

WINTER CONVOCATION
SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY
2020





O Canada

O Canada! Our home and native land!
True patriot love in all of us command,
Car ton bras sait porter l'épée,
Il sait porter la croix!
Ton histoire est une épopée
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 formal ceremony, bound by traditions which have evolved over centuries. Thank you for your participation in this important academic occasion. Graduating students and their guests are asked to remain seated until the 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.

Saint Mary's University acknowledges our presence today in the traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq nation. This territory is covered by the Treaties of Peace and Friendship which the Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1725. The Treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized the Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship.

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SAINT MARY'S
UNIVERSITY SINCE 1862

AGE
QUOD
AGIS



ORDER OF ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Marshal of Convocation

Alumni Honour Guard

Graduates

Faculty

Board of Governors

Deans of Faculties

Recipient of Honorary Degree

Vice-Presidents

President

Chancellor

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

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Processional

Welcome

Invocation

First Nations Welcome

Presidential Remarks Robert Summerby-Murray, B.A., M.A. (Hons.), Ph.D., A.T.C.L.

Conferring of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates

Morning Convocation

Business

Harjeet S. Bhabra, MBA, Ph.D., Dean of the Sobey School of Business, will present the candidates for undergraduate degrees in Business.

Graduate Studies and Research

Adam J. Sarty, B.Sc. (Engineering), 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.

Science

Lori Francis, BSc., M.Sc., Ph.D., Acting Dean of Science, will present the candidates for undergraduate degrees in Science.

Graduate Studies and Research

Adam J. Sarty, B.Sc. (Engineering), Ph.D., Associate Vice-President Research, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, will present the candidates for graduate degrees in the disciplines of Arts and Science.

Valedictory Addresses

Morning Ceremony – Ms. Redempta N. Ishimwe

Afternoon Ceremony – Ms. Deeksha Bhaskar

Conferral of Honorary Degree

Morning Ceremony

To be Doctor of Civil Law (honoris causa)

Gerry Mills

Convocation Address

Induction to the President's Hall of Academic Excellence

Closing of Convocation

O Canada

Recessional

Chairperson of Convocation

Malcolm N. Butler, B.Sc. (Hons.), Ph.D. Vice-President, Academic and Research

Marshal of Convocation

Tatjana Takševa B.A. (Hons.), M.A., Ph.D., Professor of English Language and Literature and Women and Gender Studies, Chairperson of the Academic Senate

Student Marshals

Miyuki Arai, B.A., Global Learning and Intercultural Support

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



THE CEREMONIAL MACE



The ceremonial mace, carried by the Marshal of Convocation, was presented to Saint Mary's University in 1980. It symbolizes the University's authority to grant degrees and is a gift from Maritime Command in honour of alumni killed in both world wars. The mace also recognizes serving members of the Canadian Armed Forces who have been students at Saint Mary's.

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 Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth, the LaSalle Christian Brothers, the Lay Teachers, and the Armed Forces.

UNIVERSITY MOTTO

Age Quod Agis means to 'do what you do.' This phrase exhorts us to focus on our work, to be in the moment, and devote our fullest attention to the task at hand. It is a call for dedication, a focus on duty and perseverance, a statement of process. It is a proclamation of the importance of disciplining ourselves to our studies, to our scientific, artistic, cultural, commercial, and athletic pursuits. It is a call to action to act in the world, to shoulder responsibility, to champion social justice, environmental justice, and ethical values.

AGE QUOD AGIS



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.

FLAGS ON THE STAGE

The flags which you see displayed on the stage for Convocation are from some of the countries from which our 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.

Included in the University's permanent collection of flags is one from the International Year of the Disabled signifying the University's commitment to people with disabilities. The Mi'kmaq Grand Council flag, which now has a permanent home on the Saint Mary's campus, also takes its place among the other nation flags. The University's Bicentennial flag was made a part of our permanent collection in 2002.



THE HOODING CEREMONY

Graduates and members of the academic procession are attired in the basic elements of formal academic dress, which follow general guidelines established at England's Oxford and Cambridge Universities. It consists of the academic robe, hood, and mortar board (at Saint Mary's, the latter is limited to Master's graduates).

The academic hood symbolizes the degree into which each graduate has been admitted, its outer edge trimmed with a colour to indicate a particular Faculty and degree: white symbolizes Arts; gold, Science; grey, Commerce, and green for Environmental Studies. Bachelor-level hoods are lined with satin in the colours of the institution granting the degree. Hence at Saint Mary's, they are maroon satin with a white chevron. The Master's hood is lined with maroon satin only, giving it added distinction.



AWARDS

JOHN AND HEATHER FITZPATRICK VALEDICTORIAN AWARD

Recipients: Ms. Redempta N. Ishimwe
Ms. Deeksha Bhaskar

Donor: John BA'81, LLD'17 & Heather Fitzpatrick

BACHELOR OF COMMERCE

Hussain Abdulatif Sayed Shuáa Abdulah
Al Ahmadi, Kuwait

Salman Afzal
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Yasser Majed Alharbi
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Feras Mohammed Derhem Ali
Hodaidah, Yemen

Alaa Khalid Alobeid
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Moataz Maree Alolayan
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Aon A. Alshemrany
Halifax, NS

Hassan Mohammed Al-Sowmely *magna cum laude*
Sana'a, Yemen

Mohammed Anwar Alzayer
Qatif, Saudi Arabia

Demetrio L. Ariza
Nassau, Bahamas

Khalidah Nasser Ateq
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Jeffrey Wayne Barton
Dartmouth, NS

Sarah S. Bayer *cum laude*
Dartmouth, NS

Brett Jordan Berry
Fergus, ON

Hanfeng Bi
Beijing, China



Taylor Elizabeth Blake
Halifax, NS

Gurishar Singh Boparai
Co-operative Education
Chandigarh, India

Jingwen Cai
Beijing, China

Xinyue Cao
Yiyang, China

Brian Anthony Jason Capleton
Kingston, Jamaica

Jeffrey William Cassidy
Cole Harbour, NS

Katelyn Marie Chaisson
Cole Harbour, NS

Huanxin Chen
Guangzhou, China

Shudan Chen
Zhongshan, China

Ajay Kumar Deb
Kolkata, India

Yingguang Deng
Shenzhen, China

Asja Mellaena Dillet
Nassau, Bahamas

Conor William Downie
Bedford, NS

Michaelia Rose Drever
Bridgetown, NS

Yujie Du
Guangzhou, China

Sihan Duan
Weihai, China

Joshua David Duffy
Dartmouth, NS

Anthony Ashton Easton
Hamilton, Bermuda

Khaled Edrisi-Pour-Gheshmi
Dartmouth, NS

Maher El Shaar
Aineb, Lebanon

Yuxuan Feng
Liaocheng, China

Lauren Helen Ferguson
Porters Lake, NS

Benjamin T. B. Ford
Co-operative Education
Lower Sackville, NS

Latisha D. Francis
Southampton, Bermuda

Sarah B. Francis
Dartmouth, NS

Megan Goodwin
Moncton, NB

Ali Othman Hakami
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Skylar K. Hardwick
New Glasgow, NS

Kaiyan He
Yueyang, China

Tonia Laverne Heastie
Nassau, Bahamas

Alexander Daniel Heighton
Co-operative Education
Dartmouth, NS

Yu Huang
Halifax, NS

Stephanie Atanya Ibrahim
St. John's, Antigua

Redempta N. Ishimwe *cum laude*
Co-operative Education
Kigali, Rwanda

Md Rashedul Islam
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Matthew Isles
Dartmouth, NS

Sylvana Nawal Jarmash
Halifax, NS

Ketong Jiang *summa cum laude*
Shenyang, China

Yue Jiang
Tangshan, China

Sherane S. Johnson
Kingston, Jamaica



Diksha Kalra
Delhi, India

Ronald George Leaman *magna cum laude*
Halifax, NS

Minxi Lu
Luoyang, China

Ahmad Fawad M.Kabir
Halifax, NS

QianQian Ma
Wuhu, China

Joshua Shaun MacNeill *magna cum laude*
Souris, PE

Ftoon Waleed Mahdi
Taif, Saudi Arabia

Kameron Marche
Freeport, Bahamas

Jessica Lynn Massey
Knoxville, IA, USA

Karandeep Singh Multani
Halifax, NS

Paige Kristina E. Munroe
Freeport, Bahamas

Ahmad Yousef Musleh
Jenin, Palestine

Nada Naji
Bedford, NS

Ji Hyun Park
Halifax, NS

Haoyang Peng
Guangzhou, China

Bradley William Petrie
Halifax, NS

Ashli Tamira Pratt
Nassau, Bahamas



Chad William Randell
Saint John, NB

Tinghan Ren
Zhuhai, China

Mitchell Peter Robichaud
Halifax, NS

Christiana Elizabeth Robinson
Bridgetown, Barbados

Garry Aaron Russell
Freeport, Bahamas

Ekow Arko Saah *cum laude*
Accra, Ghana

Rawan Salami
Co-operative Education
Haris, Lebanon

Jason P. Schelleman
Brookside, NS

Jenna Marie Schwarz
Co-operative Education
Indian Harbour, NS

Zigan She
Shantou, China

Yashan Shi
Xian, China

Labib Uddin Shikhor
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Zeqian Song
Zhangjiakon, China

Tabitha Stuart
Nassau, Bahamas


Huiwen Tan
Guangzhou, China

Kostiantyn Volotka
Halifax, NS

Shikhar Walia
New Delhi, India

Cong Wang
Harbin, China

Xinhao Wang
Nanjing, China



Angad Warrik
Delhi, India

Jiaqi Wei
Luoyang, China

Wen Wen *magna cum laude*
Shenzhen, China

Baoying Weng
Guangzhou, China

Kirby Williams
Halifax, NS

Yufei Xie
Tianjin, China

Min Xun Xiong
Shenzhen, China

Wanlin Yang
Bazhong, China

Mengsha Ye
Guangzhou, China

Jordan Blake Yochoff
Halifax, NS

Dian Zhang
Chaozhou, China

Shuo Zhang
Shijiazhuang, China

Zihang Zhen
Beijing, China

ZhiJun Zheng
Halifax, NS

CERTIFICATE OF HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Alaa Khalid Alobeid
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Rasha Hamad A. Aloyuni
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Deeksha Bhaskar
Gurugram, India

Taylor Elizabeth Blake
Halifax, NS

Sarah Elizabeth Bugden-Carter
Bedford, NS

Jayne-Lee C. Cunningham
Halifax, NS

Lauren Alexandra Fraser
Halifax, NS

Douglas C. Graham
Halifax, NS

Skylar K. Hardwick
New Glasgow, NS

Noor Bassam Jarrar
Halifax, NS

Emily S. MacDonald
Halifax, NS

Mohamed Hysam Mohamed
Halifax, NS

Emily Anne Potter
Dartmouth, NS

Kourtney Dale Rogers
Lower Sackville, NS

Sarah Anne Scott
Whites Lake, NS

MASTER OF APPLIED ECONOMICS

Mohammed Wael Shareef Hamed
Balatah, Palestine

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Rebecca Mae Appleton
Halifax, NS

Sivaramakrishna Arumugam
Halifax, NS

Hithi Chawla
Jalandhar, India

Mayank Chawla
Delhi, India

Sandeep Ganesh Raj
Halifax, NS

Laura Katrina Elfireda Jacobi
Dartmouth, NS

Alok Kanchanapally
Halifax, NS

Yujing Liu
Hebei, China

Harikrishnan Manikandan
Halifax, NS

Venkata Ramana Vidya Sagar Matcha
Salur, India

Karthik Nagarajan
Chennai, India

Adam S. O'Brien
Halifax, NS

Jael Jennifer Punithan
Halifax, NS

Jessica Lauren Severeys
Hammonds Plains, NS

Rajeev Surendra Sharma
Vadodara, India

Laurie Taylor
Pickering, ON

Christoph Dieter Mathias Voegelé
Shad Bay, NS

MASTER OF FINANCE

Biyng Cai
Guangzhou, China

Di Chen
Jinan, China

Nuo Chen
Beijing, China

Yang Gao
Harbin, China

Mingsong Gu
Vancouver, BC

Cheng Huang
Halifax, NS

Kairan Huang
Hunan, China

Mengxue Li
Jinan, China

Yangyang Liu
Yichang, China

Kaiqi Shan
Qingdao, China

Naman Sharma
Halifax, NS

Sounak Sinha
Kolkata, India

Xi Wu
Chengdu, China

Yang Wu
Lanzhou, China

Jiahao Zhang
Halifax, NS

Xuji Zhou
Halifax, NS

MASTER OF TECHNOLOGY ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION

Patrick Adekunle Adeyemi
Iyin-Ekiti, Nigeria

Godfrey Oghogho Akpoguma
Halifax, NS

Ramez Alsarafandi
Dartmouth, NS

Maria Ahmed Anny
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Augusto Cesar dos Reis
Sao Paulo, Brazil

Quinton Robert Gorman
Charlottetown, PE

Jawad Hasan
Chittagong, Bangladesh

Ni Kang
Shantou, China

Harjus kaur
Delhi, India

Xin Li
Beijing, China

Shalu Maurya
Meerut, India

Mazlina Mohamad
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Chidi Bryant Nwachukwu
Halifax, NS

Rebecca Ifeoma Obieme
Lagos, Nigeria

Olusegun Emmanuel Osunrinde
Lagos, Nigeria

Eugene Peprah
Accra, Ghana

Folasope A. K. Salami
Lagos, Nigeria

Nishant Sharda
New Delhi, India

Zhaoyi Shen
Xining, China

Ye Sun
Beijing, China

Govinda Rajan Talluri
Halifax, NS

Chao Tan
Halifax, NS

Jaitesh Yadav
Halifax, NS

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Mostafa M. Abdelmonem *magna cum laude*
Halifax, NS

Rasha Hamad A. Aloyuni
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Yousef Abdullah Alsharari
Al Quraryyat, Saudi Arabia

Mohammed Majed Alsurayyie
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Melissa Lynn Arseneault
Miramichi, NB

Carly Anne Baker
Fall River, NS

Zachary D. Bauld
Halifax, NS

Janessa Carrington Baxter
Halifax, NS

Deeksha Bhaskar *magna cum laude*
Gurugram, India

Mackenzie K. Blanchard
Halifax, NS

Neil Anthony Stuart Briggs
Halifax, NS

Rafid Jahan Buddhi
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Sarah Elizabeth Bugden-Carter
Bedford, NS

Ashley Megan Carpenter
Halifax, NS

Katey Juanita Carroll
Dartmouth, NS

David Theodore Champion
Port Williams, NS

Mary Alejandra Chan Fong Solorzano
Portoviejo, Ecuador

Tapeesa Rose Church
Halifax, NS

Danielle Marion Clegg
Middle Sackville, NS

Bailey Alexandra Cooke
Yarmouth, NS

Grace Noelle Cowling
Liverpool, NS

Cameron William Darrow
Dartmouth, NS

Wayne Justin Maurice Desmond
New Glasgow, NS

Arron Michael Duggan *magna cum laude*
Halifax, NS

Ashley Marie Dye
Sydney, NS

Jessica Anna Fabrizi
Halifax, NS

Lauren Alexandra Fraser
Halifax, NS

Daniel James Gaudet
Clare, NS

Kaitlyn Holly Gill
Valley, NS

Megan Goodwin
Moncton, NB

Alicia L. Gould
Truro, NS

Wenqi Gu
Beijing, China

Lindsey Nicole Hill *magna cum laude*
Chilliwack, BC

Joelle Claire Larade *summa cum laude*
Honours French
Chéticamp, NS

Josselyn K. Loor Adrian
Halifax, NS

Miranda L. Macdonald
Halifax, NS

Farah Maliha
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Miranda L. Manion
Canning, NS

Sadé Ayanna Naomi Marston
Saint Ann, Jamaica

Stephanie Anne Mayhue *summa cum laude*
Honours Criminology
Halifax, NS

Rachael E. Megeney
Dartmouth, NS

Alisha Dawn Elizabeth Miller
Lower Sackville, NS

Nicole Ropafadzo Moyo
Harare, Zimbabwe

Kelsey Ann-Marie Rambeau
Dartmouth, NS

Ke-Yana Ryane Daihn Redmond
Dartmouth, NS

Morgan Jessica Reid
Enfield, NS

Maria Patricia Renella
Portoviejo, Ecuador

Chris Charles Ryan
Waverley, NS

Krayg Garnet Siemens *summa cum laude*
Ottawa, ON

Daphine Gumizamu Siima
Kampala, Uganda

Jorden Sinyard
Truro, NS

Zack A. Skerry
Dartmouth, NS

Natasha Jean Aline St Michel
Elmsdale, NS

Calvin Tan
Halifax, NS

Victoria Elizabeth Dunnett Temple
Co-operative Education
Halifax, NS



Gabrielle Rose Walthers *cum laude*
Honours Political Science
Calgary, AB

Samantha G. M. Webb
Honours Psychology
Lower Sackville, NS

Braden Patrick James Williams
Dartmouth, NS

SeungJin Yoo
Seoul, South Korea

BACHELOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Victoria L. Hawkins *cum laude*
Murray Harbour, PE

Caden J. Hebb *magna cum laude*
Halifax, NS

CERTIFICATE OF HONOURS-ARTS

Emily K. MacQuarrie
New Glasgow, NS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Abdulrahman Majed Alsurayyie
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Rajiv Keshav Balloo *summa cum laude*
Halifax, NS

Peiyuan Chen
Dongguan, China

Vishal Dagar
New Delhi, India

Jordan H. Davis
Freeport, Bahamas

Assa Nifoua Doukoure
Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

Drake Alexandra Doyle
Dartmouth, NS

Toshiyuki Koyama
Hodogaya, Japan

Rickson Renaldo J. Leacock
Bridgetown, Barbados

Brittany Blair Mackinnon
Windsor, NS

Dryden Cole MacNeil
Little Narrows, NS



Natalie Christine McNeil

Honours Geology
Sydney, NS

Sarah Anne Alice Newman

Lower Sackville, NS

Teaghen Hailey Phillip

Honours Psychology
Halifax, NS

Sonya N. Radvan *magna cum laude*

Honours Biology
High River, AB

Daniel Andres Ramirez

Bogota, Colombia

Kourtney Dale Rogers

Lower Sackville, NS

Carly C. Standish Wallis

Ayers Cliff, QC

Madeleine Vanessa Tam

Halifax, NS

Anna Terekhova *cum laude*

Yaroslavl, Russia

Tong Wu

Guangzhou, China

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE & DIPLOMA IN ENGINEERING

Diveshrye Russick

Rivière des Créoles, Mauritius

DIPLOMA IN ENGINEERING

Faris R. Elshanti

Halifax, NS

Hussain Taqi Hashmi

Halifax, NS

Jared Ross Hudder

Whites Lake, NS

Djomar Claudis Karam *with greatest distinction*

Halifax, NS

Mary Keeley Power

Upper Tantallon, NS

DIPLOMA IN FORENSIC SCIENCES

Sonya N. Radvan

High River, AB

CERTIFICATE OF HONOURS-SCIENCE

Robert Drake Riley
Dartmouth, NS

CERTIFICATE IN FORENSIC SCIENCES

Rickson Renaldo J. Leacock
Bridgetown, Barbados

MASTER OF ARTS (CRIMINOLOGY)

Andrea Lynn Boucher
Ottawa, ON

MASTER OF ARTS (HISTORY)

Kajsa Louise Swaffer
Brighton, United Kingdom

Trisha Turner
Timmins, ON

MASTER OF ARTS (INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STUDIES)

Aissa Nafissatou Mireille Barro
Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

Angella Nannozi
Kampala, Uganda

Monday Adah Ogbe
Benue State, Nigeria

Caroline Papanu
Kampala, Uganda

Tobias Gerhard Schminke
Oberroßbach, Germany

MASTER OF ARTS (WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES)

Ashley Lynne Beairsto
Charlottetown, PE

MASTER OF SCIENCE (APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY)

Jillian T. Tonet
Halifax, NS

MASTER OF SCIENCE (APPLIED SCIENCE)

Jeremy N. Bentley
Halifax, NS

Glen Daniel Hodge
Dartmouth, NS

MASTER OF SCIENCE (COMPUTING AND DATA ANALYTICS)

Bhavya Ahuja
New Delhi, India

Simon Edmond Al Achkar
Al-Koura, Lebanon

Maninder Kaur Baria
Halifax, NS

Vivekanand Boopathy
Halifax, NS



Qian Cai
Chengdu, China

Sunil Kumar Channaveerabhadraiah
Mysuru, India

Narasimha Rao Durgam
Halifax, NS

Morounkeji O. Fasuyi
Ekiti, Nigeria

Vinay Govindan
Chennai, India

Ankush Gupta
Delhi, India

Rishab Gupta
Patiala, India

Mohd Nawaz Hussain
Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Caner Adil Irfanoglu
Istanbul, Turkey

Jasleen Kour
Halifax, NS

Sri Akhil Reddy Kovvuri
Halifax, NS

Madeleine Min Jing Leong
Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia

Shahzan Magray
Srinagar, India

Duane S. Malone
Halifax, NS

Santhamohan Manivannan
Halifax, NS

Kothai Kannappan Murugappan
Halifax, NS

Ravneet Singh Oberoi
Dehradun, India

Sunil Padikar Manjunatha
Sira, India

Sreeraj Punnoli
Palakkad, India

Diven Kumar Sambhwani
Halifax, NS

Aman Sharma
Halifax, NS

Bhagya Shree
Bangalore, India

Gaganpreet Singh
New Delhi, India

Xinyun Tong
Wuyishan, China

Sonam Mansurali Vadsaria
Halifax, NS

Bharat Bhushan Verma
Halifax, NS

Jingshu Wang
Halifax, NS

Zewei Yan
Shenzhen, China

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
(INDUSTRIAL/ORGANIZATIONAL
PSYCHOLOGY)

Nikola C. Hartling
Toronto, ON

BEIJING NORMAL UNIVERSITY
ZUHAI-CAMPUS GRADUATES

BACHELOR OF COMMERCE

Hua Wei Chen
Guangzhou, China

Jinbei Du
Zhaoqing, China

Jiahua Feng
Chengdu, China

Qianye Fu
Shangrao, China

Xiao Guo
Huaibei, China

Xiangbao Meng
Guangzhou, China

Zhaohui Peng
Jiujiang, China

Yue Yu
Zhaoqing, China



VALEDICTORIAN BIOGRAPHIES

Redempta N. Ishimwe

Born and raised in Rwanda, Redempta Ishimwe is graduating today with a Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting and Global Business Management, *cum laude*, with three terms of Co-operative education. Redempta came to Halifax in 2015, and is still adjusting to the Canadian weather.

During her undergraduate degree, Redempta earned an Academic Achievement Award, the Thomas L. Trainor Memorial Award, the Dr. Harold Beazley Memorial Scholarship, the Everett Flemming Scholarship and the Gertrude Deveau Memorial Bursary. In addition, she placed third in the Accounting top case competition, earned a place on the Dean's list and a certificate of merit for work done in the area of student affairs. She is also on the research team for the generation Z research with professor Heidi Weigand. Redempta was co-president of Speak Up, a campus society which builds friendships between international and domestic students, and is the founder of the organization International Student Approach. Redempta is also a proud member of the All Nations Full Gospel church, a place she says made her discover her potential.

Redempta attributes her success to her hard working mother who sacrificed all she could to give her a good education, and her amazing father who could not could not make it today. She wants to thank her elder sisters who are here today, her church family, many of whom took the day off work to be here, and all the supportive professors, faculty and staff here at SMU, especially the staff at the Service Centre where she currently works.

Deeksha Bhaskar

Deeksha Bhaskar was born in Gurgaon, India, and moved to Halifax, Nova Scotia in September 2015, after finishing high school. Today she is graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, *magna cum laude*, and a Certificate in Human Resource Management. Deeksha formerly held the position of Chairperson for the Saint Mary's University Students' Association Board of Directors, 2017-2018. As a director, she represented the student body on the University Academic Senate for two consecutive years, chaired the SMUSA Elections Committee for one year and served as a Student Governor on the Saint Mary's University Board of Governors for one year.

In addition to her work with SMUSA, Deeksha spent her first two years at Saint Mary's actively volunteering with the on-campus society, Enactus, as a Project Manager focused on promoting entrepreneurial actions to create a positive social impact. In October 2017, Deeksha, with her parents, started her own family restaurant, RASA, which she expanded in 2019 to include a sister lounge, SURA. Upon graduation, she intends to continue working with the family business while pursuing a career in Human Resource Management.

Deeksha attributes her success to the unconditional love and support of her parents, Vijay and Raj Sharma, and her sister Bharti. Deeksha has further benefitted from the guidance of the many mentors during her time at Saint Mary's, whom she also wishes to thank.

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

Gerry Mills , Doctor of Civil Law, honoris causa

Immigration reformer and advocate

Born in Gravesend, England, Gerry Mills's lifelong dedication to supporting newcomers and immigrants comes from her own experience moving to Canada in 1986. Despite knowing the language, it was a startling culture shock. This experience would shape her passion and inform her understanding as she would go on to guide thousands of immigrants to their new home in Nova Scotia as the Executive Director of



Immigrant Services Associations of Nova Scotia (ISANS) for 30 years.

Initially drawn to a career in teaching after earning a degree in German and English from Hull University in England, her own immigration story changed her plans. Gerry would begin volunteering in literacy training and teaching part-time in English as a Second Language, but this quickly became a career. Within six months, Gerry was the Executive Director of the Halifax Immigrant Learning Centre – the start of a long and inspirational career in supporting immigrants to Nova Scotia.

Always stretching beyond her comfort zone, throughout her career, Gerry has been willing to face new challenges, initiating partnerships and working collaboratively to support the immigration and settlement of newcomers to the province. Recognizing the benefits that a merger between the Halifax Immigrant Learning Centre and the Metropolitan Immigrant Settlement Association (MISA) could bring, Gerry led this process with MISA Executive Director Claudette Legault to create Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia - ISANS. They not only made it work; they made it thrive. With their client-focused approach, they created an organization with lasting impacts on our province and beyond. ISANS now employs 300+ employees and is regarded both nationally and

internationally as a leader for innovative and effective immigrant settlement services. The impact of ISANS is evident as immigrant retention has tripled since the year 2000, and Nova Scotia is now ready and able to effectively and appropriately support immigrants and refugees.

Gerry regards this merger, bringing two of the city's most critical immigrant program associations together, as one of her most significant accomplishments. Gerry was also incredibly vital to the settling of thousands of Syrian refugees to Nova Scotia; another moment she considers one of the most important of her career.

In addition to her career at ISANS, Gerry was also active in the field of adult education, including five years teaching at Saint Mary's University. Well respected within her field, Gerry's opinions and insight have often been sought by others. Gerry has participated extensively in provincial, regional and national boards, committees and working groups on immigration, language and settlement, chairing many of them and addressing politicians and policymakers on various issues.

An outspoken advocate for change, Gerry has been a champion for immigrants, refugees and accessibility to services for decades. Her impact as a leader in Nova Scotia will be felt for decades to come. Nova Scotia is a better and more diverse community due to the work of Gerry Mills.



ALUMNI



The Saint Mary's Alumni Association

will welcome more than 300 students into its global family this winter.

To signify the momentous transition from Saint Mary's students to becoming Saint Mary's alumni, volunteer members of the Alumni Honour Guard don special robes to lead graduates in and out of the convocation ceremony.

As each graduate crosses the stage, they receive an alumni pin from a member of the Saint Mary's Alumni Association, a tradition dating back to 1990. Graduates are encouraged to wear their pins with pride.



Alumni of Saint Mary's University, Santamarians, share a strong sense of community; this bond is evident whether alumni are cheering on the Huskies, supporting their alma mater with their time or resources, or heading back to campus for Homecoming Weekend.

With more than 51,000 graduates worldwide, Saint Mary's has alumni networks in cities and towns across the globe.

Stay connected and keep in touch with classmates through social media, regional gatherings and networking opportunities. And if you want to volunteer, plan an event, or start an alumni network in your area, visit smu.ca/alumni.

ONCE A
Santamarian
ALWAYS A
Santamarian



Alumni around the world

ABOUT SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

NESTLED IN THE HEART OF HALIFAX,

Nova Scotia, Saint Mary's University is marked by iconic buildings, green spaces, and fresh ocean air. A vibrant and culturally diverse campus, Saint Mary's lets students experience the world, all in one city block.

The University's role in the creation and dissemination of knowledge, combined with its entrepreneurial and leadership skills training, provide ample evidence of its ability to change the world for the better – locally, nationally, and internationally.

Graduates of Saint Mary's – who hail from more than 100 countries – share a special pride. Known as Santamarians, 51,000 alumni are contributing to communities and economies around the globe.

Saint Mary's has pioneered a number of academic programs and is home to one of the first Faculties of Commerce in Canada, now recognized as a national leader in business education. In more recent years, the University became known for programs and supports for students with disabilities; when the Fred Smithers Centre of Support for Students with Disabilities opened in 1985, it was one of only a handful of such facilities in the country.

Saint Mary's has always endorsed the idea that physical health is a strong foundation for a productive mind and spirit, and the University has proven time and again the legitimacy of this philosophy, winning many regional and national titles across a number of sports.





Student success requires a strong and comprehensive institutional commitment, focusing on academic excellence, discovery, and innovation. Saint Mary's aims to prepare Santamarians to succeed in a global, intercultural environment, meet the market needs of the Atlantic region and Canada, and provide pathways for career launch and progression.

Building upon its strong history of teaching and research excellence, student-centred learning, community outreach, and commitment to diversity, Saint Mary's University is ready to meet the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century. So, too, are its graduates.



SAINT MARY'S 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 being named Bishop with responsibility for Nova Scotia, he continued to support the college as essential to the development of the Catholic community.

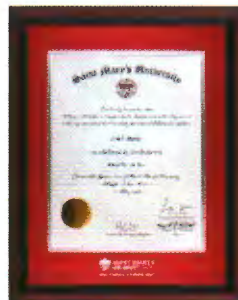
In 1841, the Nova Scotia House of Assembly formally recognized the institution's academic role. And in 1952, Saint Mary's College was granted university status. Just 50 years ago, in 1968, the school became a co-ed learning environment.

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. 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.



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 graduates 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.

Calnen Photography is available in the BMO Lounge following each ceremony for graduation photos. For individual sittings please call Calnen Photography at: 902-423-8840 or visit their website at www.calnenphotography.com.



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.

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