

Saint Mary's University

Winter Convocation



Friday, 20 January 2017

O CANADA

O Canada! Our home and native land!
True patriot love in all thy sons command.

Car ton bras sait porter Tepee,
Il sait porter la croix!

Ton histoire est une epee
Des plus brillants exploits.

God keep our land, glorious and free!
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee,
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

Convocation is a joyous yet solemn event, bound by traditions which have evolved over centuries. It is a continuum with a formal beginning and end. By being present here today, you have indicated your interest in being part of this academic tradition. Graduating students and their guests are therefore expected to remain in their seats until this formal ceremony has been completed in its entirety - the Chancellor of the University has officially closed Convocation and the stage party and graduates have recessed.

Order of Academic Procession

Marshal of Convocation

Alumni Honour Guard

Graduates

Faculty

Board of Governors

Deans of Faculties

Vice President, Academic and Research

President and Vice-Chancellor

Chancellor

The audience is requested to stand when the Academic Procession arrives, to remain standing until the close of the Prayer of Invocation, and at the close of Convocation, to remain standing until all of the Academic Procession has recessed.

Please note that names of graduates listed in this program are subject to revision.

Order of Proceedings

Processional

Welcome

First Nations Welcome

Morning Ceremony - Dr. Donald Julien
Afternoon Ceremony - Dr. Isabelle Knockwood

Invocation

Rev. Neale Bennet, President of the Atlantic School of Theology

Presidential Remarks

Robert Summerby-Murray, B.A. (Hon.), M.A., Ph.D.

Conferring of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates

Morning Convocation

Business

Patricia Bradshaw, B.Comm., Ph.D., Dean of the Sobey School of Business, will present the candidates for undergraduate degrees in Business.

J. Kevin Vessey, B.Sc. (Hon.), M.Sc., Ph.D., Associate Vice-President Research, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, will present the candidates for graduate degrees in Business.

Afternoon Convocation

Arts

Margaret Y. MacDonald, B.A. (Hon.), D.Phil., Dean of Arts, will present the candidates for undergraduate degrees in Arts.

J. Kevin Vessey, B.Sc. (Hon.), M.Sc., Ph.D., Associate Vice-President Research, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, will present the candidates for graduate degrees in Arts.

Science

Steven Smith, B.A. (Hon.), M.A., Ph.D., Dean of Science, will present the candidates for undergraduate degrees in Science.

J. Kevin Vessey, B.Sc. (Hon.), M.Sc., Ph.D., Associate Vice-President Research, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, will present the candidates for graduate degrees in Science.

Valedictory Addresses

Morning Ceremony - Barrinique Natayla Griffin
Afternoon Ceremony - Amanda Dawn Brown

Convocation Address

Saeed El-Darahali, CEO SimplyCast

Induction to the President's Hall of Academic Excellence

Closing of Convocation

O Canada

Heather Fitzpatrick, B.P.R., Director of Development

Recessional

Chancellor of Saint Mary's University

Paul D. Sobey, B.Comm., D.Comm.

Chairperson of Convocation

Esther E. Enns, B.S.L. (Hons.), M.A., M.Ed., Ph.D.

Vice President, Academic and Research (Acting)

Marshal of Convocation

Don Naulls, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.

Associate Dean of Arts, Associate Professor of Political Science,
and Chairperson of the Academic Senate.

Marshall of Students

Tom Brophy, B.A., M.Ed.

Senior Director of Student Services

Orator

Alexandre Avdulov, B.A., M.A., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Japanese and Asian Studies

Board of Governors

Ms. Karen Oldfield, Chairperson
Mr. Scott Norton, Vice-Chairperson
Dr. Paul Sobey, Chancellor
Dr. Robert Summerby-Murray, President and Vice-Chancellor

Mr. Alan R. Abraham, Jr.
Mr. Paul Baxter
Ms. Barb Bell
Mr. Greg Dickie
Dr. Alexandra Dobrowolsky
Ms. Mary-Lou Donnelly
Dr. Esther Enns
Ms. Sarah Ferguson
Mr. Philip Fraser
Mr. Lawrence Freeman
Mr. Ben Gaunce
Dr. Besim Halef
Ms. Karen Henderson
Dr. Renee Hulan
Mr. Rakesh Jain
Ms. Jane Hans
Dr. Natalia Kochetova-Kozloski
Mr. Michael Lordon
Ms. Jennifer Liu
Mr. Jamie MacNeil
The Most Reverend Anthony Mancini, Visitor
Mr. Joseph Metlege
Ms. Gabrielle Morrison
Mr. Kazi Rahman
Mr. Bryan Rice
Ms. Karen Ross
Dr. Goran Stanivukovic
Ms. Mary-Evelyn Ternan
Dr. Peter Twohig
Dr. Danika van Proosdij

University Senate

Dr. Don Naulls, Chair of Senate

Mr. Homood Alanazi

Ms. Deeksha Bhaskar

Dr. Patricia Bradshaw

Mr. Tom Brophy

Dr. Linda Campbell

Dr. Nicole Conrad

Ms. Marie DeYoung

Dr. Paul Dixon

Dr. Esther Enns

Dr. Karen Grandy

Dr. Jason Grek-Martin

Dr. Daniel Hall

Dr. Eric Henry

Dr. Gugu Hlongwane

Ms. Blair Jones

Dr. Margaret MacDonald

Dr. Myles McCallum

Mr. Gordon Michael

Dr. Tanya Peckmann

Dr. Mohammad Rahaman

Mr. Kazi Rahman

Mr. Bryan Rice

Dr. Kathy Singfield

Dr. Veronica Stinson

Dr. Robert Summerby-Murray

Dr. Tatjana Takseva

Dr. Madine VanderPlaat

Dr. Kevin Vessey

Dr. Lyndan Warner

Acknowledgement

The administration and faculty of Saint Mary's University gratefully acknowledge the generous assistance received during the past year from individuals and groups in the form of contributions of scholarships, bursaries, prizes, and numerous and varied services.

BACHELOR OF COMMERCE

Toni Marie Elaine Aisthorpe

Stuart Isaac Alexander

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Yousef Abdullah Alkindi

Hussain Almustafa

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Mohammed Abdullah Alsadlan

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Turki Fahad Alsubie

Fadhilah Hassan Altaweel

Adrian Alexander Anctil

Michael Antico

Asya Gizem Avci

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Shanice Maria Bancroft

Inioluwa Bridget Bankole

Cody Joseph Carl Bourque

Justin Francis Brake (Co-operative Education)

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Hammad Azam Butt

Ruirui Cai

Evalin Antonia Carvalho

Chen Cen

Jinghe Chen

Yang Chen

Zhiying Chen

Kyu-Jin Cho

Yunsoo Cho

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Sean J. Churchill

Sara Rose Celestial Condenuovo

Stewart Robert Cairns Cook

Justin Michael Cosman

Matthew P. Cove

Erdem Daldal

Beauford Delano Deleveaux

Luozeng Deng

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Deshun S. Dill

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Qatif, Saudi Arabia

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Khobar, Saudi Arabia

Halifax, NS

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

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Burlington, ON

Istanbul, Turkey

Edmonton, AB

Bridgetown, Barbados

Halifax, NS

St. Stephen, NB

Halifax, NS

Halifax, NS

Islamabad, Pakistan

Halifax, NS

Halifax, NS

Changzhou, China

Shenzhen, China

Beijing, China

Shanwei, China

Seoul, South Korea

Halifax, NS

Halifax, NS

Halifax, NS

Halifax, NS

Shubenacadie, NS

Rothsay, NB

Amherst, NS

Istanbul, Turkey

Nassau, Bahamas

Changsha, China

Halifax, NS

Hamilton, Bermuda

Halifax, NS

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Jingxiang Fan	Xuzhou, China
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Jacob Gesse	Laval, QC
Barrinique Natayla Griffin	Nassau, Bahamas
Zhichuan Guo	Halifax, NS
Corey G. Halliday	Dartmouth, NS
Kory A. Harrington	Halifax, NS
Mariana Hrytsay (magna cum laude)	Halifax, NS
Die Hu	Urumqi, China
Xin Hu	Xiangtan, China
Mukudzeyi Nevanji Hungwe	Harare, Zimbabwe
Syed Hadi Hussaini	Bedford, NS
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Yunhua Ji	Jiangsu, China
Feng Jiang	Changde, China
Jinya Jiang	Guangdong, China
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Matthew Phillip Kennedy	Catalone, NS
Mahmoud Khalaf	Halifax, NS
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Shulun Li	Dongguan, China
Tong Li	Shangqiu, China
Hairong Liu	Guizhou, China
Xi Liu	Datong, China
Yang Liu	Shenzhen, China
Paulina Ann Locke	Halifax, NS
Ji Ma	Jianou, China
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Scott R. MacSween	Halifax, NS
Mays Abdulmajeed Makkiyah	Halifax, NS
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Derek A. McLean	Fall River, NS
Matthew Kenneth Morris	Halifax, NS
Cynthia Lynn Myrer	Porters Lake, NS

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Xiaodong Nie
Teresa K. Nieforth

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Hefei, China
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Halifax, NS

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Porters Lake, NS

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Peter Daniel Smith
An Song
Mengni Su
Zexin Su
Lejia Sun
Yibei Sun

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Dunsford, ON
Jinan, China
Chongqing, China
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Halifax, NS
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Toronto, ON
Warwick, Bermuda
Pembroke, Bermuda
New Delhi, India

Mingming Wang
Cody Joesph Lee White
Aynsley Paige Irene Whittaker (Co-operative Education
summa cum laude)

Halifax, NS
Lake Echo, NS
Halifax, NS

Xiaodong Wu
Xiaole Wu

Jiangmen, China
Guangzhou, China

Lingcong Xiao
Yang Xing
Shuling Xiong

Fuzhou, China
Hubei, China
Wuhan, China

Mengyi Yan
Rui Yang
Xirui Yang
Xizi Yang
Yaodong Yang
Cheng Yao

Zhaoqing, China
Chengdu, China
Xianghe, China
Fuyang, China
Tongxiang, China
Shenzhen, China

Bin Zhang (magna cum laude)	Zhangzhou, China
Man Zhang	Wuhan, China
Qian Zhang	Xian, China
Qijun Zhang	Guangzhou, China
Tianyu Zhang	Changsha, China
Heng Zhao	Shenzhen, China
Jiayi Zhao	Xuzhou, China
Hui Zhi	Dalian, China
Mengke Zhong	China
Luni Zhu	Guangzhou, China
Zhan Zou	Halifax, NS

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Sean J. Churchill	Halifax, NS
Zoe Jasmin Duranceau	Halifax, NS
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Hesham Ibrahim Kamal	Cairo, India
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Crystal Ebony Knight	All Saints Village, Antigua and Barbuda
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R. Matthew Whiteway	Lockport, NS
Luni Zhu	Guangzhou, China

EXECUTIVE MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Elizabeth Katherine Macdonald	Halifax, NS
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MASTER OF APPLIED ECONOMICS

Peter Oluwafemi Agbola	Halifax, NS
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Brian K. Hunt	Halifax, NS
Jennifer L'Esperance	Halifax, NS
Kathryn Anne MacIntyre	Dartmouth, NS

Colin Robert Oxenham
Thomas James Pugh
Ramandeep Singh
Kristopher B. Skiba
Matthew Jeremy T'ien

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Halifax, NS
Dehradun, India
Halifax, NS
Halifax, NS

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Evelina Silko
Xiaoyi Wang
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Jie Zhu

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Ruian, China
Halifax, NS
Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania
Accra, Ghana
Vilnius, Lithuania
Qingdao, China
Qingdao, China
Huaian, China

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Arinze Yves Ibeme
Divya Kapoor
Nigel Eliot Lutchman
Tarun Matia
Latoya C. McPhee
Hasti Najaf Afra
Shawn Jomia Simamba
Armando J. Tenias
Rahul Tiwari
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Ottawa, ON
Anambra, Nigeria
New Delhi, India
Halifax, NS
Delhi, India
Nassau, Bahamas
Tehran, Iran
Lusaka, Zambia
Maracaibo, Venezuela
Gorakhpur, India
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Juwana Tajh Browne
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Danielle C. M. Byron

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Burlington, ON
Lake Echo, NS
Toronto, ON
Bellevue Estate, Antigua
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St. John's, Antigua

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Romilly Daniela Grace Colman
Robin Denise Cummings (**cum laude**)

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Halifax, NS
Brookside, NS
Halifax, NS
Lantz, NS

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Rup Narayan Dhungana
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Nicholas Allan Dimmell
Melissa Emily-Anne Douglas
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Halifax, NS
Wittenburg, NS
Bridgewater, NS
Dartmouth, NS
Halifax, NS

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Maryam Adam Mohamed Esse **cum laude**

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Halifax, NS

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Halifax, NS
Bridgewater, NS

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Sylvia S. Grigat

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Middleton, NS
Valemount, BC

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Shannon Hansen
Irene Elizabeth Hart (Co-operative Education)
Marianne Catherine Hartnett
Stacey R. Hebb
Kanzi Hatem Hegazi
Rachel Victoria Herron
Tamara Marie Hutchinson

Halifax, NS
Halifax, NS
Dartmouth, NS
Halifax, NS
Bridgewater, NS
Cairo, Egypt
Cole Harbour, NS
Dartmouth, NS

Emily Katrina Hutton (cum laude)	Halifax, NS
Matthew James Innes	Hammonds Plains, NS
Kinnon Eugene Job (summa cum laude)	Cole Harbour, NS
Omar Joof	Bakoteh, The Gambia
Herbert Araali Kaliisa	Entebbe, Uganda
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Crystal Ebony Knight	All Saints Village, Antigua and Barbuda
WooPyung Lee	Burnaby, BC
Bethany A. MacDonald	Shelburne, NS
Mary Eileen MacLean	Eastern Passage, NS
Emily Kate MacQuarrie	New Glasgow, NS
Karylyn Krystyne Madill (Honours Psychology)	Marble Mountain, NS
William Earl McAllister	Hubbards, NS
Matthew William Miller	Hilden, NS
Kathleen Kaye Moriarty	Belledune, NB
Vahide Morina	Halifax, NS
Kelsey M. Morse	Hammonds Plains, NS
Anthony Andrew Mrkonjic	Halifax, NS
Aaron Harry Musisi	Whitehorse, YT
Hiroaki Nakashima (magna cum laude)	Usa, Japan
Robin Crystal Nickerson (Honours Psychology)	Bridgewater, NS
Aurora Cassandra O'Shea	Miramichi, NB
Joanne Osmond (summa cum laude)	Codroy Valley, NL
Kensley Loren Phillips	Halifax, NS
Cydney Brianna Proctor	Truro, NS
Sandrico Blake Provo	North Preston, NS
Julia Catherine Roddi	Halifax, NS
Miriam Hadda Schroeder	Bridgetown, NS
Dhillon Alexander Sehmbej	Hackett's Cove, NS
James Shapleigh (cum laude)	Cooks Brook, NS
Matthew Shapleigh	Cooks Brook, NS
Andrew Dominic Smith	Halifax, NS
Christina Kimberley Spruin (summa cum laude)	Lower Sackville, NS
Timothy G. H. St. Onge	Halifax, NS

Seneca-Heather H. H. Stacey-Allen Halifax, NS
Marisa Clare Talbot Halifax, NS
Laura J. Tannous Halifax, NS
Jaclyn C. Thibault (Honours Religious Studies) Halifax, NS
Jeremy N. Thomas Halifax, NS
Amy Louise Thompson Halifax, NS

Jessica Kristina Ventham Halifax, NS
Timothy S. Villermet Halifax, NS

Mark S. Williams Bedford, NS
Hanna Beth Wright Dartmouth, NS

BACHELOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Rachael Marie MacNeil Ottawa Brook, NS
Haley M. Welsh (**magna cum laude**) Brantford, ON

CERTIFICATE IN ATLANTIC CANADA STUDIES

Irene Elizabeth Hart Dartmouth, NS

MASTER OF ARTS (ATLANTIC CANADA STUDIES)

Lesley Magee Three Fathom Harbour, NS

MASTER OF ARTS (GEOGRAPHY)

Patrick Charles Lewis Larter Bedford, NS

MASTER OF ARTS (THEOLOGY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES)

Sirinanda Bandagiriye Halifax, NS
Allyson D. P. Marsh Halifax, NS
Joel S. Murphy Winnipeg, MB

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Caleb Nicholas Adams	Halifax, NS
Hawra Abdullah Alshehab	Alhassa, Saudi Arabia
Katrina D. Banfield	Dartmouth, NS
Jeremy N. Bentley (Honours Geology - Co-operative Education)	Halifax, NS
Amanda Dawn Brown (Honours Biology summa cum laude)	Enfield, NS
Ashley Anne Fletcher (Honours Biology magna cum laude)	Bedford, NS
Elisse A. Hann	Dartmouth, NS
Eric Michael Johnson	Cole Harbour, NS
Danielle Celine Lirette	Moncton, NB
Francois Olivier Malenfant	Dartmouth, NS
Jennie Joy Newman (Honours Mathematics summa cum laude)	Lower Sackville, NS
Zoe A. Paula (Honours Chemistry Co-operative Education magna cum laude)	Halifax, NS
Yasmin T. R. Phillip	Pembroke Pines, FL, USA
Sarah Elizabeth Pomedli	West Porters Lake, NS
Darcie Denise Reid	Dartmouth, NS
Damien Noel Robinson	Bridgetown, Barbados
Brendan William Smith	Halifax, NS
Alexandra Meade Smye	Halifax, NS
Farrah L. Stevens	Halifax, NS
Marin Chelsea Stubbings	Dartmouth, NS
Lauren Raquel Taylor (summa cum laude)	Halifax, NS

DIPLOMA IN ENGINEERING

Ahmed M. Abdalla	Cairo, Egypt
Hamid Reza Afkari	Dartmouth, NS
Fatimah Hussain Alhassan	Al Hassaa, Saudi Arabia
Hawra Abdullah Alshehab	Alhassa, Saudi Arabia
Easton Hugh Dunkley	Dartmouth, NS
Cory M. Read	Eastern Passage, NS
Zhenjiang Zhu	Shenzhen, China

CERTIFICATE OF HONOURS-SCIENCE

Samantha Dawne Rioux

Summerside, PE

MASTER OF SCIENCE (APPLIED SCIENCE)

Khandker Tawflque Ahmed (Co-operative Education)

Comilla, Bangladesh

Natasha Arielle Dilkie (Co-operative Education)

Ottawa, ON

Shijun Ding

Nanjing, China

Ismat Sumar

Brampton, ON

MASTER OF SCIENCE (COMPUTING AND DATA ANALYTICS)

Abisola Adeniran

Lagos, Nigeria

Fatma Abdalhamid Aldabaa

Halifax, NS

Emmanuel Etukudo Etti Jnr

Eket, Nigeria

Badr Mansour Khamis

Halifax, NS

Zhixing Liu

Huizhou, China

Balqees O. Omotosho

Ibadani, Nigeria

Iliia Alexandrovich Pavlovski

Halifax, NS

Gurmeet Singh

Halifax, NS

Zhicheng Yin

Zhuhai, China

Shuai Zhao

Halifax, NS

Zhehao Zhong

Hangzhou, China

Runxing Zhou

Halifax, NS

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (INDUSTRIAL/ORGANIZATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY)

Jennifer Hoi Ki Wong

Burnaby, BC

VALEDICTORIANS

BARRINIQUE NATAYLA GRIFFIN

Barrinique Griffin is from the beautiful islands of the Bahamas and came to Saint Mary's in the Fall of 2012 to pursue a Bachelor of Commerce in Entrepreneurship. Her family values have taught her to always trust in God, to work hard and to help those in need. As a result, Barrinique demonstrated these values in her many roles on campus and in the community. On campus Barrinique has been involved in societies such as the Caribbean Society as the Executive member, the Enactus Society as a Project Manager for FoundationNS, the Catholic Christian Outreach and Habitat for Humanity where she visited Florida to assist in building homes for those in need. Barrinique's love for Halifax has allowed her to contribute to the community by being the Lead Volunteer Cook at the Adsum House for Women and as the Director of Emerging Ideas and Events for Fusion Halifax.

Barrinique's journey at Saint Mary's has taught her many valuable lessons and cultivated her passion for leadership. For that reason she started a leadership conference at Saint Mary's that teaches first year students various leadership principles. She will carry the lessons she learned at Saint Mary's with her through life. After graduation, Barrinique intends on working in business consulting then pursuing a Masters of Leadership. Barrinique is grateful for the continued support of her family and friends as she continues her journey.

AMANDA DAWN BROWN

Amanda Brown, from Enfield, Nova Scotia, is graduating today with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology (Honours) with a minor in psychology, *summa cum laude*. Throughout her Saint Mary's undergraduate career, she has worked as a research assistant and teaching assistant in the Biology department, working in the areas of genetics, ecology, and parasitology, as well as working as a calculus marker. She was awarded two NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award grants (2014 and 2015), was one of 2 Atlantic Canadian students selected for attendance to the Careers in Evolution and Ecology (CREE) conference at University of Toronto (2014), and was a member of the Dean's List from 2014-2016. Upon graduating, Amanda hopes to pursue graduate studies in the field of genetics and make a positive impact on the world through researching human pathology.

Over the last five years, this eccentrically dressed undergrad could (easily) be spotted moderating and participating in the Science Atlantic Conference, being an ambassador for Science Friday, acting as co-president of the SMU News Lounge Society, and helping teach Zumba in the Homburg Centre. The latter of which, she discovered and cultivated a passion for here at SMU as part of a personal goal to live a healthy life to the fullest after battling chronic illness for 4 years. Outside of Saint Mary's, she has been actively involved in the community through her work as a recreation volunteer at the Camp Hill Veterans Memorial Hospital, and her professional and charitable involvement with the Ecology Action Centre, and, in particular, their campaign to preserve the Blue Mountain Birch Cove Lakes region of Halifax.

Going forward, Amanda is most grateful for the environment of diversity, discussion, critical thinking, and community gained from Saint Mary's.

HISTORY OF SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

Saint Mary's University was founded in 1802 to provide opportunities for higher learning to young Catholic men. Its founder, the Reverend Edmund Burke, had meagre resources to work with, but on later being named Bishop with responsibility for Nova Scotia, he continued to support the college as essential to the development of the Catholic community. In 1841, the Nova Scotia House of Assembly gave formal recognition of its academic role. Its legal status was confirmed in perpetuity by enactment in 1852.

In 1913, the Christian Brothers of Ireland, a teaching order, were invited by the Archdiocese of Halifax to direct the college and its academic program. During the ensuing years, Saint Mary's University became more widely known for the quality of its undergraduate teaching and continued to develop new instructional programs, most notably within its Faculty of Commerce. In 1940, the Upper Canada Province of The Society of Jesus was invited to succeed the Christian Brothers as administrators and teachers in the University, and for thirty years until the enactment in 1970 of the new act of incorporation, the college remained under Jesuit supervision. The long-standing emphasis on liberal arts and commerce was extended to include new programs in science, engineering, and teacher education. Extension courses became an important part of the University's commitment to an active educational role in the community. The Sobey Building, opened in the fall of 1998, houses the Sobey School of Business and provides meeting rooms as well as state-of-the-art classrooms for all three faculties of the University. In the last decade, the University has totally rebuilt the Loyola Residence and the Science Building such that they are essentially new buildings and major renovations were completed on the McNally Building. New additions to campus include the Atrium Building featuring the Global Learning Commons and the Homburg Centre for Health and Wellness.

In the year 2002-2003, the University celebrated its 200th Anniversary in a year-long series of celebratory events. The celebration provided a marvelous retrospective of our past and set the stage for the University's significant role in the 21st Century. This has been guided by the Academic Plan, most recently updated for 2012-2017.

In December 2005, a new focus on the image of Saint Mary's University was unveiled. "SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY. ONE UNIVERSITY. ONE WORLD. YOURS." This powerful statement captures the fundamental nature of today's Saint Mary's. It encompasses our strategic directions and our vision to be the University of Choice for aspiring citizens of the world. Each of the three elements of rallying cry has a significant and thoughtful meaning:

One University: Our singular vision and commitment

One World: Unlimited possibilities

Yours: The challenge and the responsibility for all Santamarians

AN EXPLANATION FOR OUR GUESTS: THE CONVOCATION CEREMONY

The Procession

The ceremony starts with the procession — the entering of the members of Convocation, beginning with the Marshall of Convocation and the students who will be presented with degrees, diplomas, and certificates during the service. As the students fill up the chairs in the Theatre Auditorium, they will give the impression that today's ceremony really is, as convocations traditionally were, a meeting of the whole University. The word "convocation" means "calling-together". Indeed, the Theatre Auditorium could not hold all the individuals who are part of Saint Mary's — the students, the professors, the administration, the staff, and a large number of alumni around the world — not to mention their families and friends.

Next in the procession are special guests, the Members of Faculty, the Board of Governors, and the Deans of the Faculties.

The final members of the academic procession are the Vice President, Academic and Research (who presides over Convocation), the President, and the Chancellor.

Many will have colourful gowns and hoods of institutions from across Canada, the United States, and many nations of the world.

The Ceremonial Mace

The ceremonial mace, which is carried by the Marshall of Convocation at the head of the academic procession, was presented to Saint Mary's in April 1980 and used for the first time at the Spring Convocation of that same year. It symbolizes the University's authority to grant degrees. It was made and presented to the University by Maritime Command in recognition of Saint Mary's alumni killed in both world wars and also in recognition of serving members of the Canadian Armed Forces who have been students at the University.

The mace is made of oak with a cast brass crown and brass plates carrying traditional ceremonial engravings. The plates represent the contributions to Saint Mary's by the Jesuit Fathers, the Christian Brothers of Ireland, the Archdiocese of Halifax, the LaSalle Christian Brothers, the Lay Teachers, and the Armed Forces.

University Crest

Designed in the 1940's by the Reverend Daniel Fogarty, S.J., then Dean of Education, each symbol in the crest has significance relevant to the various phases and history of the University.

On the outer portion of the crest, the name and location of the University are inscribed in Latin and, in Roman numerals (1841), the date the University received its charter authorizing it to grant degrees.

The book shown above the shield represents learning and knowledge. The inscription on the page of the book is in Latin — "Age Quod Agis". This is the motto of the University which exhorts all those connected with the University to strive to do their best in everything that they do. This quotation is from the Irish Christian Brothers and symbolizes their contribution to the development of the institution.

The upper part of the shield has the official seal of the Jesuits with I.H.S. being the Greek initials for Christ's name. Below these initials are the three nails which represent the Crucifixion, and surrounding these is the Crown of Thorns. The two crowns represent a dual loyalty - to the then Dominion of Canada and to the British Commonwealth. Below these crowns is the thistle, which stands for Nova Scotia's Scottish heritage.

The Presidential Medallion of Office

On 22 October 2000, a Medallion of Office was officially presented to the University and used for the first time that same day at the installation of Dr. J. Colin Dodds as President. Designed and crafted by James Bradshaw and Bruce Babcock of James Bradshaw Jewelry Design Studios, Inc., Halifax, its centre is a University Gold Medal, traditionally awarded to the top graduating students. It symbolizes the University's deep commitment to academic excellence. It is surrounded by contrasting sterling silver, representing the diversity of the institution's students and of its academic programs. It was generously presented by Mary Eileen Donahoe and her family as a memorial to the late Senator Richard A. Donahoe, Q.C., K.S.G., LL.D. (Hon.), a member of one of the University's earliest Boards of Governors, in recognition of his career of public service and his love of Saint Mary's.

The Hooding Ceremony

As you will observe, all the graduates and members of the academic procession are attired in the basic elements of formal academic dress, which at Saint Mary's follows the general guidelines established at Oxford and Cambridge Universities in England. Formal attire consists of academic robe, hood and mortar board, although at Saint Mary's the latter is limited to Master's graduates only. The academic dress worn by each participant depends upon that academic level attained. There is special attire for the Bachelor, Master, and Doctoral level candidates. While tradition has dictated the style or cut of the academic attire, each post-secondary institution, for the most part, will amend certain details of the attire to suit its own particular tastes and traditions.

The academic hood which each graduate is wearing symbolizes the degree into which the student will be or has been admitted. The hood itself traces its tradition back to the Middle Ages, when its prototype, with a cowl-like appendage and tail, was used to cover the shoulders in the cold and draughty medieval buildings or in inclement weather. Gradually this garment was modified and the hood assumed an academic rather than functional significance. The hood has two basic elements: the trim on the outer edge and an inner satin lining. Each hood has its outer edge trimmed with a colour to indicate a particular faculty and degree: white symbolizes Arts; gold, Science; grey, Commerce and green for the new Bachelor of Environmental Studies. The hood for the Master's candidates is essentially the same as the Bachelor's hood except that the trim is usually an inch or two wider. All the Bachelor level hoods are lined with satin in the colours of the institution granting the degree. Hence at Saint Mary's the hood is lined with maroon satin with a white chevron. The Master's hood at Saint Mary's is lined with maroon satin only to give it added distinction from the Bachelor's.

A symbolic hooding ceremony has become a traditional feature of all Convocations at Saint Mary's.

Flags on the Stage

Each year Saint Mary's has a number of international students. The flags which you see displayed on the stage for Convocation are from some of the countries from which these students come, not necessarily graduating students, but those in any year of study. The globalization of the Saint Mary's University community is a feature of justifiable pride which contributes markedly to the growth and understanding of both Canadian and non-Canadian students.

Also included in the University's permanent collection of flags is one from the International Year of the Disabled signifying the University's permanent commitment to people with disabilities. Also part of this collection is that of the Mi'kmaq's in recognition of their First Nation's Status. Since our Spring 2002 Convocation, the University's Bicentennial flag has taken its rightful place in our permanent collection.

Graduation Alumni Pins

The Alumni Association of Saint Mary's University has generously provided an Alumni Pin again this year. This is a tradition which started with the 1990 Spring Convocation. Graduates are encouraged to wear theirs with pride and to consider becoming an active member of the Association.

Degrees and Diplomas Awarded with Distinctions

At Saint Mary's University in the general undergraduate degree and diploma programs, academic distinctions are awarded to successful candidates on the basis of the following cumulative grade point averages of all courses taken at Saint Mary's University. There are no distinctions awarded in graduate and certificate programs.

B.A., B.E.S, B.Comm., & B.Sc.	Grade Point Av.	Diploma in Engineering
summa cum laude	4.00 - 4.30	with greatest distinction
magna cum laude	3.85 - 3.99	with great distinction
cum laude	3.70-3.84	with distinction

The President's Hall of Academic Excellence, located in the main hallway of the McNally Building, directly outside the President's Office, displays the names of all students who earned one of these distinctions. The Hall also includes the names of students who won academic medals at graduation.

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The University's symbols and traditions reflect its roots as well as looking to its future and the ritual of Convocation looks to the roots of the University as well as being a beginning for the students who now enter a new stage in their lives. Indeed, both the symbols and the Convocation look back far beyond the beginning of this University to the centuries of academic life in western civilization. Today the University dresses in clothes which are symbolic, not functional, and goes through the 600-year-old ritual of a convocation for the conferment of degrees, diplomas, and certificates.

We thank you for being present to share in it with the Saint Mary's University community.

Photography

Family and friends are welcome to come forward and take photos of your favourite graduates as they exit the stage. However, we ask that you do not impede the flow of the ceremony or obstruct others taking their photos.

Stage trappings will be left in place for approximately one half hour at the conclusion of Convocation for students who wish to have photographs taken by family and friends against the backdrops on the stage.

There will also be photo backdrops of the University in the Conference Hall for pictures after the ceremony.

Framing of Parchments

The Saint Mary's University Bookstore, is pleased to provide an on-site, instant framing program following graduation ceremonies. (Please note: This service is **NOT** available during the Convocation ceremony.)

Simply present your diploma at the designated area in the BMO Lounge area outside of the Conference Hall. In seconds, it will be professionally framed in a high quality, Canadian-made frame, complete with a mat emblazoned with the official crest of Saint Mary's University.

DVD

DVD videos of the convocation will be available and can be ordered from the website:

www.bigaro.ca

The Board of Governors, The Academic Senate, and

The Graduating Class

of

Saint Mary's University

Cordially invite you to attend a Reception

immediately following Winter Convocation

Conference Hall

Loyola Academic Building

This informal setting will provide an opportunity for graduates and their guests to meet Faculty, Administrators, and Staff of Saint Mary's University.

Light refreshments will be served.