

# The TIMES



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## Saint Mary's University – A Leader in International Education

Saint Mary's University is recognized as one of the most internationalized universities in Canada. This is the result of years of dedication to international expansion through research, projects, programs and recruitment.

In the 1970s, Saint Mary's established the International Education Centre under the leadership of Dr. Bridglal Pachai, followed by Dr. Jim Morrison which made the University a leader in the field of development education. In the 1980s, Saint Mary's became active in international development projects, working mainly in China with the China Language and Cultural Project, and with Xiamen University to help establish their MBA program. Over these years a number of Saint Mary's researchers were very active, often sponsored by the International Development Research Centre, in a variety of overseas countries. Today, professors are conducting research initiatives in such diverse places as Chile, Mexico, China, Cambodia, and the United Kingdom. Saint Mary's has developed a number of international academic programs, such as International Development Studies, Asian Studies, Global Business and Environmental Studies, and many language programs taught at the University.

*Continued on Page 2*

### MBA Games 2001



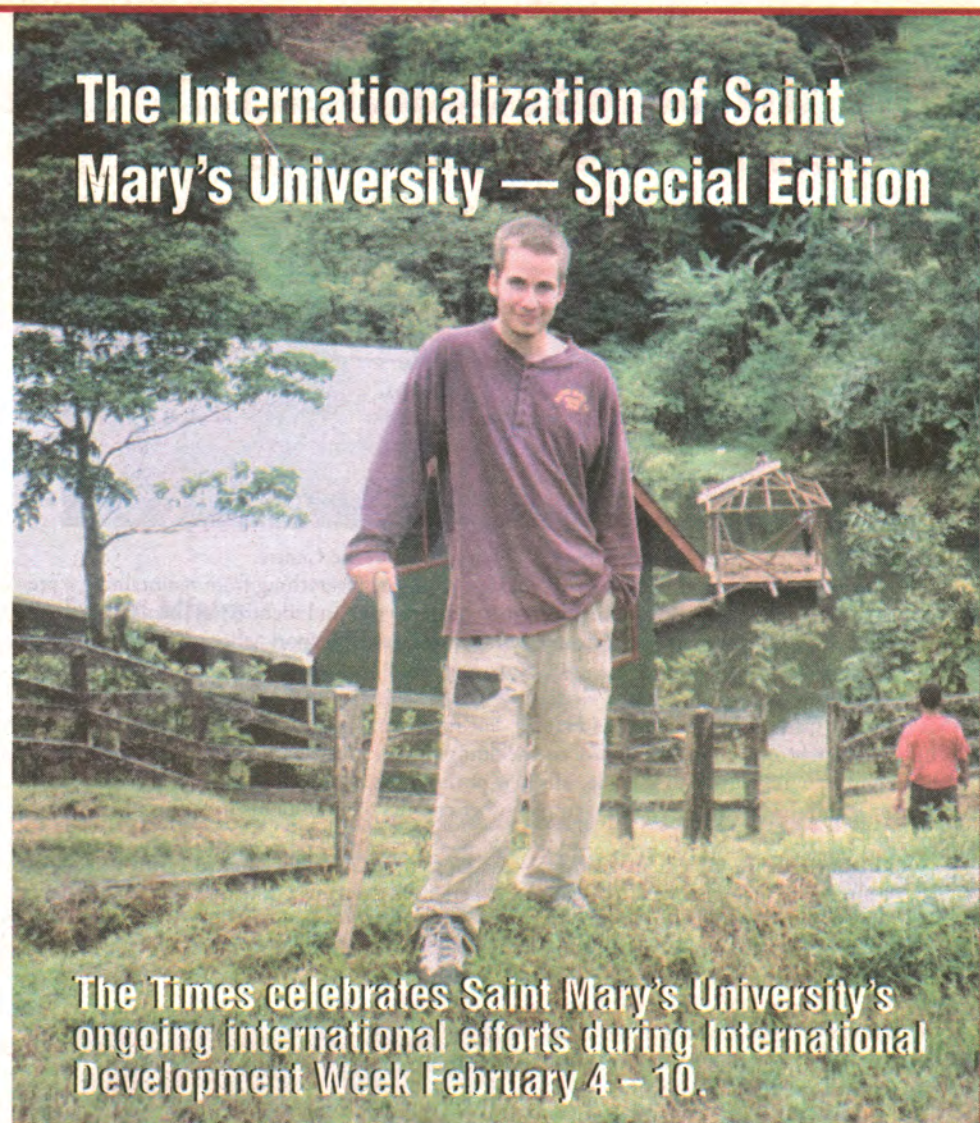
Members of the MBA Games 2001 Executive Committee: (L-R) Nicole Robinson, Jennifer Chisholm, Stacy Ridi, back row, Todd Ernst, Jason Frew, Jamie O'Reilly, and Justin Keyes. (missing: Joey Arab)

Saint Mary's hosted the MBA Games, the largest national business event for Masters of Business Administration students from January 11 – 14. The annual event brought MBA students together from across Canada to compete in

academic, athletic, and cultural activities while promoting university camaraderie.

Close to 600 MBA students from 15 universities came to Halifax for the three-days of events held at Saint Mary's University, the

Westin, the World Trade and Convention Centre, and various other downtown locations. The MBA Games was not-for-profit and organized entirely by Saint Mary's MBA Students. ♦



## The Internationalization of Saint Mary's University — Special Edition

The Times celebrates Saint Mary's University's ongoing international efforts during International Development Week February 4 – 10.

Josh McLean, a third-year Saint Mary's Environmental Science student spent two months last summer working on an ecotourism lodge in Los Olivos, Costa Rica. McLean and other Saint Mary's students will graduate with globalized experiences and perspectives gained through work and study programs around the world and participation in international research initiatives.

## OOST to Provide Students With IT Edge

*by Paul Fitzgerald*



Dr. Jim Sharpe, Director of Saint Mary's Continuing Education announcing the university's involvement with the OOST program.

Saint Mary's University is taking a leading role in training students locally to assist information technology companies throughout the region meet their software development needs.

The Division of Continuing Education will offer the highly successful Object Oriented Software Technology (OOST) Program which focuses on the skills needed to compete in the exploding e-business and object orient-

ed software development fields. Object technology is a new software programming technique now used in products and software systems including home appliances, automated bank machines,

*Continued on Page 2*

## INSIDE

See inside for a look at the different international dimensions of Saint Mary's campus life, academic programs, student internships and study experiences, faculty research and projects.



## Contents

Teaching Environmental Management in the Mangroves of Cambodia	2
Saint Mary's Receives \$750,000 for Business Development Centres in the Caucasus	3
Saint Mary's Students Make Global Contributions Through Service and Scholarship	4
Chemistry Professor's Research in Australia Will Help Battle Addictions	6
Scholarly and Professional Development, In the News	7
Around Campus	8

# The Office Next Door

*The International Centre's Ysaac Rodriguez* By Lisa Legatto

In August, Ysaac Rodriguez joined the staff of Saint Mary's International Centre as the international program officer. Rodriguez brought with him a decade of experience working with refugees and immigrants.

The three person staff and volunteers of the International Centre assist students with their integration into campus and community life. They provide information and guidance to students on all kinds of personal matters. "We try to help students to get settled in quickly so that they can tackle the academics as efficiently as possible," says Alana Robb, International Student Advisor. "We also liaise with other university departments raising awareness of international student concerns." Keith Hotchkiss, Director of Student Services says, "We have created an International Student Centre that provides a warm and caring support for international students." Some of the services and programs offered to students include special holiday dinners, orientation sessions and outings.

That's one of the areas that Rodriguez is involved with at the Centre.

As the program officer at the International Centre he does everything from maintaining a profile of the international exchange programs, providing services and identifying the needs for programming for international students to greeting them at the airport when they first arrive in Canada.

Before he came to Saint Mary's, Rodriguez was the Director of Refugee and Immigrant Services for the Catholic Archdiocese of Halifax. For four years, he guided refugees and immigrants through the rigorous immigration process including refugee claims, applying for permanent residence and bringing family to Canada. His new position has allowed him to see a new dimension of what it is like to come to Canada from another country, "the students have their own issues", he says.

Rodriguez came to Canada in 1985 from the Dominican Republic after marrying a Haligonian. "I am an immigrant myself," he says. "I experienced the frustration that people experience when they first come to Canada."

One of the highlights of Rodriguez's career working with immigrant and refugee populations was his involvement with the Kosovar refugees two years ago. As the private sponsorship agreement representative for Nova Scotia and PEI he worked closely with the immigration department from March until September selecting and training groups that were sponsoring the Kosovars. Rodriguez says, "The last ten years of working with refugees and immigrants have been eye opening about how much evil there can be in the world and how much hope people can have." ♦

Alana Robb, International Student Advisor and Ysaac Rodriguez, program officer provide specialized services, programs and guidance at the International Student Centre.



## OOST to Provide Students with IT Edge

*Continued from Page 1*

emergency response systems, high-tech manufacturing equipment and the airline industry. A growing majority of software developers around the world, an estimated 70 to 75 per cent, have adopted this new mode of programming.

The Object Oriented Software Technology (OOST) Program is a fast-track, 10-month training program that is being recognized across the country by IT managers and industry leaders as an excellent initiative to address the country's shortage of information technology professionals. "The curriculum in the OOST Program focuses on the languages, tools and methodologies that are miss-

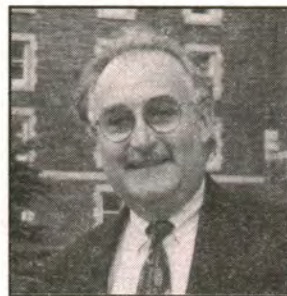
ing from other training programs", says Michael Nied, Human Resource Manager, FastLane, A Division of Quest Software.

Since its inception, over 95% of the graduates from the Object Oriented Software Technology Program received offers of full time employment in the IT industry within 30 days of completing their paid work practicum. Starting salaries for the OOST graduates typically range from \$36,000 to \$65,000 per year. "With the Atlantic region developing into one of Canada's fastest growing information technology centres, there is a need for more object oriented software developers",

says Dr. Jim Sharpe, Director of the Division of Continuing Education, Saint Mary's University.

"The region's IT community has embraced the concept of the OOST Program. A long list of IT companies have already expressed interest in hiring the first group of students eligible for a work practicum on October 1st, 2001", says Dr. J. Colin Dodds, President of Saint Mary's University.

On April 1st, Saint Mary's University will join the University of Calgary and the University of Regina in offering the OOST Program. ♦



## Saint Mary's Board of Governors

Robert Belliveau, Q.C., has been reappointed as Chair of Saint Mary's University's Board of Governors for another three-year term. Belliveau is a senior partner with McInnes, Cooper. Paul Dyer remains the Vice-Chair of the Board of Governors. Dyer is Vice-President of the Atlantic Region for Scotia Trust.

# Teaching Environmental Management in the Mangroves of Cambodia

By Lisa Legatto

*We are helping them rebuild through different forms of training.*

Political upheaval, cultural destruction and environmental degradation have left many of the ecosystems of Cambodia in need of assistance. Dr. Liette Vasseur, Coordinator of Saint Mary's Environmental Studies Program, is responding to that need through the University's efforts for capacity building and renewal in Cambodia.

Saint Mary's is in its third year of involvement with the Cambodia Tier II aquatic resource management project in partnership with the Royal University of Agriculture and School of Agriculture Prek Leap in Cambodia and the Marine Institute of Memorial University in St. John's, Newfoundland. The project focuses on environmental management and conservation issues related to aquatic resources.

Before she left for her fourth trip to Cambodia in January, Dr. Vasseur described the need for training university instructors after the genocide of the Pol Pot regime of the seventies that decimated

the Cambodian population. "We are helping them rebuild through different forms of training and workshops," she says.

Over the last two years, the focus of the project has been on environmental monitoring. The emphasis is now on how to conduct research in the field, write proposals and collect information. This will bring Dr. Vasseur and her team to the mangrove ecosystems, flooded tropical forests by the coasts. The diverse forests catch sediments and protect the land from typhoons and waves. These sites are often harvested for charcoal, firewood, medicinal plants and used as natural nurseries for fish. "They often will be overexploited," she says, "that will often be done by companies that will leave a

completely degraded mangrove and at the same time they'll (the Cambodian people) have nothing to survive with."

During this visit, Dr. Vasseur and her students from the Cambodian universities will be studying and videotaping a degraded mangrove. The video will be used by the project partners and used for teaching environmental studies students at Saint Mary's. Dr. Vasseur will be accompanied by Dr. Gene Barrett, a professor in Saint Mary's Sociology Department who will be teaching students how to do social assessments. He and the Saint Mary's team will be piloting a survey of local knowledge of mangrove use. ♦

## A Leader in International Education

*Continued from Page 1*

In 1992, the International Activities Office was established to coordinate and support the internationalization efforts that were taking place at the University. The original mandate of the office to work with faculty/staff to develop and manage international projects quickly expanded to include the organization of international group training programs and the marketing of Saint Mary's international-

ly. There have been international students at Saint Mary's for decades. The number of international students at the Saint Mary's has grown to more than 10% of the student body. Students come from over 80 countries from the Maldives and St. Lucia to Russia, China and the United States. Support services for international students have expanded with the establishment of the International Centre. In addition to the international students in the academic program, there are also usually another 120 or more international students

on campus who are studying English in the Saint Mary's TESL Centre.

Saint Mary's students and recent Saint Mary's graduates have opportunities to broaden their international understanding through on-campus interaction with international students, academic programming and participation in international internship programs. Saint Mary's students study in a wide variety of countries including International Development Studies in Cuba, The Gambia and India, language studies in China, Japan, Germany, and France, Geology in Mexico and the United States, and Environmental Science in China and Vietnam.

The last decade has seen a dramatic increase in the number of international projects. Saint Mary's involvement in The Gambia provided university-level education to hundreds of young Gambians. The University continues to assist in the establishment of the University of the Gambia. Projects in Vietnam and

China have touched on language learning, economic transition, business training, and community-based conservation management. An initiative in Cambodia is focusing on aquatic resource management, while another in Cuba is working on coastal zone management issues. In the Philippines, University faculty are partnering with non-government organizations (NGOs), judicial associations and a university to address the plight of sex trade workers. In Brazil, Saint Mary's is supporting the development of MBA programming.

The internationalization of the University will continue to be a priority for Saint Mary's. Under the leadership of Dr. J. Colin Dodds, the University continues to work hard to find opportunities internationally for Saint Mary's students, faculty and staff, and to continue to encourage international students to study in Canada. ♦

Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia

## The TIMES

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## Examining the Social Impact of Aquaculture in Chile



(left to right - back) Dr. John Phyne, St. Francis Xavier University, Dr. Lorna Read, Dalhousie University, Dr. Gene Barrett, Saint Mary's University. (foreground - left - right) Ariel Munoz, Mauricio Caniggia, ProRural, an intergovernmental rural development agency, Castro, Chile at a meeting in Chile.

Dr. Gene Barrett, a professor in Saint Mary's Sociology Department is part of a team of researchers who are examining the institutional and social structure of aquaculture, a huge and controversial multinational industry in Norway, Chile, the Faroes and Japan.

The project is being funded by the National Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) and AquaNet which is the part of the Network of Centres of Excellence for aquaculture in Canada. AquaNet supports aquaculture research initiatives. Dr. Barrett's focus in the project is the Chilean experience with salmon aquaculture. "Aquaculture is growing in leaps and bounds," says Dr. Barrett. "It is very controversial because of the genetic modifications and environmental impact." Chile, the second largest producer of farmed Atlantic salmon, has also been dealing with the unregulated influx of foreign capital.

Dr. Barrett has been working with colleagues Dr. Richard Apostle, Dalhousie University and Dr. John

Phyne, St. Francis Xavier University and postdoctoral fellow, Dr. Lorna Read. A graduate of Saint Mary's International Development Studies masters program, Dr. Read recently completed her doctoral studies at Columbia University where she was a Fulbright Fellow.

Since her arrival in Chile last fall, she has been carrying out research and setting up contacts. "This networking has been facilitated by contacts I have made here over the years. Latin American contacts are very personalized, from the base, 'grassroots,' right up to the highest professional position," said Dr. Read in an interview from Chile. "Research involves the creation of a pretty intricate network. That's where I fit in."

When Dr. Barrett and Dr. Phyne traveled to Chile at the end of November they met with some of these key contacts in government, NGOs, and industry.

They also accessed a GIS data source that included information ranging from environmentally protected areas to areas where specific

government poverty alleviation programs are being implemented. This enabled them to choose a site for the investigation of the impact of the salmon aquaculture industry on the business community in the Dalcahue-Achao municipalities. Achao is an island the size of Prince Edward Island.

The previously isolated communities in southern Chile were subsistence based until the mid 1980s. Dr. Barrett says, "We're interested in the degree to which communities have been able to reap the benefits." He says that this will involve asking questions about whether the people are more dependent on a single industry and if the communities are more vibrant as a result of aquaculture. Dr. Read explains, "The social impact has been one of the juxtaposition of modern, large industry with minimal gains for the individual, in terms of salary etc., with a traditional, family and community-oriented culture that really had no previous knowledge of this lifestyle." ♦

## Saint Mary's Receives \$750,000 for Business Development Centres in the Caucasus

By Lisa Legatto

Saint Mary's recently signed a contract with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) that will allocate \$750,000 to develop business management training in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia.

Saint Mary's will provide small and medium enterprise managers with the knowledge and skills they need to make the transition to a market economy. Since the dismantling of the Soviet Union in the early nineties, the Caucasus has struggled with economic challenges, weak infrastructure as well as social and political challenges.

"As with the rest of the Soviet Union republics that have become independent they've lost their centralized supply system," Zoran Kondali, project manager, Saint Mary's international activities says. "They're on their own right now and the economy has really been struggling."

Saint Mary's Business Development Centre will help develop practical business courses, technical guidance and training for the small business owners, chambers of commerce and universities in the regions. Partnerships have already been established between Saint Mary's and a Chamber of Commerce in Armenia with 15,000 members and the Ivane Javakishvili University of Tbilisi in Georgia.

Kondali says, "One of the goals of the project is to establish links between the business



(left - right) Wayde Crawford, Eric Crowell, Saint Mary's Business Development Centre and Zoran Kondali, project manager, international activities, will be laying the groundwork for the establishment of Saint Mary's business training project during their February visit to the Caucasus region.

community in the three countries and Canada and hopefully open that market." Besides the potential for joint venturing, a major part of the project will be to establish Business Development Centres in each region modeled after Saint Mary's centre in Halifax.

Eric Crowell, Director of Saint Mary's Business Development Centre and a Saint Mary's instructor says, "The reason they chose our model is because the business development centre very cost effectively stimulates new business by providing consulting services." He says that one of the badly needed services that the centres would provide is a skill set that would teach businesses to prepare business plans that are acceptable to various financial organizations.

Crowell would like to see the three year project provide opportunities for matching Saint Mary's MBA students

with students from the region to work on joint problems. "I see this as a platform that we can build on - innovative international projects that can promote student exchanges and hopefully lead to stronger ties with the universities in the three countries."

Kondali, Crowell and Wayde Crawford, a consultant for the BDC and instructor at Saint Mary's will travel to the Caucasus region this month to establish the groundwork for the project. For instance, they will initiate a survey of the Chamber of Commerce members in Armenia to determine what kind of training they need most and customize a program. Kondali says that this is a part of Europe that is yet to be discovered by Canadian business. "I think that Saint Mary's can put its expertise to a very good cause." ♦

## Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers



Denis Leclaire, Director of International Activities, (far right), Dr. Najma Sharif, Economics, and Simon Williams, Dept. of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (far left) met with a delegation from Bangladesh including the Acting High Commissioner to Canada and Minister of Education at the 14th Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers Symposium and Trade Fair. The symposium was held in Halifax from November 26-29, 2000. Saint Mary's participated as one of the 49 delegates. Ministers of Education and other senior officials from more than 10 Commonwealth countries visited the campus.

## TESL Centre Providing Skills and Cross Cultural Experiences for Students

Saint Mary's Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) Centre has grown from a very small program to a thriving and continually growing presence on Saint Mary's campus with its enrollment having doubled over the past two years.

It evolved from an English for academic purposes program that provided opportunities for graduate education students who required teaching English as a second language practicum experiences. It also allowed and continues to help students prepare to study in an English medium institution who might otherwise not have a chance to develop their language skills enough to enter academic programs.

The TESL programs have expanded to a number of intensive programs. They include English for personal and professional communication with a focus on general English and cross cultural communication skills. The program attracts students who are on a year abroad, professionals who need English at their jobs and seniors who want to practice their English. Another very popular program matches Canadian students with international students who are learning English for conversation. The partnership often becomes a language exchange, for instance, one hour in English and another in Japanese. Over five hundred students have participated in the conversation partner program.

Maureen Sargent Director of the TESL Program says, "We have seen as one of our goals to help the university in internationalizing the campus because it's so important for the Canadian students to be part of a global environment."

# Saint Mary's Students Make Global Contributions

"The complexities of the global economy mandate that our graduates will not only be literate and numerate but will have an extensive understanding of the cultures, customs and languages of other countries.

Over the years, Saint Mary's has worked at expanding the international focus of our curriculum, increasing opportunities for our students to study/work abroad and to increase the number of international students, from over 100 countries on

the campus so we can learn from each other. Additionally, Saint Mary's has become a part of a worldwide network of institutional linkages for research, teaching and development/technical assistants programs.

As a consequence, Saint Mary's University is playing a major role in developing an educated and informed citizenry not only in Canada, but around the world."

*Dr. J. Colin Dodds, President of Saint Mary's University*

## Lessons Learned in Costa Rica's Cloud Rainforest



Josh McLean, a fourth year Saint Mary's environmental studies and biology student, was surprised by what he saw out of his bus window as he traveled through the Tilaran mountain range in Costa Rica. He saw entire sides of mountains, parts of the cloud rainforest cut away. "It was pretty saddening," he says, "seeing the evidence of where the trees used to be."

McLean was one of four Nova Scotians chosen for the Environmental Leadership Program (ELP), a Canada World Youth program that meshes international and environmental experience. In May, he and eight maritime participants left for Costa Rica. He was matched with a

program counterpart Henry Vargas Barquero who he lived and worked with in the remote community of Los Olivos. His job was to work on a community owned ecotourist lodge sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and World Wildlife Federation (WWF).

"The whole community are dairy farmers who would normally cut down the rainforest for farms," McLean explains. "If they have this lodge they can take tourist dollars to buy part of the rain forest and save it." The work involved maintaining trails, building a gazebo and bridge and even dragging cement blocks from the pond. A few weeks after his arrival McLean suffered a leg injury that made it difficult to participate in much of the manual labour. With the help of a cane that he carved with a machete he managed to maneuver the grounds of the lodge.

"It was a huge learning experience," he says. "It's one thing to read about environmental problems but another to work with an organization that's trying to stop deforestation of the rain forest."

When McLean returned to Nova Scotia with Barquero they spent the summer working with an ELP partner, the Nova Scotia Department of the Environment's Nova Scotia Youth Conservation Corps. McLean is a Saint Mary's co-op student working on the Tier I China and Vietnam project and Tier II Cambodia project. He has also taught at local schools through the Saint Mary's Environmental Studies Student Association. ♦

## Cecilia Unite

*Xe Om! Were the first Vietnamese words that I learned when I arrived. Images of xe oms or moto taxis, bikes, motorbikes with five people on them, women selling their wares, the smell of food being cooked on the street, the architecture, the continuous sound of beeping horns... all of these things and more were my first impressions of Hanoi.*



Unite is a Saint Mary's international intern working at Vietnam National University's International Relations Department in Hanoi. The department works closely with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and welcomes many delegates and government officials. In November, former President Bill Clinton and the US delegation visited the University.

"It was a wonderful experience to work together with a woman in my office and the president of the University to write the welcoming speech to Clinton," says Unite.

She also writes proposals for student funding and taught two fourth year international studies classes. "Each day I realize how fortunate I am to be here." ♦

## Saint Mary's Grad Describes Cambodia Internship as Incredible

"It's amazing how much we can learn about ourselves and our own culture by living in another," says Curtis Dray from his six month internship in Cambodia. Curtis is one of 16 interns who are working in China, the Philippines, Slovakia, Vietnam, Brazil, the Maldives, Tobago, Zimbabwe, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Simoa. There are 10 interns who are working on international projects in Canada for Canadian companies.

Saint Mary's University with support from Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC), the Department of Foreign Affairs, International Trade (DFAIT) and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has administered 69 internships to date. The University submits proposals for the funding of positions with different organizations. Saint Mary's finds the organizations, provides supports before and during the internship and monitors the interns through correspondence and site visits.

Dray, a Saint Mary's graduate of environmental science had previous international experience with Canada World Youth's Environmental Leadership Program in Costa Rica, (see McLean story) and last year worked as a facilitator at Saint Mary's Mini-University program in The Gambia. "Being in Cambodia has been absolutely incredible," he says. "Everything about this internship has been positive."

Dray is working on the Tier II aquatic resource management project. (see "Cambodia Story" on page 2) "I've been helping writing research proposals, participating in environmental and fisheries related workshops, teaching aquatic resource management and English, helping rewrite class syllabi, assisting with statistics and labs and helping the instructors determine reasons for extensive fish kills in the institutions' fish farms."

Jennifer Gosselein, project manager, recently returned from site visits in Southeast Asia. She was impressed by Dray during her trip to Cambodia. "He's just so positive and it's not an easy place to work," she says. "He's just such a wonderful young person - everything is an adventure and an experience." ♦



# ons Through Service and Scholarship

## IDS Student Awarded Grant to Conduct Research in The Gambia



Katie Kehoe will spend the next three months working at the WARD Centre in The Gambia Through CIDA and the AUCC's Learning Through Service Program.

**K**atie Kehoe, a third-year International Development Studies student, wanted to have an experience beyond the classroom. This semester, she will complete her classes, conduct field research and contribute to a new training program in The Gambia. She will do this through The Learning Through Service Program that awarded her over \$7000.

The pilot program funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and administered through The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) is designed to offer undergraduate students field experience in developing areas that is linked to academic work. Kehoe will be completing three credits in The Gambia that will relate to community-based development and her field work. "It is an amazing opportunity," she says. "I want to bring a lot to the project."

Kehoe will be working on the West African Rural Development Centre (WARD). Saint Mary's is a sub-partner with the WARD Centre, a project being lead by Okanagan University College in Kelowna, British Columbia. It has been centred at The Gambia Technical Training Institute (GTTI), a Saint Mary's partner institution. Saint Mary's has been involved with an academic extension program with the University of The Gambia since 1994.

The centre will address rural development needs in The Gambia, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Ghana. It will be a training facility for people working for NGOs or community based organizations who want to upgrade their

training through a diploma program. The diploma that they receive will count as credit if they continue in a degree program at the University of the Gambia.

Kehoe will be conducting research for Dr. Boro Suso, a professor at the University of the Gambia. "I'll be contacting a number of NGOs and community based organizations to formulate an understanding of what they need," she says. "We'll try to develop the course according to what they are looking for."

Dr. Gerry Cameron, a professor in Saint Mary's International Development Studies Program will be facilitating training for the WARD Centre and designing curriculum for the program and the first "bridging" university year. "The role of Saint Mary's is to help design the bridging curriculum for these particular students," he says. "It increases the accessibility of university education in The Gambia."

Kehoe brings a wide variety of talents and limitless enthusiasm to her program that will run from January until April. Dr. Cameron says that she has a real curiosity about the world. "I'm interested in using theatre as a way of communicating ideas in development," Kehoe says. "When I'm there I'm going to pay attention to the arts and figure out ways that people are communicating how they want to develop."

Dr. Cameron points out that her extracurricular interests such as drama are a real strength. "She can observe the world but she can also come back and tell us about it," he says. "She will be a wonderful person to bring it back to Saint Mary's" ♦

## Tugba Camli



Tugba Camli describes coming to Saint Mary's from Istanbul, Turkey as a big adventure.

**I**t was not easy for Tugba Camli to leave her home and job in Istanbul, Turkey to continue her studies at Saint Mary's. "It was a tough decision," she says, "but I'm glad that I did it."

After graduating from Bosphorus University with a degree in tourism Camli worked in the foreign transactions department of a bank. She visited a consultancy agency and university fair in Turkey and decided that she would embark on what she describes as "a big adventure"

In September of 1999, she arrived at Saint Mary's as a transfer student. Camli quickly adjusted to her finance classes and this year achieved a 3.75 GPA. She plans to continue her studies and complete an MBA.

Camli keeps herself very busy with two on campus jobs, serious study and going out with her friends. "It's a small school so you know everyone, you make good friendships and you're close to your teachers." ♦

## Ugandan Journalist Comes to Saint Mary's as a Commonwealth Scholar



Peter Okello, Commonwealth Scholar.

**U**ntil this fall, Peter Okello was a journalist covering public affairs for Uganda's largest newspaper, *The New Vision*. Today, he is enrolled in Saint Mary's graduate International Development Studies program. He comes to the University as a recipient of the prestigious Commonwealth Scholarship.

The Commonwealth Scholarship is awarded to outstanding scholars from developing countries, Okello's is administered through Uganda's Ministry of Education and Sports and The International Council for

Canadian Studies (ICCS). With the opportunity to study abroad comes the expectation that students will return to their countries to give back to their communities. Okello has to commit to return to Uganda for the same number of years that he studies in Canada. He describes this element of the scholarship, "I can give the skills I've learned to help my people back home."

The move from journalist to researcher will not be a big stretch for Okello. "I think my skills will come in handy, because I know what to do when it comes to interviews and asking government for facts," he says.

"I know where to go to get what I want." Okello has always been concerned with issues of power, ordinary people and poverty. His interests and journalistic investigation will be reflected in his research focus.

He will be examining a case study involving a dam that is going to be built in Uganda by an American company. The dam will not only displace many people but also damage the environment. "I want to find out the level of consultation and participation of the people," he says.

Even though Okello had been outside of Uganda before he came to Canada he still had reservations. "I always was skeptical, I didn't know what to expect," he says. "There are lots of people from all kinds of places and I'm impressed by the number of people from Africa." Okello says, "It's a very friendly atmosphere to study."

When he returns to Uganda he wants to either design and help implement a development project or teach. "I have to pass on the knowledge," he says. "I think that's one of the best ways that I could pay this back... what I want is to create an impact." ♦

## Ludwig Batista



Ludwig Batista, engineer, brew master chose Saint Mary's to build on his international and professional experience.

**W**hen Ludwig Batista arrived in Halifax last June he said that he believed that he was about to have the best two years of his life. So far, Saint Mary's has lived up to his expectations.

Batista moved with his wife and infant daughter from their home in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. "I was very specialized in the technical area," he says. "I decided that I needed a general overall understanding of business so I could move up in the corporation." Batista had worked for Brahma Brewery for six years as a junior engineer. He then embarked

on his first international experience when he studied brewing in Chicago, Illinois. When he returned to Brazil he became a brew master and consultant on the fermentation and maturation process in beer production for the 25 Brazilian plants.

When Batista decided that he wanted to study business in another international setting, Saint Mary's was recommended by a former co-worker who was enrolled in the MBA program. Batista says, "The University is a great resource for me - the computer labs, study rooms and faculty. The professors are very accessible." Beyond the classroom he says that making friends and meeting people at the University has been a highlight of his experience. "There are students from all over the world. It's very good in terms of sharing information and experience." ♦

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Curtis Dray, (far right) Saint Mary's environmental studies graduate and participant in the international youth internship program with his colleagues in Cambodia. Dray is working on Saint Mary's Tier II project focussing on the fisheries in Cambodia.

# SPORTS

## Wrap-Up



## Bernard "Bun" Mulcahy Memorial Scholarship

On January 11, Saint Mary's students and athletes Natasha Noble and Justin Stienback met with Mr. Jim Pineo, Mrs. Mirtle Pineo and Dr. J. Colin Dodds. Noble and Stienbeck are the recipients of the Bernard "Bun" Mulcahy Memorial Scholarship established by Mr. Pineo in memory of one of his Saint Mary's hockey teammates.

In 1989, Pineo was inducted into the Saint Mary's Sport Hall of Fame. During his four years at Saint Mary's he set a high standard of goaltending as a member of the intercollegiate team, as well as with the Halifax Junior Canadians, and the Crescents of the Halifax City Senior League. He excelled with all three teams, and during his last three years at Saint Mary's, was the team's captain. A hockey observer in 1944 noted that: "Nobody can truthfully say that



Pineo ever had a bad game, mainly because his type of defensive play is not sloppy, but steady, dependable, and spectacular." ♦

Natasha Noble, Saint Mary's student, women's hockey team, Mr. Jim Pineo, Saint Mary's Sport Hall of Fame inductee, alumni, and Justin Stienback, Saint Mary's student, men's hockey team.

## 2001 Nova Scotia Junior Mens' Championship



Bill Fletcher, Finance and Management Science, coached a team of three first-year Saint Mary's students Brian Hudson, skip, science, Donald Brooks, mate, commerce and Ian MacLellan, lead, engineering. The team, sponsored by Saint Mary's competed in the 2001 Nova Scotia Junior Mens' Championship at the Dartmouth Curling Club.

Other Saint Mary's students who competed at the provincial championships included Teri Lake, defending provincial champion, Mark Robar, a member of last year's provincial team and coach this year, Corey Shortliffe, mate on the runner up team, and Richard Bates, lead on the 1999 provincial championship team.

## Plans for Renewal and Renovation of Athletic Facilities

The Renewal and Renovation 2002 project at Saint Mary's University is being expanded to include a multi-purpose, athletics facilities which will be completed in three phases. Each phase will begin when funding is secured.

The firm of Davison, Seamone, Rickard, and Adams Architects has been hired to design the multi-purpose athletics facilities following a series of focus group meetings with on and off campus groups.

The first of the three phases will be a multi purpose arena with a seating capacity of up to 2,500 with possible viewing boxes that can also function as a convention centre. The

link to the Tower may include locker rooms and office spaces, meeting rooms, teaching spaces and a stadium viewing lounge. The second phase will involve the replacement of the existing artificial turf and associated under-field drainage system with the option to replace the track with an eight-lane, all weather surface track.

The third phase will focus on Huskies Stadium which will be renovated into a 3,500 - 7,500 seat facility depending on university and community needs. It may include press and viewing boxes and links to adjacent buildings. The area below the seating may be used for dressing

and locker room facilities, and a variety of other service facilities.

This project reflects one of the most exciting developments in the history of Saint Mary's University since its founding in 1802. The multi purpose athletics facilities project will complement the \$25 million renovation and renewal of the Loyola and Vanier Residences, plans for a renewed Science facility, the recent completion of the Sobey Building, extensive renovations to the Loyola Academic Complex, and the Rice Residence. ♦

## Research News...

## Chemistry Professor's Research in Australia Will Help Battle Addictions

by Paul Fitzgerald

When Dr. Rob Singer, a professor in Saint Mary's Chemistry department began a six month sabbatical at Australia's Deakin University he had no idea that his research interests would result in a pharmaceutical breakthrough that could have implications in addiction prevention, treatment and pain management.

"Talk about a successful sabbatical," says Dr. Singer. "I went to Australia to conduct intense research, but never dreamed I would stumble across such a finding. This could have a huge impact right across the world."

Dr. Rob Singer has recently patented a new process that produces thebaine, a major opiate precursor to such drugs as Naltrexone. Naltrexone is used widely in the treatment of morphine, heroin, codeine, and even alcohol addiction. Morphine, heroin and codeine fall into the same drug family, known as opiates, and are all highly addictive. Millions around the world suffer from addiction to these powerful drugs, and for many quitting is next to impossible.

During his sabbatical last year, Dr. Singer and Dr. Peter Scammells, an Australian colleague, discovered that simple oxidation of a derivative of codeine, a cousin of morphine, could be performed in unprecedented high yields in ionic liquid solvents to produce thebaine. Thebaine can be subsequently transformed into such useful drugs as naltrexone, naloxone, and buprenorphine that see wide use in treatment of pain and of morphine and heroin addicts.

When Glaxo Wellcome Australia, a pharmaceutical company that produces about 25% of the world's legal opiate needs, heard about their discovery they told Dr. Singer and Dr. Scammells to patent the technology right away. "Addiction to morphine and heroin has been a huge problem in society for years," says Dr. Singer. "I am absolutely thrilled to know that this finding may in fact help to fix this social problem."

He says that the discovery could not have come at a better time. With the aging population more people are in the hospital relying on morphine to ease the pain from their sickness. Heroin abuse has also been on the increase. "The more people using morphine and heroin only means more addiction problems," he says. "Big pharmaceutical companies such as Glaxo Wellcome and others literally need several tons of this stuff every year, and natural sources cannot meet worldwide demand," he says. "Efficient and economical industrial production of thebaine to meet this demand could be a major break through that results in the cheap availability of otherwise expensive drugs used to fight addiction."

Another benefit of this discovery will be the research collaboration between Deakin University in Geelong, Australia and Saint Mary's. "We have come across a unique discovery that will require ongoing research," says Dr. Singer. "A PhD student from Deakin University will be funded by Glaxo Wellcome to come here and work in the lab with my students to research the process that utilizes ionic liquids in the synthesis of thebaine."

Dr. Singer graduated from Saint Mary's with an honours degree in chemistry in 1986. He completed his graduate work at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia, and then worked as a post-doctoral fellow in Marburg, Germany through the Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellowship. Soon after receiving his PhD he became a full-time chemistry professor at Saint Mary's. Since then he become increasingly fascinated with research involving ionic liquids a new class of solvents used in 'green chemistry' that are recyclable and non-volatile. ♦



Dr. Rob Singer, a Saint Mary's Chemistry professor has recently patented a new process that produces drugs used in the treatment of chemical dependency.

# Scholarly & Professional Development

## Astronomy and Physics

A group of visiting high-school students from Fredericton High School were hosted to a slide and "physics show" by Professors David Turner, Malcolm Butler and Adam Sarty on December 8. The grade 12 Physics class was touring various universities in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia to learn about opportunities in the sciences.

Dave Lane, recently produced "The Sky Month-by-Month" section of the *The Observer's Handbook 2001*, an annual guide for astronomers. This guide published by the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, is now in its 91st year.

Dr. David Turner will be publishing his 113th paper in a refereed journal this year. This is an incredible accomplishment and milestone in his impressive contributions to astronomy in Canada. In addition, Dr. Turner has 147 other published items: monographs, planetarium scripts, abstracts, news notes, editorials, and newspaper columns.

Dr. Turner spoke on the "Star of Bethlehem" at two public forums in December: at the December meeting of the Halifax Centre of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada at Saint Mary's and as an invited speaker to Dr. David Tindall's astronomy class at Dalhousie University. He also spoke at the December meeting of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science on "The Probability and Effects of an Asteroid Impact with Earth". In October, 2000, Dr. Turner gave a talk on "Characteristics of the Variable Star P Cygni Determined from Cluster Membership" at the Fall 2000 meeting of the American Association of Variable Star Observers in Boston, MA.

Dr. George Mitchell and Dr. Nick Tothill attended a two-day workshop in Paris in September. The purpose of the workshop was to finalise the target list for the Odin spacecraft, due to be launched in February 2001. Odin is an earth-orbiting spacecraft which will carry instruments to observe molecules in space, including water and oxygen. It is an international mission developed by Sweden, Canada, France, and Finland. Canada's participation is funded by the Canadian Space Agency and NSERC.

Dr. Malcolm Butler was invited to attend the workshop on Effective Field Theories and Effective Interactions from August 4-22, hosted by the Institute for Nuclear Theory at the University of Washington. He returned to Seattle for September 21-23 to attend the Neutrino Workshop - a short meeting held to develop the priorities of the five-year plan for Neutrino Physics in the United States. He gave a talk on 'Neutrino-Deuteron Interactions in Effective Field Theory' to the working group on Reactor and Accelerator Neutrino Physics. The talk emphasized the importance of making a high-precision measurement of the cross-section for neutrino-deuteron scattering.

Dr. Adam Sarty traveled to the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility in Virginia in early December to attend the U.S. Town Meeting on Electromagnetic and Hadronic Physics - a short meeting to develop the priorities of the five-year plan for Nuclear Physics research in the United States. He presented a talk entitled 'Detailed Studies of N\* Transitions using Recoil Polarization in Hall A', which emphasized the importance of particular polarization techniques for elucidating details of the structure of the proton and its excited states.

## English

Dr. Deborah Kennedy presented a paper entitled 'The Ruined Abbey in the Eighteenth Century' at the conference for the Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies in Toronto on October 21, 2000. Dr. Kennedy has recently published an article entitled 'Revolutionizing Switzerland: Helen Maria Williams and 1798,' in *Republikanische Tugend* (Geneva: Slatkine, 2000).

## Irish Studies

Dr. Cyril J. Byrne, Coordinator, D'Arcy McGee Chair of Irish Studies was acknowledged in *Dúcas*, the newsletter of the Irish American Cultural Institute. Dr. Byrne provided information and comments for an article by Brian McGinn, entitled, "Newfoundland: the Most Irish Place Outside of Ireland". In his article, McGinn said that Saint Mary's has "a thriving Irish Studies program". He also acknowledged the Irish Studies staff for their assistance with the article.

## Management

Dr. Terry Wagar recently published the following articles: "Grievance Procedures in the Nonunion Environment," *Labour Arbitration Yearbook*; "Determinants of Workforce Reduction in Government: Evidence from Local Union Officials," *Journal of Collective Negotiations in the Public Sector*; "Reducing the Workforce: Examining the Consequences in Health Care Organizations," *International Journal of Health Care Quality Assurance* (with Kent Rondeau); "Human Resource Management and Labour Management Committees," *New Zealand Journal of Industrial Relations* (with Clive Gilson). "Provincial Government Restructuring in Nova Scotia: The Freezing and Thawing of Labour Relations," in *Public Sector Labour Relations in an Era of Restraint and Restructuring*, Oxford University Press (2000). In addition, he was co-editor of a book entitled *New Forms of Employment and Labour Force Diversification - Selected Papers from the 36th Annual CIRA Conference*.

Dr. David Wicks and Dr. Albert Mills recently published "Deconstructing Harry: A Critical Review of Men, Masculinity and Organization" in *The Finnish Journal of Business Economics*.

Dr. Albert Mills was appointed to the Editorial Board of 'Tamara' -- *the Critical Postmodern Organizational Science Journal* in December and was elected the North America Representative to the board of the Standing Conference on Organizational Symbolism.



(L-R) Larry Glugosh, Vice-President Sales, Bell Nexxia; David Smith, Chairman Pricewaterhouse Coopers; Don Babick, President and Publisher, National Post; Dr. Paul Dixon, Dean of Commerce, Saint Mary's; Dr. Terry Wagar, a professor of management and one of four national recipients of the leaders in management education award. The award was presented at a reception in Toronto this fall.

## Public Affairs

Kimberley Dunn has been appointed to the Design in Business Nova Scotia Board, as the Society of Graphic Designers of Canada, Atlantic Chapter representative. The DBNS is a governing body representing designers from the various sectors which promotes the benefits of design to the local economy.

## Student Services

Keith Hotchkiss, Director of Student Services, hosted a Canadian College and University Food Services Association (CCUFSA) seminar on "The Role of Contract Liaison and Making the Partnership Succeed" in December. Russ Meyer, University of Nevada at Reno was the featured presenter. Participants included administrators from the Atlantic universities and community colleges. Hotchkiss is a regional Vice-President for CCUFSA.



Dr. Michael Larsen, Saint Mary's Dean of Arts, (middle) President of the Canadian Conference of Deans of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences. (CCDAHSS) with Dr. Phillip Certain, President of CCAS, (left) and Dr. Luis Costa, Past President of CCAS (right). In November, Dr. Larsen represented the CCDAHSS at the annual meeting of the Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences held in Toronto. The CCAS is a large American organization that supports higher education initiatives and policy development for the Arts and Sciences. Dr. Larsen signed an agreement of affiliation between the two organizations.

## In the News...

**Dr. Ather Akbari**, Economics, spoke to CBC Radio about the recent Canadian unemployment statistics.

**Dr. Alexandra Dobrowolsky**, Political Science, was a guest on *Information Morning* in Sydney, N.S. She discussed the historical origins of commonly used political terms such as: Whig, Tory, Grits, neo-liberal and neo-conservative.

**Dr. J. Colin Dodds**, President of Saint Mary's University, was interviewed by the *Chronicle Herald* about the tremendous growth of the University.

**Dr. Dawn Jutla**, Finance and Management Science, and James Craig, a graduate of Saint Mary's MBA Program and CEO of diaphonics, were highlighted in the *Chronicle Herald* for their newly published book, *e-Business: A Customer-Focused Framework*, which was number one in January on the Amazon.com e-business book list.

**Dr. Francine Marleau**, Astronomy and Physics, was a guest on CBC's national radio science program *Quirks and Quarks*. She responded to various questions submitted from listeners concerning constellations and how they would be seen from other vantage points in the solar system and galaxy.

**Dr. Vic Parliament**, Psychology, was interviewed by *Homemakers Magazine* about why people take on too many tasks and end up feeling overwhelmed.

**Dr. Herman Schwind**, Management, was interviewed by the *Chronicle Herald*, *Canadian Press* and CBC Radio Moncton about the recent Canadian Auto Workers Union (CAW) vote at Michelin Plants in Nova Scotia.

**Dr. Kathy Singfield**, Chemistry, was interviewed by *Maclean's* about the need for more library research publications for professors, graduate and undergraduate students.

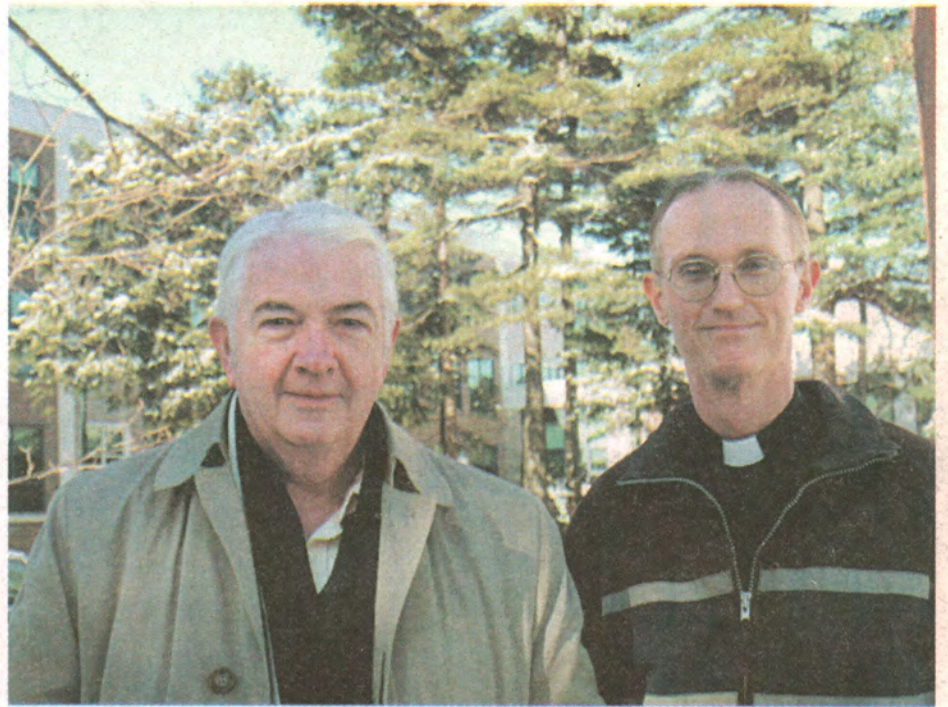
**Dr. Terry Wagar**, Management, was interviewed by *The Canadian Human Resources Magazine* about the Canadian Auto Workers Union vote at the Nova Scotia Michelin Plants.

**Dr. Gary Welch**, Astronomy and Physics, was a guest on *Quirks and Quarks*. He responded to a question submitted by a young listener who wanted to know what it would be like if the Solar System could be transported to the centre of our galaxy.

# Around Campus



David Preston, High Commissioner of Canada to Bangladesh (left) visited Saint Mary's and met with Dr. J. Colin Dodds, President of Saint Mary's University.



(l-r) Fr. Gerald Fogarty, S.J. and Fr. Con Mulvihill, S.J., Saint Mary's University Chaplain.

Fr. Gerald Fogarty S.J. presented a lecture on January 18 at Saint Mary's University entitled, "The Historical Controversy Surrounding Pope Pius XII and the Vatican – Jewish Commission on the Vatican's Role in World War II". Fr. Fogarty is a member of the International Vatican-Jewish Historical Commission and a professor of religious studies and history at the University of Virginia.



(l-r) Katie Orr, (CBCM) project manager, Guo Xiaomei, Xiamen University, Chen Weiqi, Xiamen University, Wang Liande, (FAFU) and Dr. Liette Vasseur, Environmental Science, Saint Mary's. The Community-Based Conservation Management project is a CIDA – funded project led by Saint Mary's, in partnership with Vietnam National University, Fijian Agriculture and Forestry University (FAFU) and Xiamen University in China, DalTech, the Nova Scotia Agricultural College and the University of New Brunswick – Saint John (UNBSJ).



Dr. Berit Aas, (left) an internationally renowned Norwegian social psychologist, politician, feminist and environmentalist conducted a workshop on January 11 at Saint Mary's on the "Master Suppression Techniques". The workshop was part of a seminar presented by Dr. Linda Christansen-Ruffman, Sociology (right). Dr. Aas also presented a public lecture entitled, "Looking Back to 2005: Environment, Peace, Equality and Globalization".

## Contact Information

As Saint Mary's University approaches its bicentennial celebrations in 2002 it strengthens its commitment to education without borders. From the expansion of projects around the world and the recruitment of international students to the development of internationally focused academic programming and outreach of academic and development programs.

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Dr. Tina Jonsyn-Ellis, (centre - foreground) Acting Dean of Science at the University of The Gambia, spent two weeks at Saint Mary's in January, reviewing protocols for ensuring quality in academic programming and preparing recommendations for the University of The Gambia. Collaborating in this study were Momodou Jain, University of The Gambia and Dr. James Morrison, Saint Mary's University.