely to be truant or drop out of school, are more likely to attend a post-secondary institution, are less likely to engage in criminal or delinquent behaviour, and display pro-social behaviour in general," he said.

Rick MacKenzie, Director of Oxford Learning's Halifax centre, stated that teachers at the centre are thrilled to be involved with the PALS program.

"We are extremely proud of the work we do at Oxford Learning, and we are very pleased to have been asked to assist with the tutoring element of the Saint Mary's University's PALS project. This initiative is completely in tune with our passion – helping kids to succeed in school and in life," he said.

While children are engaged in the tutoring sessions, parents will have the opportunity to attend lectures designed to promote effective parenting skills and nurture a positive family environment. Topics will include nutrition, promoting self-esteem and self-confidence, sibling rivalry and conflict resolution, discipline, primary health care, protecting children's mental health, and helping children with their schooling. Parents are also encouraged to enroll in night classes at Saint Mary's with the long-term goal of obtaining a university degree.

"By acknowledging the importance of the family environment in a child's development, the parent lecture series is meant to complement the program's components that directly involve the children," said MacKenzie.

Schneider noted that a sports mentoring component will also promote positive behaviour, attitudes, and life skills essential to a child's development.

"In this component, the children are brought to the Saint Mary's campus where they engage in team sports-based activities with members of men's and women's varsity teams," he said.

"In addition to exposing the children and youth to positive role models while encouraging a physically active lifestyle, activities implemented as part of the sports mentorship component will be structured to address such pro-social behaviour and life skills as self-esteem, positive body image, teamwork and cooperation, leadership, communication, critical thinking (self-discipline and anger management), and conflict resolution."

Tina Ruel, PALS Program Director, stated, "Since the program began in May 2006, we have already seen positive changes in some of the children in terms of improved academic achievement, greater self esteem, leadership ability, anger management, and cooperation. After just a few months with the program, it is easy to see why PALS is so crucial to the communities we serve. We will continue our work to help the children make positive life choices and develop into well rounded individuals."

For those who wish to learn more about PALS, please contact Dr. Stephen Schneider at 902.420.5872 or e-mail pals@smu.ca.

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The **TIMES**



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One University. One World. Yours.

The Times is produced by the Public Affairs Department of Saint Mary's University.

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Saint Mary's Researcher Receives International Award From IBM

A researcher at Saint Mary's University is being praised by IBM for pioneering a unique form of technology that is having a positive impact for people around the world.

Keith Bain, from the Liberated Learning Consortium, has received an *IBM International Faculty Award*, valued at \$20,000 (US) for his research and development work on a new speech recognition project. The initiative, sponsored by **RBC Financial Group**, examines how speech recognition can enhance business meetings, teleconferences and other interactive environments.

"Over the years, we have overcome some daunting technological problems," said Bain. "Being able to simultaneously transcribe multiple speakers is one of the biggest challenges we've faced. What we are really proud of is our ability to create partnerships and engage individuals and organizations with our vision for this technology."

Bain is humble about winning the award and credits the contributions made by members of the mathematics and computing science department. They include **Dr. Pawan Lingras**, professor of mathematics and computing science, and computing science students **Vagarro Willie**, **Chris Adams** and **Tokuyo Mizuhara**.

Hosted by the *Saint Mary's Atlantic Centre*, Liberated Learning is an international consortium of lead organizations dedicated to advancing speech recognition technology and techniques to improve access to information. Liberated Learning is founded on two interrelated applications: using speech technology to automatically transcribe spoken language and display it as readable text; and using speech recognition to produce accessible, multimedia notes.

Bain adds, "This award exemplifies the commitment our partners have made to Saint Mary's and the Liberated Learning concept itself."

Seven years ago, the Atlantic Centre and IBM formed a partnership to grow the Liberated Learning concept. Since then, the world's top speech recognition scientists at IBM Research and Worldwide Accessibility Centres have been working with Liberated Learning to develop *IBM ViaScribe™* — a first-of-a-kind technology which automatically captions speech and creates searchable online notes.

Today, the Liberated Learning consortium includes universities and organizations around the globe. The full list of consortium members is online at www.liberatedlearning.com.

News of Liberated Learning's benefits has certainly not gone unnoticed. RBC Financial Group joined Saint Mary's and IBM just over two years ago to develop new corporate applications for this unique form of technology. Liberated Learning was used in RBC Learning Services Classrooms, and even to caption RBC's Annual General Meeting of common shareholders. RBC soon plans to implement IBM ViaScribe™ and the new multi-speaker application for meetings and plan to explore further ways of implementing Liberated Learning in the workplace — a benefit for employees and clients alike.

Saint Mary's Announces New Award for Educational Leadership

The Saint Mary's University Quality of Teaching Committee is delighted to announce the establishment of the **Dr. Geraldine Thomas Educational Leadership Award**. The award will recognize a faculty member who has provided leadership among colleagues in developing institutional structures and processes, and in pursuing activities that help create an environment in which teaching excellence is both fostered and appreciated.



Dr. Geraldine Thomas

The award has been named in honor of **Dr. Geraldine Thomas**, Department of Modern Languages and Classics. Dr. Thomas is a founding member of the Quality of Teaching Committee. She was an active member of the Committee for twenty years, serving as its first Chair from 1984 until 1987. She was instrumental in supporting the Office of Instructional Development when it was established by **Dr. Colin Dodds**, then Vice-President (Academic and Research) in 1998, and current President of Saint Mary's. Dr. Thomas served for twelve years (1987-1999) as Saint Mary's representative to the Association of Atlantic Universities (AAU) Coordinating Committee on Faculty Development and was recognized for her service to the Committee in 2000 when she received the *AAU Distinguished Service Award*. Over the years, she has also been recognized for her teaching and educational leadership with a *SMUSA* award in 1991, the *AAU Instructional Leadership* award in 1993, and a national *3M Teaching Award* also in 1993.

Dr. Thomas will retire from Saint Mary's at the end of the 2006/07 academic year. The naming of this award recognizes and honors her more than twenty-year commitment to teaching, learning and educational leadership at Saint Mary's University, in the Atlantic Region, and at a national level.

The proposal to establish and name the award was approved by the University Senate at its meeting on Friday, December 15, 2006. The award will consist of a plaque to be presented to the winner at Spring Convocation, a monetary award, and a framed plaque to be displayed on the **President's Wall of Academic Excellence**.

The Quality of Teaching Committee is also pleased to announce that the Saint Mary's University Faculty Union (SMUFU) will serve as the financial sponsor for this award. SMUFU has provided its support "in recognition of Professor Thomas's abiding service to the union during her years at Saint Mary's."

For information on criteria, eligibility, deadlines, and a nomination form, please visit the Office of Instructional Development website at www.smu.ca/administration/oid/dev.html.

Nova Scotia Organizations Receive Psychologically Healthy Workplace Awards



Members of the Scotiabank Atlantic Customer Contact Centre pause for a group photo following the awards ceremony.

Two Nova Scotia organizations have received APA Psychologically Healthy Workplace Awards from the Association of Psychologists in Nova Scotia and the CN Centre for Occupational Health & Safety at Saint Mary's University.

The College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia and Scotiabank's Atlantic Customer Contact Centre (Halifax) were recognized at an Awards Ceremony on February 8, 2007 at the World Trade & Convention Centre.

Dr. Arla Day, Canada Research Chair of Industrial/Organizational Psychology at Saint Mary's University, serves as Chair of the Psychologically Healthy Workplace Committee.

"In this time of high job stress and increasing demands on employees, these workplaces have made it a priority to create environments that are sensitive to the health and well-being of their employees," said Day. "It's great to see organizations 'getting things right,' and we want to reward these organizations by highlighting their best practices and, at the same time, encourage other organizations to follow suit."

The Psychologically Healthy Workplace Award was created to recognize organizations that understand the link between employee health and well-being and organizational performance. Award winners implement a variety of workplace practices in an active effort to create a positive work environment. Five Nova Scotian organizations were recognized in 2005, with one of the organizations, Secunda Marine Ltd, going on to receive a Best Practices Award at the International Psychologically Healthy Workplace Award ceremony in Washington, DC last March. Secunda was the only Canadian organization to be recognized for its work in developing a healthy workplace.

The judging process for the award was conducted by a multidisciplinary team of workplace and health experts from Saint Mary's University, Dalhousie University, and private practice. This team rated organizations through their written applications, interviews, employee surveys, and site visits. Each organization was judged on criteria including employee involvement, health and safety, employee growth and development, work-life balance, and employee recognition.

It's All About the Employees: The College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia was recognized at this year's ceremony for its focus on employees. The organization ensures that employees are involved in decision-making and are empowered and recognized for their accomplishments.

Dr. Shaun Newsome, a Halifax-based consultant, was impressed by the commitment of the College to providing a psychologically healthy workplace for its employees. "It was an easy decision to nominate them for an award; the number of staff-driven initiatives in key areas and the level of employee commitment to these initiatives was very remarkable." These views were echoed by Donna Assh, a clinical psychologist in independent practice who was impressed by the involvement and organizational pride demonstrated by the employees.

Linda Hamilton, Executive Director of the College, said she was thrilled that the College is receiving this recognition. "After three years of dedicated work by our staff, it is especially significant because we advocate for positive nursing practice environments. Now, I can confidently say that the College is 'walking the walk'... that our organization is a model for others."

Support, Advancement, & Vibrant Social Environment: When you think of a typical call centre, "calm, beautiful, & uplifting" aren't the first words to come to your mind. But that is exactly how Dalhousie clinical psychologist Dr. David Mensink described the atmosphere at Scotiabank's Atlantic Customer Contact Centre (Halifax). This Centre was recognized for its supportive atmosphere, career advancement policies, and vibrant team environment, which have resulted in high employee morale and low turnover. "Our business is all about the people" said Dave Dobrosky, Vice-President. "Our team is working to create a culture where employees are valued and feel supported in their roles."

"These accomplishments are amazing in any organization, but are especially outstanding in a competitive customer service-based industry, in which the health of workers typically is overlooked" noted Dr. Debra Gilin, professor at Saint Mary's University, and specialist in organizational conflict management.

In a recent study conducted by Saint Mary's researchers, Dr. Lori Francis and Dr. Kevin Kelloway, about 50% of Nova Scotia employees reported work-family conflict, with over 60% of them reporting high workloads, and over 70% reporting high conflict. About 10% of these employees also reported that they had been a victim of workplace violence and aggression. "These things can lead to long-term negative health outcomes. It is up to the companies who employ individuals, as well as to the employees themselves, to look for ways to reduce the amount of job stress. These two award-winning organizations should be commended for their work in promoting healthy workplaces" noted one of the study's authors, Dr. Lori Francis.

According to a 2004 poll by the American Psychological Association, two-thirds of both men and women say work has a significant impact on their stress level, and one in four has missed work because of stress.

For more information about the Psychologically Healthy Workplace Award, which is supported by the American Psychological Association, the CN Centre for Occupational Health & Safety, the Association of Psychologists in Nova Scotia, and Saint Mary's University, please contact Dr. Arla Day at Arla.Day@smu.ca.

Saint Mary's Student Wins Prestigious Frank H. Sobeys Scholarship for Excellence in Business Studies

A student in the Sobeys School of Business at Saint Mary's has won a prestigious award for his achievements in academia.



Benjamin Montgomery is the 2007 recipient of the Frank H. Sobeys Scholarship for Excellence in Business Studies.

Benjamin Montgomery is the 2007 recipient of the Frank H. Sobeys Scholarship for Excellence in Business Studies, an award valued at \$10,000. The 21 year-old is one of only six students in Atlantic Canada to receive the award.

"It's an amazing achievement, and I have never been more honoured to receive an award," said Montgomery.

"For me, winning this award reinforces the role that hard work and dedication play in achieving success in university, and it's great to have that hard work recognized with such a prestigious scholarship," he added.

Montgomery hails from Sydney, NS and will graduate later this year with a Bachelor of Commerce Degree (Double Major in Marketing and Human Resources). He stated that his time at Saint Mary's has been filled with positive experiences since he commenced his studies four years ago.

"The faculty and staff that I have dealt with have been nothing but supportive. I owe a great deal of my success to them," he said.

Following graduation, he plans to pursue a career in advertising, preferably with a firm in the Halifax area.

"Advertising is a career that I have been interested in for many years, and I hope to start it as early as June when I complete my final credits. While I plan to wait at least a few years before returning for a graduate degree, it is most definitely a consideration for the future to provide me with the increased skills needed to advance my career."

Sobeys Student Excels in Entrepreneurship

Duncan Enman could be the next Canadian Student Entrepreneur of the Year. However, for the 23-year old Sobeys School of Business student, just getting to the prestigious annual competition is a prize unto itself.



Duncan Enman

Enman, a fourth year small business and entrepreneurship major, earned first prize at the ACE (Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship) Nova Scotia Student Entrepreneur Competition in January 2007. The ACE judges were impressed by the success of canstockphoto.com, a successful business that Enman launched in June 2004. As the Nova Scotia champion, he will compete in ACE's Regional Student Entrepreneur Competition which will be held in Halifax on March 8 and 9 at the World Trade and Convention Centre (WTCC).

"I am honored to represent Nova Scotia and the Sobeys School of Business at Saint Mary's University, and am looking forward to competing against the other Atlantic winners," said the Halifax native. "I am sure there will be tough competition, so I'm taking it one step at a time."

If successful in the regional competition, Enman will compete in ACE's Canadian Student Entrepreneur of the Year Competition in Toronto this May. "It's quite exciting and a little bit scary to think about competing at the Nationals," he said. "The previous Canadian winners of this competition have had some really exciting businesses, so I am thrilled to be even heading in the same direction and present canstockphoto.com to judges and my fellow peers. Just making it to the nationals would be a great life experience."

Prior to launching canstockphoto.com, Enman worked as a sports photographer during the day and as a web developer at night. "I loved photography and had my work used by people from TSN [The Sports Network] to large yachting magazines, but really didn't make any money," he explained.

"Web development was how I paid my way through university, however it was not very exciting. As a web developer, I realized the value of stock photography as a tremendous source for developing attractive websites. But, as a photographer, I was discouraged to see talented people giving away their photos for pennies."

Recognizing an untapped market for a stock photography agency that paid photographers a fair commission, he spent several months developing his own stock photography agency for the Web.

"I had fun building it, and really did not expect anything to come of it," he said.

Today, canstockphoto.com is the largest Canadian-owned stock agency in the country and one of the top microstock agencies in the world. The site offers more than 360,000 images and boasts 21,000 active members, 4,000 photographers, and 7 employees. In 2006, canstockphoto.com received 225,000,000 hits and supported over two billion database queries.

Enman's business acumen was also evident at this year's Atlantic Enterprise Business Competition. Hang-Time – a social networking business formed by Enman and fellow Sobeys students Adam Whyte, Newar Al-Hussani, Stephan Beitzel and Benjamin Frey – earned the second prize at the competition that was held in Halifax in late January. In addition to a prize of \$8,000, the team was invited to compete in Vancouver, BC for the \$325,000 prize in February. The team was been invited to compete in the National BDC Business Plan Competition in Vancouver, BC in mid-February. Dr. Ellen Farrell, a professor of management at the Sobeys School of Business, served as team coach.

Enman offered some advice for aspiring young entrepreneurs: "Go for it and don't look back. You'll never know until you try it."

Saint Mary's Forges More Partnerships With China



Dr. J. Colin Dodds, President, Saint Mary's University (centre) at the signing ceremony that was held at the Beijing Institute of Technology (Zhuhai Campus)

Dr. J. Colin Dodds, President of Saint Mary's, recently returned from a trip to China which is bound to have long-term benefits for students and faculty alike. Dodds visited a number of higher education institutions throughout the country to establish new partnerships in the areas of science and business. The partnerships established as a result of his visit will also encourage more student exchanges and bilateral cooperation with faculty members.

The institutions included Jinan University, the University of Electronic Science and Technology of China (Zhongshan Institute), United International College (Hong Kong Baptist University), Beijing Normal University (Zhuhai Campus), and the Beijing Institute of Technology (Zhuhai Campus).

Saint Mary's relationship with China dates from the early 1980s. Since then, a growing number of mutually beneficial partnerships have been forged.

Bill Bu (M.Ed. '94) joined Dodds during his visit. While in China, the President also met with Saint Mary's alumni Joseph Wan (BComm. '75) and Yue Ma (M.Ed. '92).

Saint Mary's Team Helps Empower Tanzania



Left to right: Maureen Woodhouse, Mehjabeen Alarakhia, Leah McMillan, and Emily Taylor

A group of students who took part in a unique project in Tanzania recently had the opportunity to present their experience to the general public.

Through the Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA) *Students for Development Project*, four Saint Mary's students in the International Development Studies (IDS) program ventured to the East African country late last semester to work with *Hakikazi Catalyst* — a local Tanzanian Non Government Organization (NGO). There, the students spent two weeks helping the NGO develop a monitoring and evaluation system for its governance and advocacy work.

Participating students included Monwabisi Sobantu, Leah McMillan, Emily Taylor, and Mehjabeen Alarakhia. McMillan, Taylor and Alarakhia are enrolled in the Master of IDS program at the University, while Sobantu is nearing completion of his Bachelor of Arts Degree in IDS. Each of the students described the experience as immensely valuable.

"This field work experience was invaluable as a learning opportunity," said Taylor. "It provided the opportunity to apply many of the theories and ideas about governance and poverty reduction that I have learned about in the classroom to a real-life situation."

McMillan also lauded the benefits of the project. "Knowledge of and practical experience in project monitoring and evaluation has equipped me to contribute more effectively to the international development field," she said.

Maureen Woodhouse, Project Manager with the International Activities Office at Saint Mary's, joined the students on the trip and credited them with its great success.

"One of the most exciting aspects of this project has been the high level of student involvement right from the start," said Woodhouse. "They identified the partner NGO in Tanzania, were active in the project design and proposal writing, and carried through with a lot of hard work in Tanzania and in Canada on their return. They were all wonderful to work with."

The two-hour information session, which was held on campus in early February, attracted a number of guests. Those in attendance included Dr. J. Colin Dodds, President of Saint Mary's, Denis Leclaire, Director of International Activities, Heidi Taylor, Program Manager for International Activities, and Dr. Anthony O'Malley, a professor of IDS. The information session was sponsored by the *Canada Corps for Development Program*.

The students, along with Woodhouse, discussed the role of *Hakikazi Catalyst* as a non-profit, non-political, and non-religious organization committed to achieving social and economic justice. They also explained how the organization promotes the rights of people to fully participate in the social, technical, environmental and economic decisions that affect their lives.

The experience has had a lasting impact on all of the participants. Stated Sobantu, "I am convinced that students should have experiential learning opportunities like this project."

The Honourable Stéphane Dion visits Saint Mary's



The Honourable Stéphane Dion, leader of the Liberal Party of Canada, recently visited the Saint Mary's University Art Gallery where he outlined his three-pillar vision for the country. More than 200 members of the University community attended the event at which Dion presented a vision that integrates economic prosperity, social justice and environmental sustainability.

Pictured left to right: Chuck Bridges, Vice-President (Assoc.) External Affairs, Saint Mary's; Mike Savage, MP, Dartmouth-Cole Harbour; the Hon. Stéphane Dion, leader of the Liberal Party of Canada; Mark Eyking, MP, Sydney-Victoria; Zach Churchill, President of the Saint Mary's University Students' Association (SMUSA); and Scott Brison, MP, Kings-Hants.



Left to right: Saint Mary's students Carina Lopez, Maria Elisa Aranda, and Cristina Lopez perform a Mexican dance at the University's Ninth Annual International Night on January 27, 2007. The event, which attracted more than 400 students, faculty, staff and community members, served as the kick-off for International Week which was celebrated on campus from January 26-February 2.

2014 Halifax Commonwealth Games Committee Announces Sports Line-Up at Saint Mary's

The Halifax 2014 Bid Committee has announced the sports that it will include in its bid to host the 2014 Commonwealth Games. Almost 300 people attended the highly anticipated announcement which was made on Friday, February 16, 2007 in the McNally Theatre Auditorium at Saint Mary's.



Scott Logan, Halifax 2014 CEO, announces the sports line-up that the Halifax 2014 Bid Committee will include in its bid to host the Commonwealth Games.

One of the most important components in the overall bid, the sport program will maximize legacy and benefits for Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, and the Commonwealth.

If Canada is successful in the international competition, the Halifax 2014 sports program will include aquatics, athletics, basketball, boxing (men), badminton, cycling, gymnastics, hockey, lawn bowls, netball (women), rugby 7s (men), shooting, squash, table tennis, triathlon, weightlifting and wrestling.

"Our sport program is based on hosting a Games that reflects what's important to all 71 Commonwealth nations and territories while developing legacy programs," said Fred MacGillivray, Halifax 2014 Chair and President.

MacGillivray studied at Saint Mary's during the early 1960s.

"These programs will contribute to the development of sport throughout Nova Scotia and across the country long after the 2014 Games have been played."

MacGillivray also thanked the University community for its support for the 2014 Games.

The announcement is consistent with the formal guidelines provided by the Commonwealth Games Federation and is the result of extensive consultation and planning. In building the program, the bid committee has incorporated advice from the sports community as well as feedback from Commonwealth nations and territories.

"Halifax 2014 has chosen individual and team sports that are operationally feasible, will generate spectator interest, and provide opportunities for post-Games use and legacy in Nova Scotia," added MacGillivray.

Based on Commonwealth Games Federation guidelines, other determining factors included:

- levels of participation within the Commonwealth;
- standards of performance by Commonwealth athletes;
- gender equity
- marketing appeal; and,
- cost to the host city and participating countries.

"The release of the Halifax 2014 sport program marks a critical milestone on the road to the final vote in Sri Lanka in November," said Thomas Jones, CEO of Commonwealth Games Canada. "It also demonstrates our commitment to delivering a Games experience that will fully meet the needs and expectations of our Commonwealth partners."

"Bringing the Games to Halifax will mean more than just 10 days of spectacular sport in 2014," said Scott Logan, Halifax 2014 CEO. "It means improved infrastructure, capacity, and experience to become a world-class training centre for summer sports in Canada."

The Commonwealth Games is an international sport and cultural event held every four years in which athletes from 71 Commonwealth nations and territories compete. In December 2005, Halifax won the right to be Canada's candidate city for the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Halifax 2014's primary partners include Commonwealth Games Canada, the government of Canada, the province of Nova Scotia and Halifax Regional Municipality. The bid's corporate founding partners include Alexander Keith's and The Daily News/Transcontinental Media.

In competition with Glasgow, Scotland and Abuja, Nigeria, the Halifax 2014 Bid Committee is focused on developing and winning the bid which will be awarded by the Commonwealth Games Federation on November 9 in Sri Lanka.



Jessica Keen (front row, left) joined a number of young entrepreneurs from South Africa for the opening of the Branson School of Entrepreneurship in Johannesburg. While there, Keen met Sir Richard Charles Branson (back row, second from right), Founder and President of Virgin Airlines.

Graduate Student Makes a Difference in South Africa

A student in the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research recently returned from a trip abroad that she won't soon forget.

Jessica Keen, a Master of Arts (MA) student in the International Development Studies (IDS) program at Saint Mary's, spent the past five months working in Johannesburg, South Africa. During this time, she worked with the CIDA City Campus, the first virtually free university in Africa.

"Through various innovations, it offers a fully-accredited BBA (Bachelor of Business Administration) degree program to financially disadvantaged students from rural areas across South Africa as well as a foundation college and life skills program," she added. "Widely recognized as being a potential solution to the skills crisis within the country and in sub-Saharan Africa and as operating in the gap of an elitist higher education sector, my internship involved coordinating CIDA's activities around its future replication or expansion into rural areas in the country. In addition to workshops and meetings around increasing CIDA's capacity to scale up, I helped to create a replication plan and monitoring framework for this process."

The opportunity was made possible through a \$10,000 grant from the Canadian Corps Internship Program which is supported by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Association of Universities and Colleges in Canada (AUCC).

Keen also initiated research into the education with production model that has been adopted by countries such as Paraguay, Kenya, and India. This model of a self-sufficient school which operates without the need for government or private sector funding by running off school-owned businesses is thought to be a way to create self-sufficiency for schools in remote or rural areas. Self-sufficiency through use of sustainable energy technologies and organic bio-intensive agricultural production is another element of this model.

While in South Africa, Keen visited Fundacion Paraguaya and its Escuela Agricola, outside Asuncion, Paraguay to learn more about its agricultural school. The school currently runs at 73% self-sufficiency through twelve businesses while teaching young people to be rural entrepreneurs.

"Lessons learned from this visit have been catalogued within the CIDA Replication Unit as learning to support its future expansion," she said. "In addition, I, along with a few students, initiated the gathering of accurate graduate contact information for use in a survey of all of CIDA's — over 500 of them — BBA graduates. These young people are located all over South Africa and some are involved in social initiatives in their home communities and this survey will be useful to find out how they're faring after graduation, help evaluate the individual and social outcomes of a CIDA education, establish a CIDA Alumni Association, while also making up part of my MA thesis research."

She credits Dr. Anthony O'Malley, IDS Department, and Miyuki Arai, International Activities Office, for their support and for making the trip a reality. She is also grateful for the experience she gained through the Canada Corps Internship program, CIDA and AUCC.

"Through my experience in South Africa, I have learned that a delicate balance has to be struck between necessarily involving people in the planning stages for expansion in a way that reassures them of the sustained focus on existing programs, whilst at the same time ensuring there is no loss of energy or human resources in this process. Simply put, finding appropriate means to communicate within the organization during periods of change will help to minimize any discomfort or misunderstanding."

Following her graduation this May, she hopes to have her findings of this work published and then create a documentary which highlights the activities of CIDA's graduates working in social initiatives in their home communities across South Africa.

Keen plans to complete her MA thesis this April. To learn more about CIDA, please visit: www.cida.co.za.

He wanted to be a Rhodes Scholar.
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Dr. Helen Ralston, Professor Emerita, 1929-2006

University Community Mourns the Loss of Dr. Helen Ralston

Members of the Saint Mary's University community are mourning the loss of Dr. Helen Ralston, Professor Emerita. Dr. Ralston passed away at the Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre on December 25, 2006 following a brief illness.

Dr. Esther Enns, Dean of Arts, lauded the contribution that Ralston made to both the Faculty and the University as a whole. "As a Faculty member who taught in the Department of Sociology and served in the Women's Studies, Asian Studies, and International Development Studies programs, Dr. Ralston made a lasting contribution to scholarship and teaching in the Faculty of Arts," said Enns. "After she retired in 1994, she remained active in both the university and community as she continued to work in the struggle for gender and racial equality, peace, and social justice. Colleagues remember the enormous energy and commitment she brought to everything she did."

A native of Newcastle, New South Wales, Australia, Ralston was also a member of the Religious Order of the Sacred Heart. She entered the Society of the Sacred Heart in 1957 in Albany, NY, and made her final profession in Rome in 1965. Her early education took place in her home of Australia where she received her Diploma in Social Studies and Certificate in Medical Social Work from the University of Sydney. She continued her post-secondary education at McGill University where she earned her MSW in 1956. She subsequently attended Newton College and Boston College where she received her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees in Sociology in 1965 and 1969 respectively. Following her graduation from Boston College, she attended Carleton University where she earned her PhD in Sociology in 1973.

Sister Margaret Connolly expressed condolences on behalf of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart. "I am sure that all Helen's many friends, and I am grateful to have been one of them, were in awe of her scholarly achievements, envious of her unbounded energy, and in admiration of her fearless and fully informed pursuit of issues of social justice. Perhaps with Helen though, as with those we call prophets, we are uncomfortable keeping company with those who challenge us. Uncompromising in speaking the truth, fearless in the face of authority, indifferent to the personal cost of their actions, prophets prick the consciences of those around them. But today, without Helen, we hear touching tributes to the loyal friend, the tireless traveller, the silent sufferer and the deeply spiritual Religious woman. Thank you, Helen for the gift you were to us. May your memory give us courage to follow where you called us."

Ralston launched her teaching career in 1959 at the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Montreal. Two years later, she relocated to Halifax where she taught at the Convent of the Sacred Heart from 1962 through 1965 before returning to the United States to continue her education. In 1968, she joined the Faculty of Arts at Saint Mary's where she served as Lecturer, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Professor until her retirement in 1994 when she was granted the designation of Professor Emerita.

A widely respected researcher and writer, she was an ardent champion of social justice. She earned national and international recognition for her work in the areas of anti-sexist and anti-racist social justice, and was an active member of numerous organizations including the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (CRIA-W-NS) and the Canadian Social Development Program Committee of KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives, among others. She was regularly invited to lecture on social justice issues around the world and, in particular, on her extensive research into identity and lived experiences of South Asian immigrant women.

She also served as a faculty member of the Inter-University Graduate Program in Women's Studies (offered jointly by Saint Mary's University, Dalhousie University, and Mount Saint Vincent University), and the Metropolis Centre of Excellence in Atlantic Canada for Research on Immigration and Diversity.

Ralston is survived by her sister, Dr. Mary Ralston, and cousins Mary Henderson, Peggy Birt, Maureen Kellett, Anne Dares, and Ann and Helen McCauley, all of Australia.

Members of the University community gathered at Canadian Martyrs Church on December 29, 2006 for visitation followed by the Liturgy of the Resurrection, Father Albert Cosgrove presiding. A private burial subsequently took place at Holy Cross Cemetery in Halifax on January 26.

Saint Mary's Student Receives TRIUMF Scholarship

A Saint Mary's University student has won the coveted TRIUMF scholarship. Aaron Gallant, a student enrolled in the Bachelor of Science Program, is the only Atlantic Canadian to receive the award this year.

A native of Eastern Passage, NS, Gallant will work this summer at TRIUMF (Tri-University Meson Facility) complex, Canada's National Laboratory for Particle and Nuclear Physics, located on the campus of the University of British Columbia (UBC). The facility houses the world's largest cyclotron and supports a diverse program of world-class research in particle physics, nuclear physics and chemistry (including nuclear astrophysics), condensed matter and materials research, and life sciences.

Each year, TRIUMF awards five scholarships which provide undergraduate students from across Canada with the opportunity to conduct research at the internationally renowned facility. Gallant specializes in Astrophysics. "It is a current variation of astronomy, only instead of just being observational of stellar processes, we actually apply the laws of physics to better understand the processes that are currently ongoing in the universe, and also to understand how the universe was formed," he said.

"The appeal of the field stems from my interest in astronomy when I was a young child," said Gallant. "Currently, however, I have increasingly become interested in the field of sub-atomic physics. There are many applications of sub-atomic physics. This way, I can still keep in touch with the world of astrophysics, but can also shift to a more experimental field."

Previous Saint Mary's winners of the summer research award were Brynle Barrett (2004) and Sean McGee (2001).

Gallant is honoured to receive the prestigious award.

"The TRIUMF scholarship has greatly impacted my outlook on the future. The position at TRIUMF will give me great experience in the field in some of the theoretical background but, more importantly, in the practical methods of experimental physics."

Some of the most significant recent advances in the sciences have emanated from astrophysics. Count Saint Mary's student and TRIUMF award winner Aaron Gallant as among those who will contribute to our body of scientific knowledge in the future.



Dr. Christa Beaudoin-Lietz (left), Anthropology Department, presents Dr. Wendy Shilton, University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI) with a token of appreciation following an informative presentation titled Writing Across the Curriculum. Dr. Shilton is the coordinator of the University Writing Council at UPEI and is the 2005 winner of the Anne Marie MacKinnon Instructional Leadership Award which is presented annually by the Association of Atlantic Universities (AAU). The Saint Mary's Literacy Council invited Dr. Shilton for a fruitful discussion. Members of the Saint Mary's Literacy Council include Dr. Beaudoin-Lietz, Linguistics, Chair; Dr. Elissa Asp, English, Margaret-Anne Bennett, Office of Instructional Development; Dr. Nicole Conrad, Psychology; Dr. Valerie Creelman, Marketing; Heather Sanderson, Library; and Julie-Ann Stodolny, Director, Writing Center.

Steinberg Leads Canada to Gold in Torino

Trevor Steinburg, head coach of the Huskies Hockey Team at Saint Mary's, was all smiles as he boarded a plane to Canada from Torino, Italy on January 28, 2007. Steinburg's team captured Canada's third World University Games men's hockey title, skating for a 3-1 win over Russia in the gold-medal final of the men's ice hockey tournament on January 27 at the 23rd Winter Universiade.

The powerhouse team, which consisted of all-stars from the Atlantic University Sport conference, included players from the Saint Mary's Huskies Hockey Team.

Canada first claimed gold in 1981, represented by the University of Alberta Golden Bears, in Jaca, Spain. The title was earned again in 1991 in Sapporo, Japan while represented by the senior national team.

Steinburg was this year's head coach for Team Canada. He was also at the helm when Canada claimed silver in Zakopane, Poland in 2001 – the only other time that AUS all-stars wore the red and white uniforms.

"It's an unbelievable feeling, just unbelievable," said Stienburg in a news release issued by Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS).

"This is by far the biggest thrill of my hockey career, and I'll bet all 22 of our guys would say the same thing. Everyone is just ecstatic right now."

"I don't know if it's more a feeling of relief or immense satisfaction after coming so close in 2001," continued the Saint Mary's University bench boss, whose troops fell 4-2 to Slovakia in the Universiade final six years ago.

"Our general manager, Chris Larsen, came up with our team motto 'Red plus White equals Gold'. That's what we've had in mind since this group first got together about two months ago." Larsen (Assoc. '98) currently serves as Director of Development for the Huskies. Chad Newhook, the University's Athletic Therapist, also traveled with Team Canada.



In the News...

Chuck Bridges, Vice President (Assoc.) of External Affairs, was interviewed by the Halifax Daily News regarding the University's new marketing campaign to recruit students.

Dr. Saturnino Borrás was highlighted in The Halifax Chronicle Herald upon being named a Canada Research Chair at Saint Mary's (International Development Studies Department).

Victor Catano, Chair of the Psychology Department, was quoted in Profit Magazine regarding psychometric assessments for potential employees.

Dr. John Chamard, Management Department, was interviewed by Atlantic Business Magazine about being an entrepreneur. He was also interviewed on CBC Canada Now where he discussed the distinction between fair trade and free trade coffees.

Dr. Tony Charles, Environmental Science Department and Department of Finance, Information Systems and Management Science, spoke to CBC Radio (Nova Scotia — Mainstreet) on the topic of fisheries and the environment.

Alexandra Dobrowolsky, Political Science Department, was quoted in the Canadian Press (CP), The Halifax Chronicle Herald, The Halifax Daily News, and The Edmonton Journal on the subject of pay inequities between women and men.

Dr. Paul Dixon, Associate Vice President and Registrar, was interviewed by 95.7 FM Talk Radio regarding plagiarism at Canadian universities.

Dr. J. Colin Dodds, President of Saint Mary's, was interviewed by CTV News regarding the fact that Saint Mary's student Olivier Jarda has received a Rhodes Scholarship. An article on Dr. Dodds' recent trip to China also appeared in the Eastern Canada Chinese Newspaper (ECCN).

Dr. Judy Haiven, Management Department, was interviewed by CKDU Radio regarding tuition fees in Canada and issues relating to the poor in our society.

Dr. Andrew Harvey, Economics Department (Professor Emeritus), was quoted about the province's proposed holiday, Joseph Howe Day, in The Halifax Daily News, The Halifax Chronicle Herald, The Cape Breton Post and The St. John's Telegram.

Dr. Colin Howell, History Department, was quoted in The National Post about violence in women's sports, particularly in ice hockey.

Dr. John Irving, Mathematics and Computing Science Department, was interviewed by Global TV News (Atlantic) on the topic of Internet security issues.

Dr. Marc Lamoureux, Chemistry Department, was featured in The Coast Magazine where he provided his expertise on tap water and bottled water.

Dr. Kevin Kelloway, Management Department and Psychology Department, was quoted in The Halifax Chronicle Herald about the recent dismissal of members of the Halifax Regional School Board. He was also interviewed by The Charlottetown Guardian about human resource practices. In January, he was a guest on CBC Radio's Information Morning (NS) where he joined other experts to offer predictions on what would make the news in 2007.

Dave Lane, Astronomy and Physics Department, was a guest on Live at 5:00 (CTV-Atlantic) where he discussed the stars and outer space.

Dr. John MacKinnon, Philosophy Department, wrote an opinion piece on race and society that was published in The National Post

Dr. Padraig O Siadhail, Chair of the Irish Studies Department, provided his expertise to CTV News (Atlantic) about the mass exodus of Irish settlers to the Maritimes during the Potato Famine.

Progress Magazine recently interviewed **Dr. Martin Rutte**, Chair of the Centre for Spirituality and the Workplace, **Dr. David Sable**, Religious Studies Department, and **Charles Beaupre**, Modern Languages and Classics Department. The three will be featured in an upcoming article in Progress Magazine that highlights the Centre for Spirituality and the Workplace at Saint Mary's.

Dr. Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Sociology Department, was a guest on Breakfast Television (BT) and ASN News where she discussed how a new United Nations resolution will improve life for people with disabilities.

Dr. Stephen Schneider, Sociology and Criminology Department, was interviewed by numerous media outlets in January following the announcement of \$342,000 in funding for PALS (Positive role models and mentors; Academic tutoring; Leisure and physical activity; and Social and life skills development), a program spearheaded by Dr. Schneider. News of the funding announcement was covered by CBC Canada Now, CBC Radio (Mainstreet and Information Morning); CBC Radio News (Nova Scotia); CTV News (Atlantic and National); Global TV News (Atlantic and National); 95.7 FM Talk Radio; Metro Radio Group (Q104, 96.5 and KIXX); The Halifax Chronicle Herald; The Halifax Daily News; The Cape Breton Post; The Charlottetown Guardian; The Canadian Press (CP); and Canada Newswire. Dr. Schneider also appeared on Global TV News (Atlantic) where he discussed parole for young offenders in Canada.

Dr. Peter Secord, Chair of the Accounting Department, was quoted in The Halifax Herald about the influx of financial firms in the Caribbean and how these ties will accelerate the adoption of international accounting standards in Nova Scotia.

Dr. Harvey Silverstein, former professor in the Sobeys School of Business, was highlighted in The Halifax Chronicle Herald's 2007 Economic Forecast Publication for his involvement in the wind/hydrogen project with Prince Edward Island (PEI).

Trevor Steinburg, Head Coach of the Huskies Hockey Team, was this year's Coach for Team Canada at the 2007 Winter Universiade in January. His team won the Gold Medal after beating Russia 3-1 in the Final. Numerous media outlets covered the story including the Globe and Mail; the Ottawa Citizen; the Montreal Gazette; the Vancouver Sun; the Hamilton Spectator; the

Toronto Star; the Toronto Sun; CTV News (Atlantic and National); Global TV News (Atlantic and National); CBC Canada Now (Atlantic and National); CBC Radio (Nova Scotia and Canada); the Metro Radio Group (Q104, 96.5 and KIXX); CJCH Radio; the Sports Network (TSN); the Halifax Chronicle Herald; the Halifax Daily News; the Canadian Press (CP); and Broadcast News.

Dr. David Wicks, Dean of the Sobeys School of Business at Saint Mary's, appeared live on 95.7 FM Talk Radio in Halifax and on CTV News where he discussed Walmart's recent proposal for 24 hours-a-day, seven days-a-week store openings in the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). Dr. Wicks was also interviewed by CGA (Certified General Accountants) Magazine about the importance of strategic business planning. As well, he was interviewed by The Halifax Chronicle Herald about the cost of living in Nova Scotia.

Dr. George Young, History Department, provided his expertise on the history of a ship that sunk near Halifax to the Halifax Chronicle Herald and CBC Radio's Mainstreet (NS).

Scholarly Professional DEVELOPMENT

ENGLISH

Dr. Sean Kennedy presented a paper entitled "*Beckett, censorship and the politics of Irish fertility*" at the conference, "Beckett in the Thirties" which took place in Paris on October 20th, 2006. He also presented the paper, "*Abortion and infanticide in Beckett and Yeats*" at the Modern Language Association Convention in Philadelphia on December 29, 2006.

GEOGRAPHY

The Prize of the Academy of Romanian Scientists in the field of Geosciences, the "*Radu Botezatu Award*," was granted to **Dr. Cristian Suteanu**, Geography Department and Environmental Studies Program. The official award ceremony took place on November 30, 2006 in Bucharest.

HISTORY

Dr. Bill Sewell presented two papers this past fall. He presented "*Between Rocks and a Hard Place: Missionaries and Empires in Prewar Manchuria*," at the Japan Studies Association of Canada on October 13, 2006, in Kamloops, BC, and presented "*Manchukuo's 'New Capital' in Contemporary Perspectives*" at the Third International Conference on Chinese-Japanese Relations during the Sino-Japanese War on November 25, 2006 in Hakone, Japan.

Dr. Tim Stretton was flown to Florence for five days in December as a guest of the European University Institute. He presented a paper entitled, "*The Husband at Law: Patriarchal Norms and Self Interest in Early Modern England*" and spent the remainder of his time advising doctoral students. Earlier in the year, he presented papers on various aspects of married women's rights at the Centre for British Studies in Adelaide, Australia; at the Regional Variations of Matrimonial Law and Custom in Europe, 1150-1650 Conference at the University of Helsinki in Finland; at the Dalhousie History Department Graduate and Faculty Colloquium; and at the American Conference on British Studies in Boston.

MANAGEMENT

Dr. Albert J. Mills and **Dr. Jean Helms Mills** were recently appointed to the Editorial Board of the Journal of Individual Employment Rights. This is Albert's eighth appointment to an editorial board and Jean's sixth. Albert has also joined the Editorial Board of the Baltic Journal of Management.

Brad Long (PhD-entry 2005) had his paper (co-authored with **Dr. Cathy Driscoll**, Management Department), "*Codes of Ethics and the Pursuit of Organizational Legitimacy: Theoretical and Empirical Contributions*," accepted for publication in the Journal of Business Ethics.

PHILOSOPHY

Dr. Mark Mercer's paper, "*Metaphor and Sentence Meaning*" will appear in *Facta Philosophica* 1/2 (2006).

TESL CENTRE

Maureen Sargent presented the session, "*Public vs. Private: Myth vs. Reality*," at the 2007 Canada Language Council conference, "Quality: It's Everyone's Business" which was recently held in Victoria, BC. Sargent is Past Co-President of the CLC. She presented the session with **Robyn Inman**, International Director of Pacific Language Institute (PLI), with whom she shared the presidency.

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Geology Student Excels at Exploration

It is rare for undergraduate students to be accorded more than one award, but for Saint Mary's University student Ryan Noftall, rarity has met reality.

The fourth year Bachelor of Science Honours student is riding the crest of two awards as he nears completion of his degree.

The winner of the ConocoPhillips Glen Ruby Memorial Scholarship and recipient of the Educational Trust Fund of the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists, Noftall is achieving great success during his final semester at Saint Mary's.

The native of Fogo, NL is enthusiastic about his geological studies which revolve around stratigraphy (the study of rock layers and layered volcanic rocks), sedimentology (encompassing the study of modern sediments and the processes that deposit those sediments), and structural components of the field. His primary interest is petroleum exploration.

Noftall said that he finds great appeal in studying sedimentary rocks and being able to reconstruct the environment and climate in which they were formed.

"There are lots of opportunities for field trips not only in Nova Scotia, but around the world. And it is also not a repetitive field because one continually learns and applies new knowledge," he added.

Beyond the object of petroleum exploration, Noftall says his academic undertakings have allowed him to explore and discover his niche in geology.

"This degree has given me the opportunity to learn about the different fields within geology and has also enabled me to decide which field interested me the most. From this, I plan to work in the petroleum industry after my degree and further my education by taking a Masters in a few years."

Noftall spent a summer work term with ConocoPhillips as a student geologist. He has since accepted a full-time job with the company that is due to commence at the end of May.

One of the scholarships has brought about a petroleum field trip to Trinidad, which was funded by the Nova Scotia Department of Energy. Noftall is excited about another forthcoming venture.

"Myself and six other geology students are travelling to Greece in late April for a field school that will be guided by Dr. Georgia Pe-Piper and Dr. David Piper."

On the precipice of achieving his academic and professional goals, Noftall attributes his success to the special dynamics at Saint Mary's.

"Saint Mary's was an excellent choice for me because of the small faculty where the students and the professors are tightly knit," he said. *"The professors are not only excellent at teaching their specialities, but are very good at encouraging students to do well and also do their best to help them find jobs through the co-op program."*

He added, *"I highly encourage others to take the co-op program because you learn much more when working hands on, getting paid for it at the same time. With small classes being the norm, I have met many friends and this has improved my skills of working with others to complete goals."*



The Hon. Wilfred P. Moore, Q.C. (B. Comm'64), a member of the Senate Standing Committee on National Security and Defence, visited Canadian troops in Kandahar, Afghanistan this past December. The committee, which spent four days living with the troops, held meetings with top Canadian Force commanders among other officials. The Committee recently tabled its report in the Senate. Pictured: Moore and fellow Committee members arrived at the Kandahar Air Field with troops and equipment onboard the Hercules aircraft (in background).


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On February 21, 2007, members of the Saint Mary's University Faculty Union (SMUFU) and the Saint Mary's administration ratified a new three year contract (2006 to 2009).

Those who participated in the signing ceremony included: Back row, left to right: Kim Squires, Director of Human Resources; Dr. Terry Wagar, Management Department; Dr. Renee Hulan, English Department; Dr. Kevin Vessey, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research; Gabrielle Morrison, Vice-President, Administration; Robert Cook, Librarian; and Daphne Tucker, Institutional Analysis and Planning. Front row, left to right: Dr. Larry Haiven, Management Department and President of SMUFU, and Paul J. Dyer, Chair, Saint Mary's University Board of Governors.