MAROON & WHITE

For Alumni and Friends of Saint Mary's University

Spring 2018

TRAILBLAZERS

SMU student leaders set to take on the world as we say farewell to Sobey School of Business Dean

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

FIRST INDIGENOUS STUDENT ADVISOR

LAUNCH OF SOUTH CHINA ALUMNI NETWORK

NEW DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS AND RECREATION

SMU ALUMNI SURVEY RESULTS

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RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO:
ALUMNI OFFICE, SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY,
HALIFAX, NS B3H 3C3

SMU
HOMECOMING 2018
OCTOBER 10-14

Join us **in welcoming back the classes of 1968, 1978, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2008, and 2017**

Return to campus October 10-14 and help us celebrate multiple milestones including 50 years of SMU becoming co-ed, athletics championship anniversaries and exciting Sobey School of Business milestones!

Here are just a few of the events you can look forward to at Homecoming 2018:

- **NEW Kick-Off Breakfast**
- **One World Alumni Awards Gala**
- **Golden Grad Mass & Luncheon celebrating the class of 1968**
- **Flashback Friday Pub Night**
- **Game Day BBQ**
- **Homecoming Football Game...and more!**

The full Homecoming 2018 schedule will be available in the coming months. Make sure to visit **smu.ca/homecoming** for more details.

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY | ALUMNI

MAROON&WHITE Spring 2018

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

To the hundreds of students who graduated in May, welcome to the Saint Mary's alumni family; it's a global community of over 51,000 alumni.

As I write this, snow is still blanketing the grass in Halifax. Nevertheless, we trust the white stuff will be melted by summer. If you haven't already, please register for the 42nd Annual SMU Alumni Golf Tournament. It's taking place August 21 at Glen Arbour. Golfers will be supporting current Saint Mary's learners as the tourney enables us to award 20 bursaries to deserving students.

Homecoming 2018 is happening October 10-14, and we're looking forward to welcoming Huskies back to campus. Let's try to make it the biggest gathering yet! If you'd like help arranging a reunion with your class, program, team, or society, let the Alumni Office know. In the meantime, keep an eye out for a full schedule of Homecoming events. We'll be posting it on the Alumni website in the coming weeks.

I'd encourage anyone looking to join the Alumni Council to submit applications by August 10. It's been a very rewarding experience for me to give back to the Saint Mary's University community. Volunteering as an alumni leader on Council is just one way to stay in touch with friends, professors, and colleagues.

Lastly, I want to thank my executive (Past President, Mary-Evelyn Ternan; Vice-President, Scott McElman; and Secretary, Bafana Mashingaidze), members of our Alumni Council, and the staff in the Alumni Office for all of their hard work. It takes a team to ensure alumni stay meaningfully connected to their alma mater. ✧

Sarah Ferguson, CMA BComm'09
President, Saint Mary's University Alumni Association

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

A national leader in business education, Saint Mary's fosters creative and entrepreneurial mindsets within our learners. I'm delighted to tell you that the Province of Nova Scotia recently announced an investment of $11 million in a new campus facility called the Entrepreneurship, Discovery and Innovation (EDI) Hub. It will bring together students and professors from all of the University's Faculties, and connect learners and researchers with entrepreneurs, business leaders, and other community partners–many of whom will be members of our alumni community. In the months ahead, we will work to secure the remaining funding for this innovative project.

Our Huskies fans will be pleased to know that the Board of Governors approved the construction of a new on-campus arena. Scheduled to open in time for the 2019 season, it will not only support our athletes and coaches, it will enrich athletics and recreation opportunities for all Saint Mary's students. We look forward to welcoming alumni back to campus for our first home game on new ice. You'll be hearing more about the arena in the coming months, so stay tuned.

Finally, the 2018 federal budget included a large investment in the nation's research capacity. This funding will enable Saint Mary's professors to involve more students in research programs. As reflected in the budget, in addition to stronger support for fundamental discovery and innovation through research, the federal government is focused on ensuring women and under-represented groups face fewer barriers to research funding opportunities. This is moving us in the right direction. Now we need to work on ensuring international graduates can stay in Canada after convocation and continue contributing to our society and economy.

These significant investments add up to a big benefit for Saint Mary's students, professors, and staff. We have an exciting future ahead!

As always, thank you for your loyal engagement with Saint Mary's. ✧

Robert Summerby-Murray
President and Vice-Chancellor, Saint Mary's University

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

SOMETHING'S HAPPENING HERE

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

SAINT MARY'S WINS PROVINCIAL OPEN DATA CHALLENGE

For the second year in a row, Saint Mary's University Master of Science in Computing & Data Analytics students won the top prize at Nova Scotia's Provincial Open Data Challenge. Using provincial immigration and population data, the team developed an app that immigrants can use to connect with local contacts.

SCOTT BRISON HOLDS CAMPUS TOWN HALL

Member of Parliament Scott Brison, president of the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, visited campus the day after the 2018 federal budget was released. He hosted a town hall with students, faculty, and staff, and answered questions about the federal government's role in promoting gender equality, immigration, research, and economic success.

CANADIAN STUDENTS ATTEND SAINT MARY'S BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Andy Fillmore, Member of Parliament for Halifax, helped welcome more than 180 future business owners to the Starting Point Entrepreneurship Conference. University and high school students from across Canada met at Saint Mary's and had the opportunity to bring their business ideas to current entrepreneurs for advice.

FACULTY OF ARTS WELCOMES CHINESE STUDENTS

The Saint Mary's Faculty of Arts is the first in Canada to welcome a cohort of students from China. For the next two years, Halifax will be the home-away-from-home for 37 learners from Beijing Normal University - Zhuhai, who are completing the final two years of their undergraduate degree at Saint Mary's.

SAINT MARY'S RESEARCHER APPOINTED TO NSERC AND NSERC FUNDING

Biology professor Dr. Kevin Vessey has been appointed to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada's governing council. While working with the federal agency, Vessey will focus on the role university research has in fostering innovation in communities across the country. In addition, eight Saint Mary's researchers received $1.3 million in funding from NSERC.

HALIFAX BUSINESS AWARDS FOR SMU ALUMNI

Saint Mary's is celebrating the success of alumni who were honoured at the 2018 Halifax Business Awards. It was a proud night for Christopher Webb BA'97 and Dave O'Connor BComm'92. Webb's PAVIA Gallery Espresso Bar & Café won the Gold Award for Business of the Year, and O'Connor, president of Glow - The Event Store, received the Gold Award for Business Leader of the Year.

SAINT MARY'S PRESIDENT NAMED CHAIR-DESIGNATE OF CBIE

President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Robert Summerby-Murray has been named chair-designate of the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE) board of directors. CBIE, a global leader in international education dedicated to equity, quality, inclusiveness, and partnership, advances Canadian international education by creating and mobilizing expertise, opportunity, and leadership.

DR. LINDA CAMPBELL RECEIVES NS HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

Saint Mary's environmental scientist Dr. Linda Campbell, and fellow members of the Bill 59 Community Alliance, received a 2017 Nova Scotia Human Rights Award in recognition of their contributions to the Accessibility Act. Presented annually by the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission, Human Rights Awards acknowledge the work of Nova Scotians who advance human rights at the community level.

SAINT MARY'S CHEMIST WINS AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Dr. Jason Clyburne, professor in the departments of Chemistry and Environmental Science, is recognized as a leader in the study of green chemistry, particularly in the field of ionic liquids and nucleophilic carbenes. He was named the winner of the 2017 Professional of Distinction Award at the Discovery Centre's 15th Annual Discovery Awards for Science and Technology. Dr. Clyburne is the first recipient in this category from Saint Mary's.

STUDENTS RECOGNIZED WITH INAUGURAL FRED AND NALI GEORGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Sharing in the University's commitment to global awareness and social responsibility, Dr. Fred and Nali George set up two scholarships: The Fred and Nali George Scholarship in Entrepreneurship and The Fred and Nali George Scholarship in Geology/Business Studies. Fourth-year students Jake Arsenault (BComm'17) and Mariah Williams (BA'17) were the inaugural recipients.

SAINT MARY'S MAKES THE PODIUM AT INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

Saint Mary's students ranked third among more than 60 competing teams at the prestigious 2017 McGill International Portfolio Challenge. This Challenge is the first international competition targeting innovative portfolio design and asset management.

DR. ROWLAND MARSHALL PRIZE IN THE SCIENCE OF NEW ENERGY AWARDED

Taylor Lynk, a fourth-year bachelor of science student, was the winner of the inaugural Dr. Rowland Marshall Prize in the Science of New Energy. Her winning paper explores a way to use green materials to synthesize nanomaterials in an environmentally benign way to allow for continued growth of the nanotechnology field.

DR. KARLY KEHOE HONOURED BY ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

The Royal Society of Canada named Dr. Karly Kehoe, Saint Mary's History professor and Canada Research Chair in Atlantic Canada Communities, to its College of New Scholars, Artists, and Scientists.

SAINT MARY'S ASTRONOMER PART OF CANADIAN COLLABORATION

Canadian astronomers are developing the Gemini InfraRed Multi-Object Spectrograph (GIRMOS), which will be capable of producing images of the sky in unprecedented detail. Working with Dr. Marcin Sawicki, Canada Research Chair in Astronomy, Saint Mary's researchers and students will get a chance to participate in the construction of GIRMOS and then use it to study distant galaxies.

COMPUTING & DATA ANALYTICS GRADS PART OF AWARD-WINNING HALIFAX STARTUP

HomeEXCEPT Inc., a Halifax startup that makes a security device for seniors, was the grand prize winner of the American Association of Retired Persons Innovation Champion Awards competition. The platform allows customers to monitor loved ones at home using thermal sensors that determine real-time patterns of movement without intrusive cameras or wearables. Recent graduates Akhilesh Kotiya MSc'18, Mahnoush Mohammadi MSc'16, and Sanjeevi Vicky MSc'18 created the technical backend design components and the management of the cloud-based database and dashboard interface. ✧

TRAILBLAZERS

Meet the 2018 Grad Class Committee

STORY BY RENÉE HARTLEIB | PHOTOS BY MEGHAN TANSEY WHITTON

Every year, the *Maroon & White Magazine* features a few members of the graduating class. This year, we're shining a spotlight on four women who served on the Graduating Class Committee and were responsible for organizing the massive Maroon & White Ball and all the convocation week activities. As you'll read, these newest members of our alumni family not only helped to pull off these important graduate events, but they have each been enormously successful, all in their own unique ways, during their time at Saint Mary's.

ARIEL BOULOS-CALLIAS

Ariel Boulos-Callias was hanging out with SMU alumni long before she ever stepped foot on the campus of Saint Mary's. Her mother Joann attended the University back in the late seventies and returned to Antigua and Barbuda to become an educator and a Saint Mary's recruiter in her home country.

"When I was growing up, all the alumni gatherings were at our house," Ariel laughs. "So, even before coming to Canada, I already felt a part of the SMU community."

This familiarity made her post-secondary choice clear. Add to that the fact that Saint Mary's offered a forensics program, something Ariel had long been interested in. "Growing up on an island with only 90,000 people, we don't have a lot of resources." She adds that this is definitely the case with forensics. "When crimes happen, people from other countries have to be flown in to help us. I want to be part of making Antigua more self sufficient."

In addition to forensics and biology courses, Ariel's four years at SMU were chockfull. From serving as Public Relations Officer of the Caribbean Society, to working as an RA, to being part of SMU's dance team and competing at the Cheer Expo World Championships, the 22-year-old graduate made a point of becoming very involved in campus life.

"The opportunity to explore and have other experiences really sculpted me into the person I'm becoming." Ariel adds that the family feeling at Saint Mary's has been incredibly beneficial. "The 'open door' policy at this University is truly special. It's helped me so much to know that people like the president of the University or the head of Student Services are willing to sit and talk with me."

As she graduates this Spring with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a minor in Psychology, Ariel is beyond excited to become a SMU alumni. She also looks forward to the day when she is able to establish a scholarship for other Caribbean students like herself. "I really want to give back to students like me who need to leave our home countries for a tertiary education," she says. "I've had an amazing experience at Saint Mary's and would love to help others have this same opportunity."

HILARY MURPHY

Education is very important to Hilary Murphy. As the only member of her family to attend university, graduating this spring is a pretty big deal. And she's not stopping there. Inspired by a couple of her feminist professors, Hilary has already applied to the Saint Mary's Masters program in

Women and Gender Studies.

It's been a bit of a winding road for the 25-year-old. With a military parent and a blended family, she lived in various places from coast to coast as she was growing up. She attended high school in Lower Sackville, where she still lives, and suffered the loss of her mother in her early twenties. This contributed to a late start at university, and a double major in criminology and sociology that quickly veered into other territory.

It was a women and gender studies class with Dr. Michelle Byers that sparked her interest and caused the detour. "Dr. Byers is the one who really encouraged me through my education and pushed me to do graduate studies," says Hilary. "She really motivated me."

Her involvement with Enactus, with OPtions Nova, reinforced how much Hilary wants to be part of societal change. As the Project Manager for a mentorship program with the Nova Institute for Women in Truro, Hilary worked directly with the incarcerated women at the Truro Penitentiary, pairing them with mentors who would act as their supports upon release.

Eventually, Hilary would like to do research within the Halifax Queer community. As a queer individual, she believes that researching people of her own community is important. "There's a real lack of mental health resources here, which leads to even more mental illness." Hilary adds that she feels passionately that people who have chosen to have gender-affirming surgery should have access to that medical treatment here in Nova Scotia, rather than having to travel to Montreal.

"I've had an amazing experience at Saint Mary's and would love to help others have this same opportunity."

"There's still a lot of discrimination and lack of understanding about people who are transgender or non-binary. It's a demographic that's very much stepped over and not really paid attention to and I'd love to contribute research in this area."

As someone who doesn't enjoy the limelight, Hilary looks forward to meeting one-on-one with undergraduate students when she becomes an alumna. "My journey so far has been an eventful one, and I'm hopeful that my story might motivate someone to push out of their comfort zone and try new things. You never know where it will lead you."

JANE RAEBURN

Jane Raeburn began working when she was 12 years old. Throughout her teens, she spent her summers in Chester, Nova Scotia gardening and nannying and was always able to make more than minimum wage.

"I've always been ambitious about working," says the 25-year-old graduate. This combination of ambition and interest led her to start a college degree as an efficient means to "just start working." However, while at college, she realized she needed more of a challenge and applied to do a Bachelor of Science at Saint Mary's.

It was during her second year that Jane chose to become involved in more than just academics, knowing that a feeling of engagement would be essential to her university experience.

She became a Pack Leader, responsible for organizing events for new students during Welcome Week. This experience really grew her confidence and her network. "Being involved with the Pack Leaders was life-changing. I instantly gained 50-60 new friends, and that's when doors really started opening."

In addition to being a Pack Leader, Jane gave her time to multiple organizations on campus, including the Healthy Minds Team, Enactus, and Here for Peers. She has also served as Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors, and was a member of the Board of Governors and the Advancement Committee.

These involvements have enabled Jane to realize the value of being brave and having courage. She believes that a little bit of bravery can go a long way. "You can never regret a situation if you acted with courage," she says, adding that this is a philosophy she now lives by.

Putting this life motto into action has allowed her to have opportunities that she believes she wouldn't have had otherwise. Last summer, she was employed in communications and business development at the Halifax Port Authority. "I learned so much about the business world, had an amazing experience, and feel very grateful." She also gained a valuable mentor, in addition to other connections with port cities around the world.

After graduation, Jane plans to continue shaking up her life by relocating to Germany to learn the language and acquire further business experience. "I feel like having a broad perspective is essential in the business world, and I'd also like to grow more as a person," she says. "I always intend to keep on learning, working hard, and rolling with the opportunities that life presents me.

SARAH CAMERON

"Get involved as soon as you can, even if you're scared." That's Sarah Cameron's advice to other young people entering university. She knows what she's talking about.

During her five years at Saint Mary's, the 23-year-old worked her way up through the Commerce Society from general member to President. But her involvement wasn't limited to the Sobey School of Business. She also joined numerous clubs and societies, and despite a massive academic workload, became part of the SMUSA Street Team, worked in the SMU Human Resources department, and was the President of the Grad Class Committee this year.

The short story? She's one of those faces you instantly recognize on campus.

This has come as a bit of a surprise, even to her. Growing up in Sydney, Cape Breton, Sarah was reserved and quiet, and especially apprehensive about public speaking. "It was definitely not something I looked forward to," she laughs. But through her many volunteer roles, Sarah has discovered that speaking in front of people is not as nerve wracking as it once was. In fact, last year, she was a member of the Enactus presentation teams that scored first place at the regional competition.

"There are a lot of things we think we can't do, but that's only because we've never done them. Actually facing our fears and doing something about them is so rewarding and empowering."

Graduating with a major in global business management, a minor in French and a certificate in Human Resources, Sarah hopes to find work in a federal government agency. She was inspired by a work term within the Human Resources division at the Department of Oceans and Fisheries last summer and got her feet wet in the areas of job evaluations, creating job descriptions, and finding the right people to fit specific jobs. It helped her realize that her biggest passion is people and helping others succeed.

"Having these kinds of real life experiences is what makes the Sobey School of Business program, and the resources offered, so unique," says Sarah. "I feel prepared for the world of work." She'd love for her first job—post-university—to be in Halifax, so she could continue enjoying the small-town vibe of our capital city.

She'd also like to stay connected to Saint Mary's in a very close and tangible way. "I've gained so much from my time here and have really made it my home," she says. "Going out into the world now, I look forward to telling whoever I meet, wherever I go about the close-knit, family feeling that is Saint Mary's." ✧

FAREWELL DEAN BRADSHAW

After a successful and eventful six years, Dr. Patricia Bradshaw is stepping down as the Dean of the Sobey School of Business. She is proud of the School's accomplishments during her tenure and feels confident that she is passing on the baton to the next Dean at the right time.

"The School is poised to continue doing work that contributes to prosperity both in Nova Scotia and around the world." Abroad—in China, specifically—is where one of the school's most gratifying successes is taking place. This spring, the first cohort of almost 80 students will graduate from the Sobey School of Business Bachelor of Commerce program in Zhuhai. For the last two years, faculty have flown to China to teach students in a unique double degree program (see next article).

Dr. Bradshaw became Dean in 2012, a pivotal time in Nova Scotia's history. "Ray Ivany's One Nova Scotia report had just been released and we pulled together and worked hard to contribute to his call for collective impact." They've done a good job: a recent study concludes that the Sobey School contributes $329 million dollars annually to the economy of Nova Scotia. "We're really making a difference – whether that's graduating domestic and international students who stay in the region, or assisting students who do start-ups, or developing more of an understanding of the importance of international trade."

After her one-year administrative leave, where she looks forward to some research and consulting, in addition to golf and travelling with her husband John Howson, Dr. Bradshaw hopes to rejoin the ranks of faculty. In the meantime, however, she will miss many of the people at Saint Mary's.

"This University is full of incredible, generous, big-hearted people. I'm going to miss the community. Especially our humble, hardworking, dedicated students. I'll miss their smiles and their hugs." ✧

DUAL BUSINESS DEGREE GIVES STUDENTS AN EDGE

BY RENÉE HARTLEIB

Celebrating the Launch of the South China Network Alumni Network – with special guests including, Halifax Mayor, Mike Savage; Saint Mary's University Board Chair, Karen Oldfield; Canadian Consul General in Guangzhou, Rachael Bedlington; BNUZ VP, Dr. Ailan Fu; and Saint Mary's University President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Robert Summerby-Murray

Seventy-eight students living in Zhuhai, China, who have never been to Halifax, are poised to join the ranks of Saint Mary's alumni. How is that possible, you ask? Well, thanks to a special partnership between Beijing Normal University at Zhuhai (BNUZ) and Saint Mary's, these students will graduate with a rare and prestigious double business degree from both universities.

This unique Saint Mary's Bachelor of Commerce program, with a major in Finance, at BNUZ was birthed in 2012, the first year that Dr. Patricia Bradshaw was Dean. She supported the proposal that Saint Mary's expand their existing 2+2 program, which saw BNUZ students complete the final two years of their business degree at the Sobey School of Business in Halifax.

Rather than Chinese students coming to Canada, Saint Mary's would travel to the students. "We created the program to build our brand as an international school and make our program more accessible to a greater number of Chinese students," says Dean Bradshaw.

Each year, up to twenty faculty travel to China to teach Business and Arts courses to BNUZ students, all in English. Faculty live in apartments on campus in Zhuhai for 5-6 weeks.

Miguel Morales is one of these instructors and the current Academic Program Liason. He's been back to China five times and sees it as a great opportunity to challenge himself, both academically and personally. "A lot is said about differences in teaching and learning methods between east and west," says the Marketing professor. "It's true, and 'living' it forces you to explore new ways to reach the students."

On the personal side, living and

Students gather together and study at BNUZ campus in China.

The picturesque mountains of Zhuhai.

working in another culture with his SMU colleagues has deepened these relationships. "Teaching in another country together forces us to get to know 'the person' behind the faculty colleague label. It's very rewarding."

Some of the travelling faculty even bring their spouses and children with them. Zhuhai is a beautiful port city in the south of China, with palm trees, sub-tropical weather, fresh seafood, and abundant fruit. Plus, it's only a 70-minute ferry ride to the most visited city in the world—the lively, cosmopolitan Hong Kong.

There is no doubt in Dean Bradshaw's eyes that this dual degree program is offering an exceptional education. But recently some powerful evidence came to light. On an international standardized test, BNUZ students scored in the 99th percentile in finance. "They came out at the very top in the world for finance," says the Dean. "The program is helping them get into graduate school, and we expect the same positive results when it comes to their careers."

Students are transported around the BNUZ campus.

Haoyue Luo, graduate of Saint Mary's Bachelor of Commerce program at Beijing Normal University in Zhuhai, China

Haoyue Luo, a fourth year BNUZ Bachelor of Commerce student, is already reaping these benefits. Originally drawn to the program's design, its practical approach, and its intensity, she's already scored three prestigious internships during her four years of studies.

In Luo's opinion, there is great value in learning from Canadian instructors. Not only do students gain knowledge about a different culture, but there's also a vastly different teaching style at work. "The Saint Mary's teachers greatly value participation and interaction," says Luo. "We learn by group discussions, showcases, presentations, projects, and debates. This is very different from how Chinese teachers deliver their classes."

The 21-year-old adds that she can literally feel the Saint Mary's professors' passion for their subjects. "The formulas, equations, and theories are very fascinating and beautiful in their eyes. I think my time with SMU instructors and their love of Finance has infected me and definitely confirmed my interest in Finance."

The final plus for Chinese students is their enhanced fluency with the English language. "My classmates and I have improved a lot in reading and presentation skills," says Luo. "We can now handle the English textbooks and assignments easily and are much more fluent and confident." With many of these students choosing to go abroad after graduation to achieve a Masters degree, this is a major advantage.

Almost four hundred students are currently studying in this unique program, with Haoyue Luo and her fellow students becoming the first graduates this Spring. According to Saint Mary's President Robert Summerby-Murray, this is a partnership that involves the dynamic exchange of students, scholars, and ideas. "As these students graduate in Zhuhai, they join a growing group of Saint Mary's and BNUZ alumni in China."

In a ceremony last June, Summerby-Murray launched the South China Alumni Network. "This network, in partnership with BNUZ, provides a new opportunity for the engagement of our valued alumni in South China and helps us celebrate their accomplishments. This is a further demonstration of the global reach of Saint Mary's and our commitment to intercultural learning." ✧

AN OPEN DOOR FOR INDIGENOUS STUDENTS

BY LEZLIE LOWE

Raymond Sewell has a brimming schedule in his role as the university's first full-time Indigenous Student Advisor, but you can be sure that he's always got the door wide open for anyone who needs him. From his office at the Saint Mary's Burke Building, he gestures to the swell of students passing by. "They come in and tell me about their day and get the support they need," says the 34-year-old from Pabineau First Nation, a Mi'kmaq community outside Bathurst, New Brunswick.

Sewell MA'14 took on the job in September 2017. The position was created in response to the federal Truth and Reconciliation Commission report and Saint Mary's 2014 Indigenous students task force report, commissioned by then-President Colin Dodds after the murder of Saint Mary's student and Labrador Inuk woman, Loretta Saunders.

Sewell sees his role as a way to provide Indigenous students with support from someone who has struggled as an Indigenous student. "A lot of us come from small communities." Pabineau First Nation was no exception, with a population of 200. When Sewell moved to Halifax in 2003 for his undergrad, he was pretty timid. "I am not shy to meet people, but I am shy to ask for help." He had a hard time even booking appointments for the supports he needed. His wife, Nikki, was the one who had his back, all through his undergrad and his Master of Arts in Atlantic Canadian Studies from Saint Mary's.

"If you've got someone supporting you," he says, "it's a lot easier."

Raymond Sewell, Indigenous Student Advisor, in full regalia at a powwow (left) and as he appears when you drop by to visit at his Burke Building office (right).

Now he fills that same role for others—understanding where Indigenous students have come from, hearing what they need to succeed, and helping them get it. Sometimes the challenges students face are academic, such as needing direction to the writing centre; sometimes they're administrative, like accessing healthcare or applying for bursaries. Sometimes, students just need to chat about adjusting to life in K'jipuktuk (the Mi'kmaq name for Halifax that translates as "big harbour").

Elora Gehue BA'17 knows well how much Sewell adds to campus, and how much those simple chats he has with students matter. She agrees that the biggest barrier for Indigenous students is finding a sense of community.

"That door needs to be open," she says.

Gehue says starting out as an Indigenous student at Saint Mary's was "pretty tough." Though, the Mi'kmaw woman from Indian Brook believes she had an easier time than some others because she comes from a mixed family. "I don't look like an Indigenous woman."

That cultural disconnect, she says, "didn't affect me as much as it might have affected someone who had just come from the reserve."

Still, she says, being proudly and visibly Indigenous on campus should be valued and respected. "No one should have to remove part of themselves in order to fit in."

Gehue graduated a year ago with a Bachelor of Arts in International Development Studies and Sociology. She is now pursuing a Bachelor of Education degree at Mount Saint Vincent University, but she misses her alma mater. She stays in the mix by devoting time to a seat on the Saint

Mary's Alumni Council.

During her undergraduate years, the role of Indigenous Student Advisor was part-time and student-run. It was something, but Gehue says it wasn't enough. With Sewell's new full-time, permanent position, students are better served, she says, and, crucially, it shows commitment from the highest levels of Saint Mary's administration in helping address the different needs of Indigenous students.

During her tenure as president of the Saint Mary's Indigenous Students Society, Gehue was instrumental in the 2016 creation of the Indigenous Student Centre, which provided, for the first time at Saint Mary's, a meeting point for Indigenous students. It's a place to study, meet with friends, and where, for example, university librarians offer targeted support for Indigenous students.

Gehue adds that the ongoing work on the task force report recommendations is making a real difference in how Indigenous students see themselves reflected on campus. This past October, the Mi'kmaq Grand Council Flag was raised on the McNally Building flagpole in recognition of Mi'kmaq History Month. Millbrook First Nation Chief Bob Gloade was voted onto the Saint Mary's Board of Governors, and the university is verbally acknowledging the school's location within Mi'kmaq territory at campus events.

Alumni Council member and volunteer, Elora Gehue BA'17.

It's showing that the school understands that while non-Indigenous students have long been able to see themselves everywhere—in faculty and administration, in the plaques and paintings that recognize important alumni and donors, and even in how and what programs have been developed—Indigenous students do not.

Sewell says these concrete recognitions of the importance of Indigenous culture and the tangible supports for students show that Saint Mary's is serious about Indigenous students. "That's what I see—that indigenous students are being valued and welcomed. There is a lot more open dialogue."

And open doors.

After all, he says, "we are building a community." ✧

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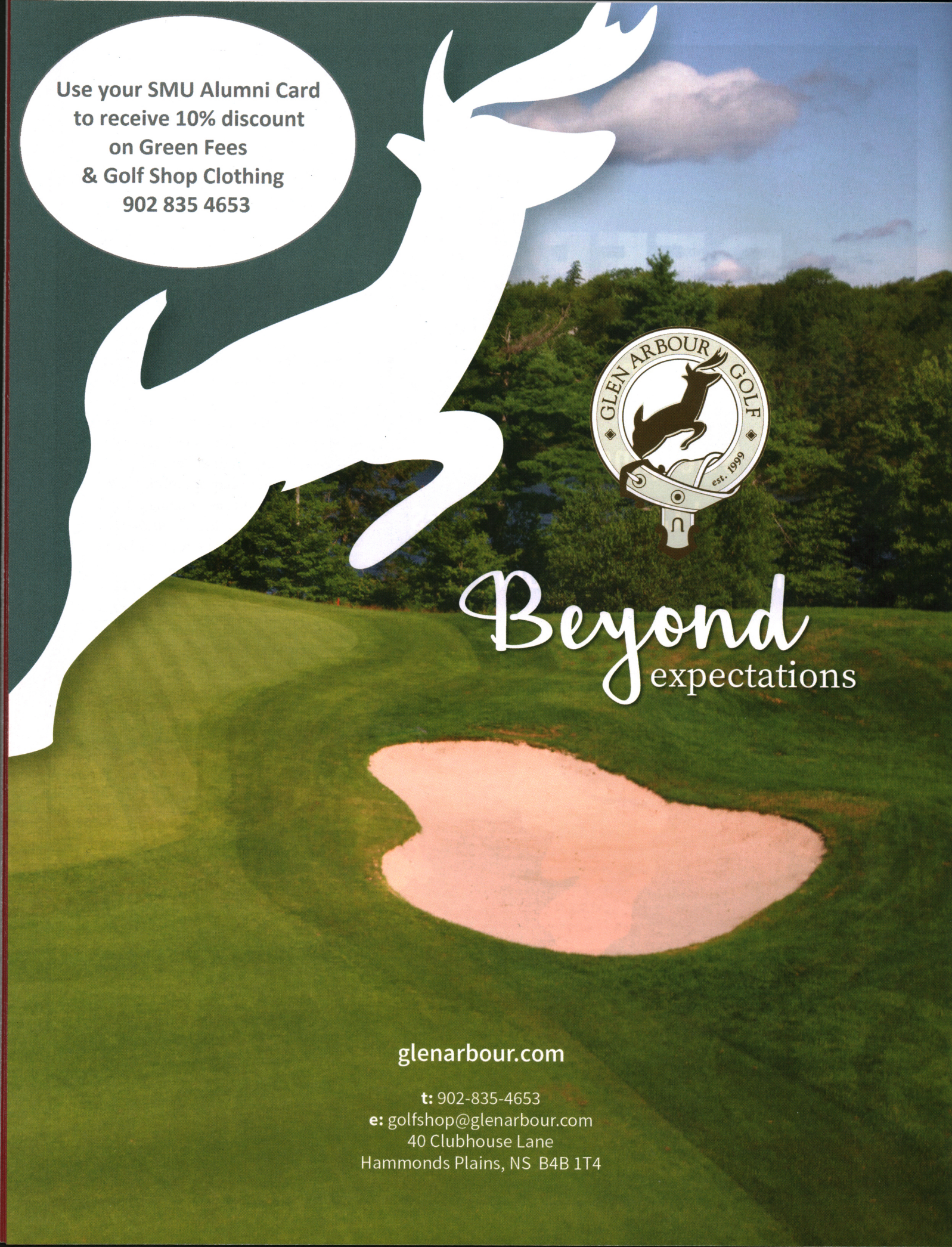
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A MEASURED AND DISCIPLINED VOICE STANDS OUT

ERIC MILLER BUILDS ON THE STRONG FOUNDATION HE EARNED AT SAINT MARY'S

BY ERIN ELAINE CASEY

"Learning has always been important to me," says Eric Miller. Both his parents went to Saint Mary's, so when a high school visit to the political science department grew into a BA in Political Science with first class honours, it wasn't exactly a surprise. "I identified with the world views of people like Dr. Ron Landes and Dr. Don Naulls," he explains, remembering two favourite professors. "I wanted to understand how the world around me was run, and I knew that Saint Mary's could deliver that."

Miller graduated from Saint Mary's in 1993. He went on to earn a Masters degree from the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University and a Diploma in International Affairs from Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

Today, Miller is president and founder of Washington, DC-based Rideau Potomac Strategy Group, which offers policy advocacy, research, strategy development, and geopolitical advisory services. Rooted in the United States and Canada, the Group offers solutions to governments and organizations seeking to expand their influence and advance their agendas in Washington, Ottawa, and beyond. Areas of expertise include cybersecurity, trade disputes, legislative and regulatory challenges, enterprise risk, and how the political situation in any given country can affect all of these things.

In other words, Miller explains complex problems for a living, and helps people understand the interconnectedness of social, political, and economic drivers. "Where I've tried to focus is the added value. Where you will ultimately make it or not is your ability to draw connections between seemingly disparate things," he says. "I thread the needle between public and private, law and regulatory, and open pathways for people who need pathways. A lot of what I do is peer advisory, for example, explaining and demystifying Donald Trump's Washington to Canadians."

One particularly fascinating hat Eric Miller wears is as a member of the advisory committee of the chief negotiating officer for NAFTA, a role he takes on pro-bono. "It's my public good project," he says. In January, he published an op-ed in the Globe and Mail called "Canada can win at trade – even if NAFTA dies." It's a pragmatic but ultimately optimistic view of Canada's future as a trading partner with the US and other countries. He believes we're in for a long negotiating process.

"We're heading for a 'break' while certain political processes take place," Miller explains, such as the presidential election in Mexico and the US renewal of its trade promotion authority. "This could be positive because it gives us more time. Eighty per cent of the work of trade negotiations happens at home: interagency processes, meeting with the business community, organizations, and stakeholders. You need time to sell what you're proposing, and time to do your homework to be effective at the table. This takes time, and it takes time for a reason. It's complicated."

Speaking of time, Eric Miller didn't just wake up one morning knowing all this stuff. Two weeks after graduating from Carleton, he took a job at the Inter American Development Bank, which gives loans to countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. "Right around the time the world economy was starting to melt down, I took a job at the Canadian Embassy in Washington to handle issues on borders and other things of that nature. Because of

the crisis, I was promptly redeployed as the point person at the Embassy on the auto bailout." Industry Canada then created a job for Miller as their representative in Washington. He was their very first representative abroad, responsible for a range of sectors and industries important to Canadians. He went on to work with the Business Council of Canada and Canadian Chamber of Commerce.

In 2016, Miller founded Rideau-Potomac Strategy Group, partly to bring all his skills and experience together for the benefit of his clients, and also to reunite with his American wife, Arica Young, and their daughter, Chloethiel Miller, in Washington.

The quest to understand how the world works continues to shape Miller's career. Cybersecurity is just one example. "It's a human problem, not a tech problem," he says. "There are four reasons to attack: money, power, ideology, and nihilism. I learned the foundations of that in political science at Saint Mary's. People will do all sorts of things for ego, for power, for position. Understanding how those factors fit together is crucial. The inputs are different, the cultures are different, the values are different, but a politician somewhere else in the world is seeking power just as much as one in Nova Scotia is. In your undergrad, you get a foundation of understanding the world around you that you will use for the rest of your life."

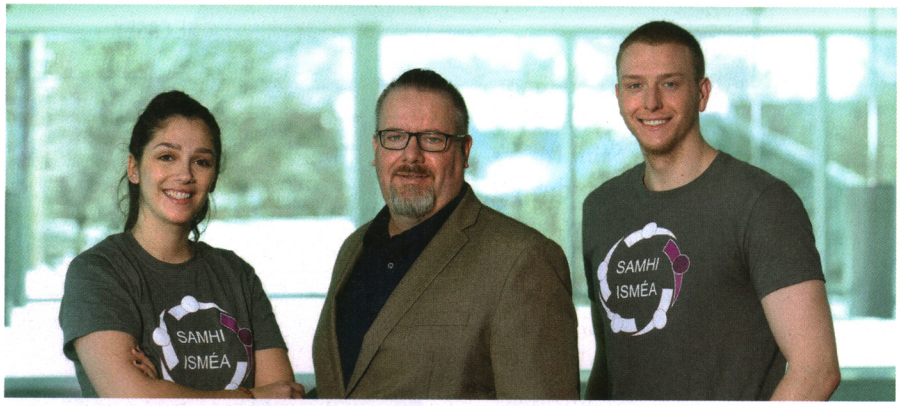
Despite the serious and complicated subject matter Eric Miller deals with every day, his optimism is striking. He has a rule for using social media: Everything he writes has to be either neutral or positive. "I would rather have something intelligent or useful or interesting to say, rather than another partisan screed," he laughs. "There's so much negativity out there. A measured and disciplined voice stands out." ✧

Learn more about Eric Miller at rideaupotomac.com.

FROM RIVAL TO ALLY

OUR NEWEST DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS AND RECREATION ONCE HELPED BEAT THE HUSKIES

BY JORDAN WHITEHOUSE



Scott Gray (centre) with Carlie Nugent and Brent Martindale, members of Saint Mary's Student Athlete Mental Health Initiative (SAMHI).

When Scott Gray became Saint Mary's newest Director of Athletics and Recreation in November, it was almost 25 years to the day that he helped beat the Huskies in the Vanier Cup as a football player with the Queen's University Golden Gaels.

"It's funny how the world works," says the 1993 Queen's Arts and Physical Education grad. "You never know where you're going to end up."

But now that he's here, he's on a mission: to make sure that as many students as possible have the opportunity to participate in sport and recreation at Saint Mary's.

It's unfortunate, he says, but in his first few months on the job, he's discovered that some students believe the sport and recreation facilities on campus are only for varsity athletes. They aren't, of course, and he wants to change that perception.

"Those facilities are for everyone," he says, "whether you are a football player, or you like to participate in some of our recreational programming, or you just like to walk the track. We're here for everyone, and I want to make sure we're communicating that message."

A key part of that communication piece will be about engaging the growing international student population, even further in sport and recreation on campus, he says. Already you see that happening with more students taking part in non-traditional Canadian sports like cricket, and with more inclusive activities like fitness classes taught in Mandarin.

More generally, it'll also be about taking every opportunity to engage with the entire student population, so that he and his team can better gauge exactly what students want. Which new sports and recreation activities do they want to play on campus? How can Athletics and Recreation improve the student experience at varsity games? What new equipment and facilities do they want see?

To get answers, Gray and his team will be taking surveys, making themselves available at campus-wide events, like open-air markets, and sitting down with student government.

That "open-door approach," as Gray likes to call it, is something he's fine-tuned over the years as a head coach and assistant coach of various sports at the recreational, collegiate, and university levels. He's also held a variety of leadership roles within both the Canadian and Ontario Collegiate Athletic Associations.

Most recently, he led the athletics department at Sault College of Applied Arts and Technology for over 10 years, where he also helped lead the initiative to build a new $13.3 million Health and Wellness Centre.

So why all this passion about sport and recreation? Because he's read the evidence and seen the positive impact that physical activity can have on one's life.

"Research shows that physical activity enhances brain activity, but more than that, it's just an important part of our overall well-being," he says. "Here at Saint Mary's, I want sport and recreation to be seen as an opportunity for students to take care of themselves, to turn their brains off for a little bit of time each day, to enjoy themselves."

As a former student athlete at Queen's, Gray also knows firsthand how sport and recreation can foster new friendships that last a lifetime. Though it's been 25 years since he helped win that Vanier Cup against the Huskies (on a broken ankle, by the way), he's still good friends with many of his teammates.

At Saint Mary's, though, his attention is squarely on the future.

"What I experienced 25 years ago at university is very different from what today's student does," says Gray. "So that's why my door is open. I want to know what students want. That's my biggest focus right now." ✧

SAINT MARY'S HOSTS PRESTIGIOUS INTERNATIONAL EVENT

Sobey School of Business students take second place in the Boston Venture Capital Investment Competition.

Six student venture capital groups from across the country recently met at Saint Mary's University for the inaugural Canadian Venture Capital Investment Competition (VCIC).

VCIC is a prestigious international event, with more than 75 universities from around the world competing annually; Saint Mary's just became the permanent host for the Canadian competition.

"It's very exciting for us to be the home of Venture Capital Investment Competition in Canada," says Dr. Ellen Farrell, CIBC Professor of Entrepreneurship and Venture Development in the Sobey School of Business.

"It's not all about starting businesses; it's about teaching an entrepreneurial mindset," explains Dr. Farrell, a coach with Venture Grade, a student-led venture capital fund that works alongside seasoned investors to finance Atlantic Canadian start-up companies.

"If students learn about venture capital at the same time they're learning about entrepreneurship, they will be better equipped to attract good investments and build successful companies."

Helping to foster innovation, VCIC connects some of the nation's top financiers with budding entrepreneurs.

"Saint Mary's University is a national leader in business education, and we look forward to the opportunities for mentorship, innovation, and the creation of global connections that this competition provides," adds Saint Mary's University President Dr. Robert Summerby-Murray.

The one-day VCIC emulated the investment process. Student teams heard presentations from actual entrepreneurs looking to polish their real-life funding pitches; taking on the role of venture capitalists, the students then invested a fictional $100 million into their favourite business idea.

As host of the Canadian VCIC, Saint Mary's couldn't compete in Halifax. Instead, with the support of corporate and private donors, they contended in Boston against teams from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Yale University, Dartmouth College, and the University of Rochester. After a tie-breaking challenge with Rochester, Saint Mary's brought home a second place finish. ✧

Generous donors Dr. Robert McCalla and Peggy Colthart McCalla

MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

BY RACHELLE BOUDREAU

A desire to introduce students to "the wonderful world of geography" spurred the creation of a generous new award that helps undergrads gain valuable hands-on experience.

The Colthart McCalla Field Studies Course Assistance Award—the first of its kind at Saint Mary's University—will be given to one or two undergraduate students in geography or environmental studies who want to participate in a field study course but lack the financial ability to do so.

The award was made possible by donors Dr. Robert and Peggy Colthart McCalla, loyal and long-standing members of the Saint Mary's community. They arrived on campus in 1975, with Dr. Bob as one of the founding members of the geography department and Peggy as the department's first cartographer/map librarian.

The pair met as geography students at the University of Western Ontario, where field studies were an important component of their learning and made a lasting impression.

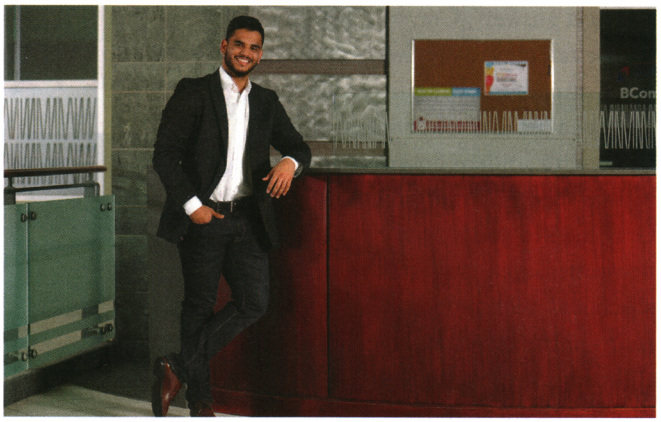
"We went on field study courses often during our undergrad," says Dr. McCalla. "And throughout both of our careers, we have seen the importance of field studies for students. We always wanted to see such courses implemented at Saint Mary's, and we're excited to see that now underway."

Dr. McCalla's interest in geography began as a child travelling North America by car with his parents, "appreciating what I saw out of the car window." And Mrs. McCalla's eyes were opened to the subject by a grade ten teacher who worked on the Oxford Atlas. "I was inspired that someone could study both the earth's landscape and the human element," she says.

With a focus on the interactions between landscape and humanity, geography lends itself well to experiential learning. The McCallas are enthusiastic supporters of helping students gain in-the-field experience.

Dr. Steven Smith, Dean of Science, says that the award will make a difference. "Dr. Bob and Peggy's gift will help offer more students the real-world experiences they want and need, to support their learning and better prepare them for when they graduate."

Mrs. McCalla says their goal is to make it easier for students to access these courses and defray the costs. "Field study courses are a bonding experience for professors and fellow students, and they add so much to their awareness and application of geography." ✧



Jorge Gonzaléz, creator of a new scholarship for international students

PAYING IT FORWARD

BY ALLISON GERRARD

Name: Jorge González
Hometown: Caracas, Venezuela
Degree: Bachelor of Commerce
Graduation: May 2017

Studying at the Sobey School of Business wasn't easy for Jorge González. While learning a new language, he completed the courses required for a double major in finance and accounting, maintained 4.25 grade point average, and worked long hours.

"I was able to graduate because of the scholarships I received at SMU specifically," says González. "Without them, I would not have been able to continue my studies, which would have forced me to go back to Venezuela."

González arrived in Canada when he was 18 years old, leaving behind his family and friends. "I came alone driven by many dreams and aspirations and, most importantly, to pursue a better life for my family." After learning English, González decided to stay in Canada to pursue post-secondary education.

"Besides knowing that the Sobey School of Business at SMU is one of the best business schools in Nova Scotia, I chose SMU because it's the perfect environment for a student to leverage their university education," says González. "The small-to-medium sized classes allow students to have a closer relationship with professors; this was a major deciding factor."

Now working for CIBC in Toronto and in close contact with Latin American clients, the young alumnus is paying it forward by establishing the Jorge González Scholarship. Each year, the fund will help an international student who achieves excellent marks and demonstrates financial need.

"I set up this scholarship so that I could help someone who may be in the same position I was two or three years ago. It's a way to give back to a place that felt more like home rather than a learning institution."

As a recent graduate, González still has a sense of attachment to Saint Mary's. "This university and its staff allowed me to pursue my dreams. I would like to join the group of people that can allow others to fulfill their dreams." ✧

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GENERATIONS OF IRISH PRIDE INSPIRES A LASTING LEGACY

BY ALLISON GERRARD

Bridget Brownlow MA'12, Conflict Resolution Advisor at SMU and her son, Darcy, a student at Saint Mary's.

A record-setting team of 28 Saint Mary's University students representing a cross-section of learners within the Faculties of Arts, Science and Commerce, are back on campus after facilitating peace education workshops in the North of Ireland.

The student-led Conflict Resolution Program has been running at Saint Mary's for more than thirteen years. Each February, members of the Saint Mary's Conflict Resolution Society, in partnership with Peaceful Schools International, travel to elementary schools in Belfast to facilitate peace education workshops.

Bridget Brownlow MA'12, the University's Conflict Resolution Advisor and part-time faculty member, coordinates the international journey in close collaboration with a committed team of students, faculty, and staff. And although the program is part of her professional portfolio, it has personal significance.

"My grandfather was from the North of Ireland, so there's a direct connection," says Bridget, who teaches Northern Ireland: Peace and Politics. "He also held an honorary doctorate from Saint Mary's and was involved in supporting the Irish Studies department in various ways over many years."

Bridget's father, Pat Brownlow (BA'68), sat on the board of the Charitable Irish Society of Halifax, which also has a close association with the University. His Irish heritage was important to him, and as a proud Saint Mary's alum, Pat left the Irish Studies program a financial gift in his will.

"My father certainly supported our work in Northern Ireland over the past thirteen years," says Bridget. "The money will contribute, in some way, to all of the initiatives the Irish Studies department engages in, including issues specific to the North of Ireland and the Conflict Resolution Program."

Bridget's son, Darcy Brownlow, is a third generation Saint Mary's student and future alum. He travelled to Belfast numerous times with Bridget and her students, long before stepping foot into his own Irish Studies classes. Now in his second year of studies, the 20-year-old says he considers it a privilege to volunteer in Northern Ireland.

"I've personally gained a great deal from these experiences, but most importantly, I feel I've been able to positively contribute through the facilitation of peace education workshops to children in Belfast and Halifax."

Travelling to a post-conflict society and participating in peace education programming helps shape students' worldview. As a direct result of the Conflict Resolution Program, Saint Mary's students in all three faculties can now obtain a minor in peace and conflict studies.

"This is a particularly noteworthy outcome as it clearly and definitively connects the University's support for experiential and service-learning," says Bridget. "My father's contribution will help enhance the Irish Studies program well into the future; the peace and conflict minor is just one example of how learning opportunities will continue to evolve." ✧

Alumni Golf Tournament

SMU ALUMNI DSRA ARCHITECTURE

Peter Connell of DSRA Architecture presents bursaries to students at the 2017 Tournament.

Congratulations to 2017 Tournament Champions, Modern Media!

Tuesday, August 21st, 2018

Glen Arbour Golf Course

40 Club House Lane, Hammonds Plains

Registration 8am, Tee-Off 9am

Alumni and friends are invited to the 42nd Annual SMU Alumni Golf Tournament presented by DSRA Architecture. This year's tournament is moving to Glen Arbour Golf Course new location, same great cause!

Register a team at
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Teams of four include power carts, lunch and dinner reception.

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SMU ALUMNI AMONG MOST ENGAGED IN CANADA

We recently conducted a survey through Engagement Analysis Inc. (EAi), a Canadian company that has done alumni engagement and survey work at most higher education institutions across the country and internationally. We wanted to better understand your interests, how we might provide better programs and services, and get a sense of how our alumni engagement compares with other schools in Canada.

We received a 13% response rate, which is well above the average rate of return.

The result that stood out the most for us, which we want to shout from the rooftops, is that we ranked second in alumni engagement among all other schools in the country, second only to one other Atlantic university, of which we will not speak (HINT: they have a cool ring).

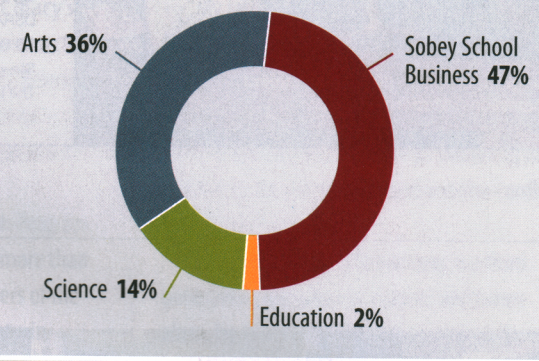
The engagement score measured such indicators as personal and academic experience, involvement as volunteers and attending alumni events, awareness of the school today and supporting the university, sharing information with potential students, and having pride in SMU.

Thank you to all who provided input! We received a 13% response rate, which is well above the average rate of return. Having a supportive alumni network is key to SMU's ongoing success; you're our greatest ambassadors.

Some highlights from our survey responses follow.

RESPONDENTS: 2,176

FACULTY



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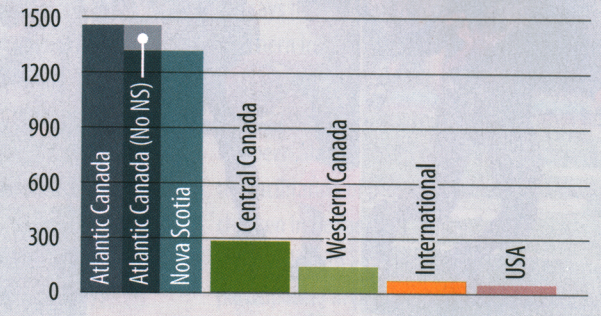

YOUR ALUMNI BENEFITS

SMU alumni receive a number of benefits, including savings on home and auto insurance through TD Insurance. Of the survey respondents who use the TD Insurance service, **74%** were **"very happy"** with it.

Alumni also get discounts on health and dental insurance through Manulife, and discounts on campus services, including SMUfit, Conference Services, and the bookstore. Your free Alumni Card gives you deals on hotel rentals, clothing and home goods, and health and wellness services. Learn more by visiting our website.

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HOMECOMING

56% of respondents said the top reason to stay connected with SMU is to reconnect with friends and classmates. What better opportunity to reconnect than attending Homecoming or an Alumni Reception? Our events page is always up to date with events happening on campus and around the world for Alumni, and our Homecoming website has a full list of events taking place from October 10-14, 2018 at SMU.

SCHOOL SPIRIT

71% of respondents said, ***"The students at SMU had good school spirit."*** Go Huskies!

76% of respondents ***"Feel proud when I read about SMU success in the media."***

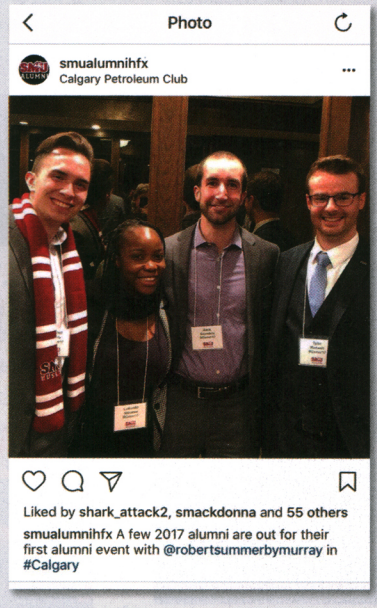
75% of respondents would ***"Recommend SMU to others if asked."***

STAYING CONNECTED TO SAINT MARY'S

23% of respondents indicated they thought if they stayed connected with SMU, they would only be asked for donations. While financial support from alumni is appreciated, it's not the only way to stay connected. Our Alumni Council and Young Alumni Committee offer a way to give back to SMU through volunteering. Committee members consult on alumni programs, plan events, and attend events in the community on behalf of SMU. We seek applications to Alumni Council annally; you can apply for the 2018-2019 term by August 10, 2018.

There are many ways for alumni to stay and feel connected. Sharing your experience and knowledge at an Alumni Panel or student mentoring event are ways to connect with current students. Assisting with our recruitment of students around the world through our Alumni Ambassador Program is extremely helpful and can be as simple as connecting with a potential student, referring a student, or as involved as attending a recruitment fair with one of our recruiters.

Attending one of our alumni receptions events around the world or supporting an Alumni-owned business with your Alumni Card are ways to benefit from your alumni network. Our Alumni Awards program recognizes achievements in both career and community service. We want to celebrate your success as a SMU alumnus, so keep us up to date on your business venture, volunteer project, research discovery, or even your SMU wedding!



SOCIAL MEDIA

25% of survey respondents follow our social media feeds. Follow our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts to learn about events, alumni news, and day-by-day happenings at Saint Mary's.

GIVING

Only 19% of respondents think their financial support will make a difference at SMU. Donor gifts have a direct impact on students. Crystal Witter received a bursary from Pomerleau at the Annual Alumni Golf Tournament and says, ***"I journeyed from Jamaica to pursue education at Saint Mary's University in pursuit of my goal to become a forensic psychologist. I have no parental support and sought financial assistance. Receiving the SMU Alumni Golf Tournament Bursary will allow me to continue on the path of success to accomplish my goal of completing my academic studies and help me to make the most of my university experience."***

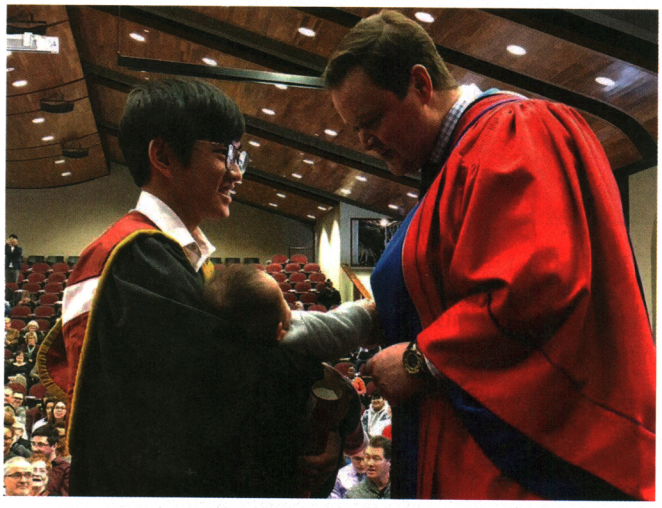
Many of you (41%) said one of the greatest impediments to staying connected with your alma mater was distance. We take pride in representing "the world in one block" through our international student recruitment efforts over the last decade, but it does make staying physically connected to our alumni a little more difficult. Thankfully, with the ease of travel and global communications, as well as social media, we are able to stay more connected than ever before.

Having said that, you will note from our survey results that many of our alumni are right in our backyard in Nova Scotia (60%). With this survey's strong endorsement of one of the highest engagement results in the country, we look forward to continuing our work with our alumni, celebrating your successes, and connecting you to your alma mater and to each other. ✧

Go Huskies!

EVENTS

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



Winter Convocation

We welcomed over 300 new graduates into our alumni family this January at our winter convocation. The ceremony included a special moment where one of our newest graduates in the Faculty of Science crossed the stage with a future alum in their arms!

Parade of Lights

Our alumni and current student volunteers braved a cold November evening to come out and spread some cheer to the citizens of Halifax during this past Holiday Parade of Lights! If you'd like to volunteer with the Alumni Office for any upcoming events, please contact: alumni@smu.ca.

Dhaka Reception

We had a wonderful evening in Dhaka over the holidays this year, with over a dozen of our Bangladeshi alumni and current students in attendance, including two Canadian students visiting Bangladesh for the first time. The event included a presentation by two alumni, Arman Mohammed BComm'12 and Salman Bin Rashid Shah Sayeem BComm'16, speaking of their successful entrepreneurial endeavours. There was even an impromptu musical performance by some of the guests! A special thank you to Alumni Assistant student worker, Mohammad Ashiq, for organizing this great event.

Alberta & Ontario Tour

In November, we hosted alumni receptions in Calgary, Edmonton, Ottawa, and Toronto. It was great to catch up with our alumni and hear about the amazing things they're up to! Above is a photo from our President's Reception in Toronto.

UPDATE YOUR INFO

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

Star Wars Screening

In a galaxy not so far away, we held our annual December film screening for our Halifax alumni. We filled an entire theatre with excited movie fans who were among the first to see the latest installment in the Star Wars universe, The Last Jedi.

Bahamas Reception

President Robert Summerby-Murray, his wife Susan, and Vice-President of Advancement Erin Sargeant Greenwood met with alumni, prospective students, and their families at the newly opened Grand Hyatt Baha Mar resort in Nassau this January. It was great to connect with our alumni and meet future SMUdents! The three are pictured here with parents of Tara McKinney BComm'01.

SMUYA Sociables

Our Halifax alumni and future alumni connected at the Gorsebrook in advance of the January convocation. Keep an eye on our social media to find out when our next SMU Young Alumni events will take place.

Boston Tree Lighting

A reception was held for our Boston alumni ahead of the 76th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting festivities. A number of alumni were in attendance to watch the lighting of the tree, a yearly gift from Nova Scotia, at the Boston Common.

Go Huskies Go!

The Alumni Office and student volunteers cheered on our Huskies and gave out SMU swag and cheer gear at various events this winter, including the Bell Let's Talk Men's Hockey game and the Bob Boucher Hockey Assistance Fund event.

Saint Lucia Reception

We held a reception for alumni in Saint Lucia this past February and loved having the chance to catch up with fellow Santamarians!

Student Appreciation Day

The Alumni Office helped to put a smile on the faces of students before Reading Week by handing out free coffee as part of the various Student Appreciation Day activities. We even had a bit of help from campus cat and celebrity, Carlton!

CLASS NOTES

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

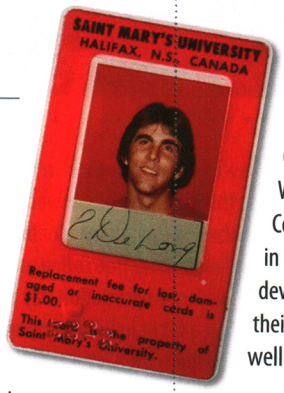
1973

Margaret Boyd BA'73 B.Ed'74, a long-time friend of Saint Mary's, has died. After raising eight children, she became a teacher at Sacred Heart School in Halifax, retiring in 1995. She was a member of the Faculty Women's Association at SMU and also sewed costumes for the Drama Society. Margaret was a cheerful, friendly, and energetic person, with a big heart. She is predeceased by husband R. Gavin Boyd, who taught in Political Science at SMU until his death in 2003. She is survived by her son Dominic Boyd BA'75.

1975

Ralph Panzullo BA'75 has recently been inducted into the Montgomery County Coaches Hall of Fame for his extensive coaching at local high schools and in senior league baseball. Ralph played on the 1973 National Championship SMU Basketball team. He has been employed with Tube Methods, Inc., in the Montgomery County area, has been married for 43 years, and has two children, and two grandchildren.

1981



Richard Delong B.Comm'81 was a die-hard Huskies fan and devoted SMU alumni. He died on February 17. His daughter, Jocelyn Delong BComm'14, reports that when she went through her father's belongings after he passed, she found dozens and dozens of SMU t-shirts, sweat pants, hoodies, and hats, plus over 5 years of Huskies season tickets. "Saint Mary's meant so much to my Dad," says Jocelyn. "He was a proud BComm grad, Huskies fan, athletic program supporter, and overall good human being. Thank you for allowing him and I to build so many memories over the years at Saint Mary's."

1990

Pam Dempster BA'90 has recently been awarded the designation of Board Certified Professional Ergonomist (CCPE) by the Association of Canadian Ergonomists/Canadian College for the Certification of Professional Ergonomists. This is the highest level of certification in Canada for those working in and specializing in the field of Ergonomics. Pam is Owner and Senior Workplace Health & Wellness Specialist at Dempster Wellness (www.dempsterwellness.com) - an Atlantic Canadian Corporate Wellness and Ergonomic Consulting firm specializing in helping organizations develop and further expand their employee health and wellness initiatives.

1993

George Gray M.Ed'93 was recently elected as President of the Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada at the 171st Annual Assembly of Oasis held at Crandall University in Moncton, New Brunswick.

2000

Cari Duggan BComm'98 MBA'00 is the first woman to be accepted in the NHL- led Certified Hockey Professional program. Cari has built a local Hockey Development Program for young athletes in Halifax along with Chris Pierce, another SMU alumnus. She has also volunteered for local minor hockey for the last five years in Halifax.

2013

Chantal Caissie BA'13 recently joined the team at Saint Mary's University as an Alumni Officer in the Alumni Department. Chantal brings six years of experience working in non-profit and community organizations in event planning, marketing, fund raising, and stakeholder relations. She has worked with the East Coast Music Association, Symphony Nova Scotia, and the Halifax Jazz Festival. Chantal is a former committee member of Fusion Halifax's Art & Culture Action Team and has previously been nominated for Volunteer of the Year at the Nova Scotia Music Awards. She is currently Chair of the Halifax Pinball League, organizing events and promoting the hobby throughout Nova Scotia.

In Memoriam

Otto Haenlein
Friend
August 08, 2017

Maria Reader
Friend
September 1, 2017

William Miles
MA'00
September 7, 2017

Daniel Briand
HS'56
September 12, 2017

Valerie Osborne
BA'81
September 12, 2017

Cathy Austin
BSc'89
September 19, 2017

Kevin Stewart
BComm'95
September 19, 2017

Loretta Bell
Secretary
September 28, 2017

Douglas Day
Alum'75
October 10, 2017

Aubrey Fielden
Alum'78
October 12, 2017

James Peel
Friend
October 16, 2017

Melody Jones
BA'89
October 19, 2017

Emmett Whelly
HS'54
October 21, 2017

Margaret Boyd
BA'73, BEd'74
October 22, 2017

Victor Parliament
Instructor
October 24, 2017

Robert Deegan
BA'54, BComm'55
October 29, 2017

Lynette Dupuis
BComm'74
November 5, 2017

Bernard Montgomery
BComm'64
November 12, 2017

David MacRitchie
MBA'97
November 12, 2017

Daniel Brownlow
BA'68
November 20, 2017

William Ferguson
DipENG'82
December 4, 2017

Frederick Norris
Alum'56
December 5, 2017

Ralph Berrigan
BComm'67
December 6, 2017

Serge Cournoye
BA'74
December 7, 2017

Peter McGuigan
MA'95
December 8, 2017

Lawrence Davies
BComm'51
December 13, 2017

Stephen Kennedy
BA'90, BEd'93
December 16, 2017

Rhea Mahar
BA'94
December 19, 2017

Maureen Grahame
Friend
December 30, 2017

Claredon Robicheau
BComm'81
January 6, 2018

Delbert Hendsbee
DipENG'84, BSc'87
January 16, 2018

Keith Anderson
DipENG'75
January 17, 2018

Mark Cleary
DipENG'48, BSc'72, DCL'15

James Bond
BA'50, BEd'70, MA'80
January 19, 2018

Sylvie Boisvert
BA'77, BEd'78, MEd'80
February 1, 2018

Rachel MacLean
BComm'98
February 4, 2018

Shirley Kuipers
BA'85
February 10, 2018

Terry Hallett
MBA'86
February 11, 2018

Bea Daauphine
Friend
February 16, 2018

Richard DeLong
BComm'81
February 17, 2018

Michael Derrick
BA'72, BEd'79
February 17, 2018

Fred Vaughan
BA'56
March 1, 2018

Larry Murphy
BSc'47
March 2, 2018

Danny Dorey
Alum'86
March 16, 2018

Kevin Graham
BA'04
March 18, 2018

Irene Tattrie Stone
Friend
March 21, 2018

Jeffrey Dickey
BA'71
March 21, 2018

Bernard Leslie
BComm'63
March 26, 2018

Kenneth Dunsworth
Alum'57
April 9, 2018

Arnold Laureijs
Alumus
April 11, 2018

Frances Jackson
BA'84
April 12, 2018

Joseph Topshee
BComm'71, BEd'72
April 13, 2018

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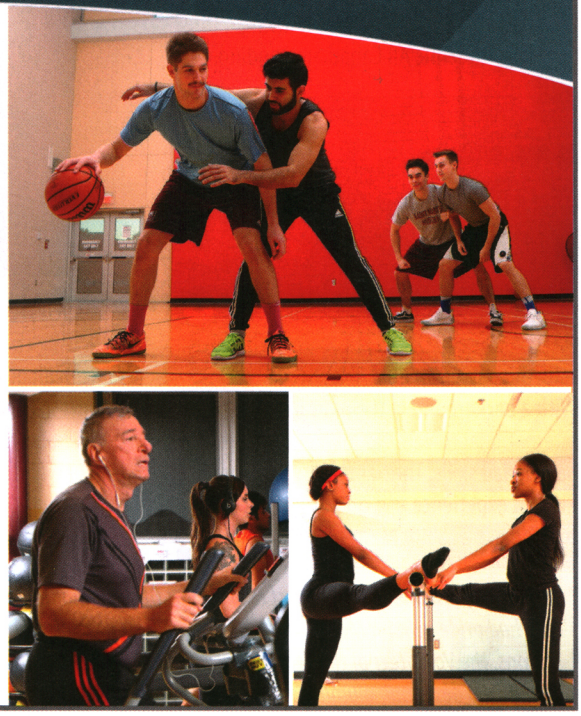

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

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TRUE SANTAMARIANS

ALUMNI ACCOLADES

The annual Alumni Awards recognize students, alumni, and staff who are making meaningful contributions in the local and global community and emphasize leadership and social responsibility.

This year, there were awards in four categories, all given out at the One World Alumni Awards Gala presented by TD Insurance, on October 12 at the Loyola Conference Hall.

YOUNG ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Harry Ezenibe BA'14

Growing up in Nigeria, Harry Ezenibe discovered basketball was his safe haven. Now, through the Harry Cares Foundation, he uses basketball as a tool for youth empowerment and community development, education, and peace. The Foundation has reached more than 500 youth, and continues to work on establishing opportunities for youth in Nigeria to attend school in Canada and other parts of the world. While at Saint Mary's, Harry became a successful student athlete, achieving a three-time CIS Academic All Canadian standing.

PAUL LYNCH VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR*

John Sime BComm'08

With a background in the military, international travel, and marketing, John Sime has myriad skills. The Saint Mary's alumni puts his vast experience and gregarious personality to good use as Saint Mary's Toronto Alumni Chapter President, organizing events and being the welcoming connection for new graduates moving to the city. John loves getting to know young alumni and helping them access opportunities in Toronto. He also volunteers his time with Venture for Canada, an organization that helps new graduates find work with startups.

DISTINGUISHED COMMUNITY SERVICE

Dr. Michael Durland BComm'87 DComm'10 & Catherine Durland BComm'87

From small-town Nova Scotia, Mike and Catherine met while studying at Saint Mary's in the 1980s. After years of career success and community service, they have created the Durland Innovation Fund to support students in the Sobey School of Business Masters of Technology Entrepreneurship and Innovation (MTEI) program. Innovative technology startup companies and promising new ventures are birthed due to Mike and Catherine's dedication to growing Nova Scotia's economy through entrepreneurship and innovation.

ASSOCIATE ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Dr. Patricia Bradshaw

As Dean of the Sobey School of Business since 2012, Pat has worked tirelessly to grow the Sobey School into an internationally renowned business school with a focus on community engagement. Pat is an inspiring leader to students, faculty, and alumni, who takes time to get to know the students of Saint Mary's, and encourages them to find leadership qualities within themselves. There are hundreds of alumni, now living in various parts of the world, who have benefitted from Pat's guidance and leadership.

ASSOCIATE ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Larry Freeman

Larry Freeman is a well-known Halifax lawyer who has dedicated much of his time and expertise to organizations in Nova Scotia. Married to Former Lieutenant Governor the Honourable Myra Freeman, he has provided countless hours of public service and has been involved with numerous causes and associations that help to improve the lives of Nova Scotians. Larry currently sits on the Saint Mary's University Board of Governors where he contributes to decision making that benefits Saint Mary's students and helps to secure the future of the institution.

ASSOCIATE ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Shirley Boudreau

Widely seen as a mother figure to many homesick first year students, Shirley prides herself on being a shoulder to lean on. This familiar face of the C-Store (formerly known as Orange County, EZ-Go, and To Go) founded her on-campus convenience store in 1984 and hasn't missed a day of work in 20 years! Shirley, a 70-year-old great-grandmother, isn't retiring any time soon. She truly loves being a part of the Saint Mary's community and deeply believes in the Santamarian qualities of community engagement and giving back. ✧

** We recently lost one of our biggest champions: Ottawa Chapter President Paul Lynch (BComm'76). Paul had pride in Saint Mary's and is one of the best examples of a true Santamarian. For these reasons, the Volunteer of the Year award is named in his honour.*

• Nominate a deserving alumnus today - deadline for this year is June 29, 2018.

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