BOLD AMBITIONS
THE CAMPAIGN FOR DALHOUSIE

IDEAS FOR DESIGN & INNOVATION

A TIGER’S ECONOMIC IMPACT

INFUSING STUDENT LIFE

TEAMING UP FOR BETTER HEALTH CARE EDUCATION
In her final moments, Betty Eisenhauer was still chuckling about the boxer short raid of 1943.

Her bequest to Dal reflects her sentiments.

Legacy gifts speak to your experience at Dalhousie and all it has meant to you – an education and a lifetime of memories. Your gift could support a bursary fund, or strengthen the program within one of your preferred faculties. Giving back to Dal through a bequest, large or small, helps to ensure lifelong success for the generations that follow.

For information, contact:
wendy.mcguinness@dal.ca (902.494.6981) or
ann.vessey@dal.ca (902.494.6565)
On our cover
Scholar and student leader
Antonia Sappong — a past president
of the Dalhousie Tea Drinking Society
— was photographed by Danny Abriel for our cover.

10
Resiliency is the heart of the matter
How do children, families and communities cope with adversity such as poverty, racism, sexual exploitation, or natural disasters? That’s the question at the heart of a global research network based at Dalhousie. The Resiliency Research Centre explores a wide variety of perspectives – social work, education, psychology, child and youth studies and policy – opening up new possibilities for support.

by Skana Gee

14
Bringing it home
A new teaching approach matches students from Health Professions, Medicine and Dentistry with volunteer health mentors who have chronic conditions. These mentors share their health care experiences with small groups of students. More than 600 students benefit from this inter-professional education, sharing perspectives across their various specialties.

by Marilyn Smulders

18
Life-changing experiences
A triumvirate from the business community have offered to champion Bold Ambitions: The Campaign for Dalhousie. Find out why Donald Sobey, David Bissett and Purdy Crawford are on board.

by Marilyn Smulders

26
Making space for IDEAs to happen
The IDEA (Innovation and Design in Engineering and Architecture) Building on the Sexton campus is one of the priorities for the Bold Ambitions campaign.

by Marie Weeren

28
Together we can
An ‘attitudinal revolution’ is required to build a culture of innovation in the province. And, as President Tom Traves recently told the Halifax Chamber of Commerce, the university is prepared to work hand-in-hand with industry and government to accelerate economic development.

by John DeMont

30
Catering to local tastes
More than half the food purchased for campus dining halls and retail locations is local. This makes Dalhousie more sustainable and supports local businesses. Join us as we go down to the farm.

by Ryan McNutt

DEPARTMENTS
FROM THE EDITOR 2
UPFRONT ON CAMPUS 4
DALumni 34
CLASS NOTES 38
THE BACK STORY 48
From the Editor

What’s your cup of tea?

As Marjorie Lindsay overlooked a packed McN lenses Room from the stage in the Student Union Building, she confessed to being a trifle nervous – despite her delight in being invited to speak as a major supporter of Bold Ambitions: The Campaign for Dalhousie.

So she reminded herself how much she likes to entertain in her home and decided to picture everyone gathered in her own living room, just friends dropping by for a cup of tea together. Then it became easier to share the poignant commitment behind their family’s gift in memory of John W. Lindsay Sr. (BEng’51 (NSTC); DEng’91) and the vision that will help transform the Sexton campus (see Making Space for IDEAs to happen, Page 26).

A moment later, student Antonia Sappong stepped onstage, describing how the university enabled her to design a student experience that spoke to her interests and shaped her talents (see Guest View, Page 3). The past-president of the Dalhousie Tea Drinking Society stressed the importance of infusing fun into the day. Antonia – scholar, mentor, dancer and friend – knows that many relationships are nurtured while the kettle’s on the boil.

Enhancing relationships with the university, and enabling Dalhousie to become even stronger, is at the heart of Bold Ambitions: The Campaign for Dalhousie (see Life-changing experiences, Page 18). Dalhousie’s dynamic learning environment is focused on the big questions – those with implications on a local, national and global scale, says President Tom Traves (see Why Dalhousie? Why Now? Page 21).

The Resiliency Research Centre is working across continents to learn how children can survive and thrive in the face of hardship (see Resiliency is the heart of the matter, Page 10). Community mentors are working hand in hand with students from health professions, dentistry and medicine to enhance the way that health care is delivered in the future (see Bringing it home, Page 15).

Our province has a profound and enduring connection to the world through the ocean that swirls around our shores. And in our oceans capacity, local and global coalesce (see Leveraging oceans expertise, Page 8). The university is prepared to join together with industry and government to accelerate economic developments in this, and other, sectors (see Together we can, Page 28).

Investing in our research and teaching capacity, and enhancing the student experience, is the mission of Bold Ambitions: The Campaign for Dalhousie and Vice-president (External Relations) Floyd Dykeman. In the words of President Traves: “This campaign will take Dalhousie from very good to truly great.”

Thanks to an ongoing relationship with our friends and supporters, this vision can be achieved together. Enjoy reading Dalhousie, perhaps over a cup of tea.

Amanda
Why Dal? ...because it’s special

I grew up in Ontario, so not surprisingly, people often ask me why I didn't attend university closer to home. Why did I choose Dalhousie University?

In part, I chose Dalhousie because of the generous Hector McInnes Scholarship I received. But there was something else Dal offered – an incredible wealth of experiences, both academic and non-academic. Here, I have the opportunity to not only be a successful scholar but also a leader within the community.

So, certainly, the quality and breadth of opportunity at Dal helped persuade me to make it my number-one choice.

The Dalhousie Integrated Science Program (DISP) enables students to participate in research while taking biology, chemistry, physics, Earth sciences, math, stats and scientific ethics at the same time. To a nerd such as me, this was pure, unadulterated heaven. I wasn't at university long before I discovered my love of research. I had the opportunity to work with many very talented researchers – even as an undergrad. I am currently studying the immune response to sexually transmitted diseases with the end goal of developing a vaccine.

What has really made me the person I am today are my experiences outside of the classroom. I joined the Dalhousie Tea Drinking Society purely for fun and the DalDance Society makes it easy to stay in shape.

Other societies are more academic. As the coordinator for the Imhotep Legacy Academy, an outreach program that encourages junior high students of African Nova Scotian descent to pursue a post-secondary education in the sciences, I have witnessed the successes of these students.

So, I guess my answer to the people who ask me ‘why Dal?’ is ‘...because it’s special.’ This university invites and enables students to explore so many different interests and in so many different ways. This makes the undergraduate education a diverse, interdisciplinary experience.

And in a world where we are surrounded by issues like the depletion of non-renewable resources, economic recession, new drug-resistant diseases, and global warming, we are going to need people who have been trained to think and act in interdisciplinary ways to come up with creative solutions.

This is why the Bold Ambitions campaign is so important to Dal right now. It will help take what is already so very good about Dal and elevate it to a whole new level.

Antonia Sapping is a fourth-year student in microbiology and immunology.
New Beginnings: Class of 2011

Meghan Hapgood, Management

It takes a certain kind of student to join a brand new academic program in its first year. But Meghan Hapgood was looking for a change, and Dalhousie’s corporate residency MBA seemed the right fit.

“I was struggling to figure out what I could do that fit the skills I had, but that didn’t pigeonhole me into something. And when I read about Dalhousie’s corporate residency program, it was, like, neon lights. This was exactly what I was looking for.”

Ms. Hapgood will cross the stage at convocation as a standout member of the program’s first graduating class, having been named student of the year twice. She’s one of the first 38 students to graduate from the corporate residency MBA.

Central to the MBA program is the corporate residency: a fully-paid work opportunity with a major employer. Her time with the Atlantic Regional Office of the Canada Revenue Agency was so successful that she has continued to work part-time while finishing her studies and will be employed there following graduation.

Other employers with the program include: lululemon, in Vancouver; Aon and CIBC, in Calgary; Procter and Gamble and TD Securities, Toronto; Innovacorp and Nova Scotia Business Inc., Halifax; and Scotiabank, in various locations.

By the end of April, 50 per cent of those looking for work had already secured full-time employment. Others plan to travel and volunteer; take further studies, including law school; and pursue professional designations, such as chartered accountants.

Jazz Turner-Baggs, Computer Science

While most of us are content simply using household electronics, Jazz Turner-Baggs needs to know what makes them tick and how he can build them himself.

“I used to take everything apart,” he says. “My parents would come home and find their VCR in parts on the floor. Then I started wondering about the computer. There was this box that somehow let me connect to everybody. I wanted to know how it worked.”

It hasn’t always been easy, though. During his first two years at Dal he struggled and his motivation faltered. While he had the smarts, he couldn’t seem to make the connection between the classroom and the working world.

“I bottomed out because I didn’t know what I was doing,” he says. Everything changed when he took a required semester off and worked full-time.

Since then, Mr. Turner-Baggs has worked full-time while attending classes and been vice-chair for the student chapter of the Association of Computer Machinery. He has already started a graduate program in computer science, focusing on self-managing systems.

“Now I love this place and I love combining work and school. It’s all about building a toolset to be able to accomplish the things I want in life. It took me a while to see that, but I’m glad I finally did.”

Following his studies, he plans to open his own business.

Holly Simon, Architecture

Holly Simon grew up drawing plans and perspectives of buildings.

“I dreamt up elaborate houses from our little bungalow and re-imagined public buildings – my school, the post-office – converted into other uses,” she recalls.

Ms. Simon fused this passion for drawing and design with a commitment to humanitarian issues while taking a Bachelor of Environmental Design Studies.

She aspires to become an architect who learns from and contributes to humanitarian causes through the design of housing and public spaces.

In 2010, she won the prestigious Berkeley Prize Travel Fellowship and traveled to Pécs, Hungary to learn first-hand about the opportunities for heritage preservation and adaptive reuse as a catalyst for positive change.

“I’ve always been drawn to the rich and tumultuous history of Hungary and Eastern Europe. My father and his parents fled the country during the 1956 Revolution,” explains Ms. Simon. “I’m passionate about engaging in and creating architecture as a social art. Architecture embodies who we are, where we come from and where we are going as a society.”

The future promises to be exciting as well, as she continues her studies in the master of architecture program at Dalhousie.
Olu Brown, Dentistry

Olu Brown has always wanted to be involved in the dental professions.

Dal's Transition Year Program for African-Canadian and First Nations students provided her with a solid foundation for her future studies – a diploma (2009) and bachelor’s degree in dental hygiene (2011).

Working for a year at the Mount Hope clinic was rewarding – and it also inspired her career path.

“It motivated me even more to start a mobile clinic,” Ms. Brown explains. “I saw there’s a real need for that type of service, and I found out I’ve got what it takes to do it.”

As she crosses the stage this spring, Ms. Brown has another reason to celebrate.

“It means a lot to me that I’m the first black woman to graduate from the BDH program,” she says. “It’s why I worked so hard to get in.”

Ms. Brown hopes to inspire other young African-Nova Scotian women to apply. “I’ve been asked to speak to students in the Transition Year Program,” she says. “It’s a fitting part of her own transition from being a student to being a self-employed dental hygienist.

Ahead of the communications technology revolution

While president and chief executive officer of Maritime Telegraph and Telephone (MT&T), honorary degree recipient Ivan Duvar not only lived through the communications technology revolution; he led it.

During more than 30 years with MT&T, Mr. Duvar played a transformative role in telecommunications in Nova Scotia. He led the company’s modernization program that brought one-party dialing service to the province. As president and CEO, he prepared the company for changes that were on the horizon as a result of deregulation and the advent of cellular technology. And as chairman of the board, he oversaw the merger of four regional telephone companies.

Today, Mr. Duvar is president and CEO of MIJAC Incorporated, a private investment firm. He remains a steadfast community leader. He has chaired the Halifax-Dartmouth United Way Appeal, served as president of the Halifax Board of Trade, and been a director for Symphony Nova Scotia, the Arthritis Society of Canada and the IWK Foundation. He is a past member of Dalhousie's Board of Governors and has served on the advisory board for the School of Business Administration.

Celebrating community leaders

Dalhousie is proud to recognize outstanding leadership with honorary degrees for:

Larry Beasley, an internationally recognized urban planner who transformed Vancouver’s inner city;

David Braybrooke, an esteemed philosopher whose work captures the underlying principles of a liberal democracy;

Michael Duck, a high-tech equipment developer and entrepreneur;

Ivan Duvar, an executive who played a transformative role in modernizing telecommunications;

Hon. Myra Freeman, the first woman Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia and the first Jewish Lieutenant Governor in Canada;

Thom Mason, director of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the world’s foremost facility for studying neutron science;

Gregory Petsko, one of the world’s leading researchers in the structural basis of biochemical properties, particularly protein crystallography;

William Rand, a lawyer and investor who has been a catalyst supporting entrepreneurs across Canada and around the world.
Hoop dreams
Simon Farine powered his basketball team to the region’s championship title and an exciting conclusion to his varsity career that earned him the Climo Award.

He scored 24 points for the Tigers against the Axemen before a hometown crowd at the Halifax Metro Centre en route to a 78-47 victory and the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) banner.

Mr. Farine, a management student from Toronto, is the second highest leading scorer in men’s basketball history at Dalhousie, with 1,452 regular season points over his career of 76 games.

“Simon has played an instrumental role in the renewal of the Dalhousie program and has added excitement to the court at Dalplex from the moment he arrived on campus,” says coach John Campbell.

Field of dreams
Playing in her final home game as a Tiger, defensive player Jeanette Huck stepped up to play forward because her soccer team was missing players due to injuries. Ms. Huck scored two goals for the Tigers, bringing the team to a 3-0 win over UNB.

As demonstrated, Ms. Huck is a versatile player who works hard on the attack and on defense and is widely recognized for her leadership. She is a commerce co-op student from Halifax.

Ms. Huck caps her varsity career – as the team’s captain, a CIS first team all-Canadian, and a three-time CIS Academic All-Canadian – with the Class of ’55 Award.

Performing arts take centre stage
Stepping on stage as Officer Friendly, Robert Summersby-Murray, the dean of Arts and Social Sciences, began singing with students in the opera Comedy on the Bridge.

The Sir James Dunn Theatre in the Dalhousie Arts Centre was transformed as the vocal class performed the opera for one of their required voice credits. During the one-act opera, townsfolk trapped between two warring areas debate love, jealousy, marriage, espionage and a riddle.

It’s safe to say that Dr. Summersby-Murray fully understands the need for upgrading performance facilities in the Dalhousie Arts Centre.

“I was able to engage with the space as a performer as well,” he says. “There’s no doubt the current spaces are aging and there are some difficulties that need to be addressed.”

Graduating students Jeanette Huck and Simon Farine capped off their varsity careers by winning the trophies for female and male athletes of the year. Daniel You, a volleyball player from Calgary, earned the President’s Award for Athletics, Leadership and Community Service during the 57th annual Black and Gold Athletics Awards.

(Photos: Nick Pearce)
Youth on the move

Growing up in Newfoundland, Tony Ingram had difficulty finding people interested in his passion – breakdancing. When he became a physiotherapy student, he quickly formed a b-boy crew in Halifax.

The momentum just kept building. Their group Concrete Roots wanted to bring the positive, popping energy of hip hop to the community by teaching in schools across the city. Fast forward only a few short years later, and Concrete Roots is the Halifax Chamber of Commerce’s best new business of 2011.

It can be challenging to access schools, community centres and government funding. “With this award, we’re hoping that it kind of proves our legitimacy and makes things a little bit easier,” says Mr. Ingram.

Mr. Ingram is currently working in his hometown of St. John’s. But the beat goes on: he’s started another group to spur the break dancing scene for students living in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Michelle Hampson

Halifax Business Awards

Best new business 2011 (gold): Concrete Roots, Tony Ingram (MSc’09); Igor Geshelin (BComm’09); Chris Beck; Toby Richard and Drew Moore.

Best new business 2011 (bronze): NewPace’s president and CEO Brent Newsome (BSc’94) and Vice-president Gavin Murphy (BCSc’94) are both Dal grads.

Small business of the year (silver): Bishop’s Cellar President Jim Spatz (MD’74) is also the chair of Dalhousie’s Board of Governors.

Business of the year: RCR Hospitality, owned by Robert C. Risley (BEng’65), takes silver. The bronze award went to Immunovaccine Inc., a company first started by Dalhousie researchers that now partners with other universities and pharmaceutical companies. Their vice-president is Marc Mansour (BSc’94, PhD’02).

Business person of the year: Robert Orr (BEng ’93) is the chairman of Ocean Nutrition Canada Ltd. and the gold winner in this category. Bronze winner Joe Metlege (BComm’03) of Templeton Properties is also an alumnus.

Marketing medical innovation

It’s called post-operative cognitive decline, a syndrome causing patients to experience memory loss or other forms of cognitive dysfunction after surgery or critical illness.

“It causes a lot of grief for patients and their families and there’s an enormous cost in dealing with the side effects,” says Professor Michael Schmidt, whose expertise includes anaesthesiology, physiology, neurosurgery and biomedical engineering.

Dr. Schmidt’s research aims to protect the brain and other organs by developing innovative anaesthesia procedures. He’s invented a new device that removes carbon dioxide in the anaesthesia circuit to improve safety. Biomedical engineering student Florentin Wilfart fine-tuned this prototype during his doctoral studies.

“For me, it’s not enough to get your research published,” says Dr. Schmidt. “You must be thinking of getting that research to the patient in a very efficient way.”

The hope is to bring the device from “bench to bedside” by 2014, but first there’s a need for more research, clinical trials and a regulatory process.

With a prototype in hand, the innovators contacted the School of Business Administration where Assistant Professor David Roach added another perspective.

An interdisciplinary team called Purisorb Inc. was created. It includes MBA students Christopher Humphries and Zach Silbernagel and biomedical engineering PhD student Florentin Wilfart, who are jointly coached by Dr. Roach and Dr. Schmidt. The team developed a business plan for ZeroSorb, an innovative carbon dioxide absorber for anaesthetic circuits.

First, they presented the business case at the Apex Business Plan Competition at the University of New Brunswick and won. An invitation to the IBK Capital-Ivey Business Plan Competition brought another win. Next, they placed second in the Nebraska Innovation Competition at the University of Lincoln. They’ve secured a place at the Venture Labs Investment Competition, a 32-team world-wide competition hosted by the University of Texas in Austin. And the team was one of only 42 chosen from 510 applications to compete in the Rice Business Plan Competition in Houston, Texas.

“It does bode well for getting the device to market,” says Mr. Humphries.
Dalhousie is known as a world leader in oceans research, with more than 100 faculty members generating groundbreaking work in the field.

But the region’s oceans expertise stretches well beyond campus. Between universities and government labs, 10 per cent of all researchers in Atlantic Canada are focused on oceans. And in Nova Scotia, oceans industries account for $5 billion in revenue – 15.5 per cent of GDP – and 60,000 jobs. With such expertise, the oceans sector presents one of the province’s best opportunities for economic growth in the years ahead.

In early June, the university championed this message with Dalhousie Oceans Week, bringing together scientists, industry leaders, government representatives and the public to celebrate the important role that oceans play in our economy, research, culture and way of life in Nova Scotia. Events included a gala dinner, public lectures, school visits to the Aquatron laboratory and several research and industry conferences.

Dalhousie Oceans Week also saw the launch of the Halifax Marine Research Institute (HMRI). Dalhousie is taking a leadership role in the new institute, which brings together partners from industry, government and the university sector to increase the scale, quality, internationalization of marine research. By applying world-class science to public policy and commercial applications, the institute aims to expand research capacity and build a vibrant cluster of marine technology companies in our region.

“The HMRI is the primary outreach vehicle for the Canada Excellence Research Chair in Oceans Science and Technology, awarded to Dalhousie last year. Its scientific director, Doug Wallace, and his research team will be based out of the Oceans Excellence Centre, a new addition to the west side of the Life Sciences Centre. Construction on the four-story complex began this spring with an estimated completion date of January 2013.”

Ryan McNutt

French connections

On the surface, Halifax appears to be an English-speaking city, but Jean-Jacques Defert, assistant professor of French, knows better. Thousands of people live most of their lives in French here and this year, his course French 2002.03 - Spoken French started connecting students with them.

“French is a great opportunity for students to learn about us, but also for us to give back and to get to know some students as well,” she says. Andy Murdoch
DSU’s déjà vu

A mix of new and familiar faces will greet students this fall as their Dalhousie Student Union executive. Chris Saulnier, computer engineering student and last year’s president, was re-elected to lead the DSU for another year in March. Joining him again will be Kayla Kurin, psychology and classics major, returning as vice-president internal.

“A year is a very short amount of time to be working in this environment, so I’m really excited to come back and finish a lot of the things that we started last year,” says Mr. Saulnier, citing a particular interest in building greater awareness of what the DSU has to offer students.

He’ll be joined by three new executive members: Jamie Aaron (international development studies) as vice-president student life; Evan Price (finance) as vice-president finance; and Sarah Bouchard (political science and religious studies) as vice-president external.

“It’s a great way to do something meaningful and get involved in something outside of the classroom,” says Ms. Bouchard.

“I think we all have ideas about leaving behind positive change at Dalhousie, and this is a great vehicle to be able to affect that,” adds Mr. Price.

The team is hitting the ground running to prepare for September, when the DSU hosts orientation week activities, society fair and training for society leaders and residence council.

They’re hoping to build on what appears to be growing enthusiasm surrounding the DSU: an increase in voter turnout in March’s elections and, already, more applications for orientation week leaders than last year.

“It seems like students are more pumped about engagement with the DSU than I’ve seen in my four years, certainly,” says Mr. Aaron.

“It’s also about what the DSU can do for them,” adds Ms. Kurin. “We have our services and our events, but we want to hear from students so we can help them achieve their ideas.”

Ryan McNutt

Protecting ‘the common heritage of mankind’

Boris Worm, assistant professor of marine conservation biology, has been awarded a 2011 E.W.R. Steacie Memorial Fellowship.

Dr. Worm’s research has helped change perceptions of the precarious state of the world’s oceans. The fellowships are awarded to enhance the career development of outstanding and highly promising university faculty who are earning a strong international reputation for original research, states the NSERC website.

“The oceans, by law, are a public resource. It’s written right into international law: ‘the common heritage of all mankind.’ So all mankind should, on some level, be aware of it and invested in ensuring that common heritage remains productive, healthy and something that supports us and life on the planet as a whole,” says Dr. Worm.

The award is worth $250,000, which will support his work in ecosystem oceanography: focusing on the causes and consequences of changes in marine biodiversity, and its conservation on a global scale.

NSAC and Dal in talks to merge

Close ties already exist

Agriculture Minister John MacDonell called it a “big day” for the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC) as he officially announced formal discussions leading to a merger with Dalhousie.

“We want the college to grow, to be bigger and better,” said Minister MacDonell. “We’re really anticipating that to be a good thing, to join with Nova Scotia’s premier research university.”

Close ties already exist – Dalhousie grants bachelors and masters degrees for NSAC – and there is a strong focus on shared research.

“The idea is to take our strengths and build something better together,” says Dr. Traves.

There are still many details to be worked out between merger teams. An agreement is expected to be finalized by September 2012.

“I think it will strengthen our school and open up opportunities for us,” says Paul Manning, of the NSAC Students’ Union.

“We’re so well aligned with Dalhousie already,” adds NSAC graduate student Todd Larsen. NSAC masters students are part of Dalhousie’s Faculty of Graduate Studies. “It should elevate our status, for sure.”

Paul LaFlche, the deputy minister of agriculture, notes the priorities for the government are for the college to maintain a strong presence in the Truro-Bible Hill area, protect jobs, increase enrolment and enhance the student experience.

NSAC was founded in 1905 to train Atlantic Canadians in the best practices of farming. It now offers a broad range of academic and technical training programs in agricultural sciences and business, aquaculture, environment and rural issues.

In 2010-11, about 950 students were enrolled at the college, including approximately 200 international students who’ve come to the college through reciprocal agreements with schools in India, China and the Netherlands.
A young teen in rural Thailand loses his father and younger sister in a tsunami. It is traumatic, yet he finishes school, secures satisfying work, marries, starts a family and describes his life as "happy."

An adolescent in Tampa, Florida is diagnosed with ADHD. He is neglected but not abused by his blue-collar parents. They provide food and shelter but basically leave him and his siblings to their own devices. He drops out of school and descends into a life of drug addiction and petty crime.

Why are the outcomes for these two teens, both immersed in challenging situations, so radically different? And how can experts in fields such as social work, psychology, health statistics, education, and child and youth studies – not to mention policy makers – learn from those experiences?

That’s what the Resilience Research Centre (RRC), an international partnership based at Dalhousie University, aims to find out.

The centre brings together leaders in the field of resilience research from different disciplines and cultural backgrounds. Partners across six continents are employing methodologically diverse approaches to the study of how children, youth and families cope with adversity, whether it be poverty, racism, sexual exploitation, or natural disaster. The focus is on the social and physical ecologies that make resilience more likely, looking beyond individual factors to aspects of family, neighbourhood, community, school, culture and political and economic forces.

Recently, the centre was invited to become an institutional member of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO. “We appreciate your support in promoting UNESCO’s values in Canada and look forward to future collaboration,” wrote David Walden, Secretary-General, Canadian Commission for UNESCO.

“The centre’s program of research has focused on developing understanding of the social ecology of resilience, opening up new possibilities for support to disadvantaged young people, families and communities,” says Dorothy Bottrell, a lecturer in the Faculty of Education and Social Work at the University of Sydney, Australia. Dr. Bottrell is engaged in a project focusing on patterns
of supporting and enabling resilience by asking how disadvantaged young people experience and respond to their schools and communities.

Meanwhile, back in Halifax, Michael Ungar, a research professor in the School of Social Work – and the heartbeat of the RRC – is busy Skyping with colleagues in Moscow, putting a Minnesota researcher in touch with an arts-based charity in Baghdad, and emailing information to a Kurdish researcher concerning a child soldier initiative at Dalhousie.

“That’s a normal day at the office. The model of governance is more about trying to create a woven mat, rather than spokes on a wheel,” says the affable 47-year-old, who serves as the RRC’s director of research.

“It’s a complex weave of relationships that 99 per cent of the time works very well,” says Dr. Ungar.

There’s no doubt Dr. Ungar’s work is well-known. Whether he’s writing about unsettling trends among North American youth, starring in a YouTube video or blogging about hot-button trends at www.psychologytoday.com – the five things most likely to ruin your child’s life, for instance – his reach is undeniable. In 2011 Pottersfield Press published his novel The Social Worker, a provocative story of what it means to reach out to the most vulnerable.

But his work with the RRC (www.resilienceproject.org) – which he helped found in 2003 – is not so high-profile, even though the centre has four research projects running in a dozen countries.

They include Negotiating Resilience, which uses video and photography to capture relevant aspects of young participants’ lives; Pathways to Resilience, to illustrate how youth navigate formal services like child welfare, education and youth justice; Stories of Transition, which explores factors informing career decisions among young people in five areas of Canada, including Halifax; and the International Resilience Project, intended to validate the culturally sensitive Child and Youth Resilience Measure. The series of 28 questions takes into account risk factors, strengths and services. Developed by the RRC, it has since been adopted by hundreds of researchers worldwide.

“The Resilience Research Centre has a generous and open approach to sharing its research methodologies, instruments and findings,” notes Dr. Bottrell.
Macalane Junel Malindi, a senior university lecturer in South Africa, agrees.

“I think we owe much of what we know about the resilience phenomenon to the diligent work of the centre,” says Dr. Malindi, who’s employed by the School of Educational Sciences at North-West University in Vanderbijlpark.

“The fact that its influence is far-reaching means that we can benefit from the knowledge it generates. Its contribution to theory and practice in social sciences is second to none,” she says.

“Have you read The Secret?” asks Dr. Ungar, referring to the bestseller about the power of positive thinking. “We are everything The Secret is not. We are the antithesis to The Secret. It’s not that positive thoughts don’t work, but it’s only a very small portion of what makes you survive well.”

So it’s true: the cliché “kids are resilient” – a construct popular among American researchers – is just that. Good schools, safe streets, attached parents, fewer prisons, among other factors, also play a role.

“If you scratch the surface, in eight out of 10 cases, the reason most children do well is not because of their temperament, but because there was a teacher who greeted them at the door of the classroom, there was a coach, there was a facilitative environment,” muses Dr. Ungar.

And while there are commonalities, those factors can be very specific depending on community and culture, whether research subjects live in Sheshatshui, Labrador; Montreal, PQ; Winnipeg, MB; Vancouver, BC; Tampa, Florida; Jinan, China; Guwahati, India; Tel Aviv, Israel; Medellin, Columbia; Dar es Salaam, Tanzania; or Palmerston North, Manawatu-wanganui, New Zealand.

“Some cultures, for example, are more accepting of surrogate parenting by extended family or friends. In South Africa, where the term ‘AIDS orphan’ is frequently employed, 90 per cent of children are actually still engaged with extended family,” says Dr. Ungar. “We can’t define it by our own standards, in such a tiny box.”

Social justice means one thing to a teen living in an individual-focused society, and something altogether different to one who resides in a place where it’s expected you will give...
up some of your personal rights for the good of the whole.

And what response would you get if you asked your own teens: how often did you cook for your family? How often do you look after your younger siblings? Yet it’s de rigeur in many cultures.

“There are some universal truths,” he confides. “We couldn’t find a society that didn’t value education.”

Dr. Ungar, whose speaking engagements have taken him from Singapore to San Francisco in the past year (including a submission to the European Parliament), has been working with troubled kids since the 1990s as a clinician and therapist.

“As a research professor, what I’ve tried to do is take the pure research and use it to inform the professional applications,” he says.

“Partners overseas, particularly in the developing world, are more interested in that aspect. If you’re dealing with AIDS orphans, you’re not really worried about measuring intrinsic attachment – you want to know what supports a grandparent needs to make a successful family.”

Dr. Ungar doesn’t want to always be “exporting our ideas … it’s about thinking outside the box – what is happening there that we should be bringing here.”

A good example is the model of restorative justice – long-ingrained in the culture of the Maori of New Zealand and adopted in countries around the world (including Canada) during the past few decades.

“That is something that came out of a marginalized culture and entered into the dominant culture,” says Dr. Ungar.

Now in his 10th year at Dal, Dr. Ungar says the “reciprocity” amongst RRC projects and communities – communities, governments, charitable organizations, front-line workers – has contributed to its success.

Each collaborating partner potentially becomes part of the research, included in resulting data, invited to co-author articles in professional publications. The centre is also in the process of establishing itself as a “major player” with SOS Children’s Villages.

“They’re sitting on a data set of over one million children, and they’ll need an evaluation program,” explains Dr. Ungar. “The potential is huge.”

“We try to enter into partnerships where people will take away more from the table than they had. It’s a buffet table – and they all leave with dishes more full than when they came,” says Dr. Ungar, who is married with two teens of his own.

For his part, Dr. Malindi believes his collaboration with the RRC will have tangible results in his own African backyard.

“The findings and recommendations are going to improve how we can ameliorate the social problems that affect masses of vulnerable children,” he says.
“We want health professionals to talk to each other.”
Jay Hartman-Berrier

“I’ll never have that preconception of what being sick looks like again – it allows me to step back and to have an open mind.”
Tiffany Connors
Jay Hartman-Berrier figures the chronic conditions that sap her strength on a daily basis stem from a bike accident that happened a lifetime ago.

A member of the Yale cycling team, the then-18-year-old student athlete was training when a car in front of her changed lanes and crashed into her. As she somersaulted over the handlebars and into the curb, she broke her neck in two places.

“I basically karate chopped myself,” she says, matter-of-factly. It wasn’t known if she’d live but she did: gradually learning to walk again and to hold a pen, although she still can’t cough or roll over in bed.

Now in her mid-60s, she believes that brain-stem injury is behind the chronic conditions that have plagued her since middle-age: lupus, fibromyalgia and Raynaud’s disease.

After her four decades sitting in doctors’ waiting rooms – on both sides of the border – she’s learned to be the “squeaky wheel” and advocate for herself. Which is why, when she read about Dalhousie’s new health mentors program, she felt she had something to offer and signed up as a volunteer. Anything that would spark health professionals to look at patients as individuals instead of a list of symptoms had to be worth it.

The program was initiated last September and involved almost 600 students representing a wide swath of health-care programs from the Faculties of Health Professions, Dentistry and Medicine, including at Dal Med School’s new campus in Saint John, N.B. Small interprofessional teams of students were matched with a mentor, an adult volunteer with a chronic condition.

“I’m good for maybe two hours of doing something. It can be very hard to do the grocery shopping or the cooking or whatever,” says Ms. Hartman-Berrier, a recent immigrant to Canada. She continues to travel for work as the director of a small traditional music festival back in her native Connecticut. She and her husband Bob, a Dal employee, also divide their time between Halifax and Southwest Margaree in Cape Breton. The mother of three grown daughters, she loves to garden, weave and sew for her grandchildren.
When Rendell Wilson was a teenager, he couldn’t wait to get away from Big Tancook Island, where generations of Wilsons have eked out a meagre living from the soil and the sea. But now as a senior, he feels the tug to the place he still refers to as home.

The pull is so strong that his daughter, Seretha, feels it too – even though she grew up on the mainland.

Seretha Wilson is a nursing student who spent the winter term traveling back and forth to Big Tancook, the largest of 365 small islands scattered throughout Mahone Bay, as part of her course Nursing Practice: Caring for Families.

“W e’re so used to going in and taking care of the sick patient,” she says, during the ferry ride over to visit the Baker family. “That’s why I think this class is so important – it’s understanding what goes into keeping families healthy.”

Students conduct a series of interviews with the members of one family, allowing for an in-depth look at their particular situation and their health, including socioeconomic and cultural factors. In the case of the Baker family – David and Katie and their children Megan and Dylan – the challenges of island living were also taken into account.

Tiffany Connors, 21, was surprised when she first met Ms. Hartman-Berrier, who now greets her as a friend with a hug at the front door.

“I was picturing somebody in a wheelchair, who could hardly speak,” says Ms. Connors, from the small town of Nakina in northern Ontario. “I was taught a valuable lesson from the start; that is, not to have preconceptions about what someone with a chronic condition looks like.”

A pharmacy student, Ms. Connors was part of team of four; the others in the group studied social work, dental hygiene and physiotherapy. They met at the Hartman-Berriers’ apartment five times – fact-finding missions that turned into family dinners, with Ms. Hartman-Berrier answering the students’ questions as she ladled homemade soup or stew into their bowls and offering seconds.

“For me, that was important: for them to get to know me, certainly, but also to gather around the table and to get know each other and each other’s fields,” says Ms. Hartman-Berrier. “We want health professionals to talk to each other.”

Ms. Connors says she’s grateful that the health mentors program was part of her first year at Dalhousie, adding that her interactions with Ms. Hartman-Berrier will forever shape her as an aspiring pharmacist. “It means a lot to me that she has been so open. I have listened and learned so much. And I’ll never have that preconception of what being sick looks like again – it allows me to step back and to have an open mind.”

Coming over to her mentor’s apartment, and listening to her experiences, Ms. Connors says it has dawned on her that Ms. Hartman-Berrier was saving her daily allotment of energy to spend with the group.

“It makes me feel special that she cares so much about the program and wants to make a difference for us. What an amazing gift she’s given us.”
Also on board for the choppy one-hour voyage is her dad Rendell and her professor Debbie Sheppard-LeMoine. “I think it’s important to thank these families in person for their support of student learning,” says Prof. Sheppard-LeMoine.

Disembarking at Big Tancook, the group met up with Katie Baker. Nestled into the corner of her couch on a cold, blustery day, Mrs. Baker explains that living on the island is great; it’s coming and going that’s the problem. “A lot of the time things get worse because the people are too stubborn or don’t want to see a doctor – they think it’s too much trouble,” she explains.

The Bakers also act as medical first responders for the island’s 125 permanent residents – a population that doubles in the summer. It’s an important role in a community where a hospital is more than an hour away by boat. Katie’s been there to hold a hand when a cancer patient has passed away and been first on the scene of a devastating ATV accident.

And as parents, they find that even routine trips to the dentist or doctor can become a big, all-day production when you’re at the mercy of ferry schedules.

“‘There’s less and less of us here and we want to stay,’” says Mrs. Baker. “‘We’ll do what we can to survive.’

Marilyn Smulders

“‘That’s why I think this class is so important – it’s understanding what goes into keeping families healthy.’ Seretha Wilson

L-R: Nursing professor Debbie Sheppard-LeMoine and student Seretha Wilson; Rendell Wilson with daughter Seretha; Katie Baker; Dylan Baker at Big Tancook Elementary School.
Why go to university in the first place? Is it the desire to learn? To start a career? To increase earning power?

And then there are all those things students don’t think of when they’re buckling down to study for an exam or sitting down to write a 20-page research paper – those intangible benefits such as the fact that university-educated workers have higher job satisfaction, better health and greater civic involvement. Life-long friends too.

Donald Sobey, David Bissett and Purdy Crawford – senior, well regarded members of the business community – arrived at Dalhousie in the 1950s. Their experiences turned out to be so life-changing that the pull to their alma mater remains strong half a century later. In fact, they gladly signed on as honorary chairs of Bold Ambitions, the largest fundraising campaign in the university’s almost 200-year history. The $250 million campaign was launched this spring with events in Halifax and Toronto and already $180 million has been raised.

They’re proud to lead.

A graduate of Queen’s University in Kingston, Ont., Donald Sobey actually spent a mere three months studying law at Dalhousie before deciding it wasn’t for him and that he was ready to enter into the family business. But he still feels so connected to the university that he led the 1985 Campaign for Dalhousie, and was happy to be asked to serve as honorary chair for the Atlantic Region.

“Dalhousie is the leading university in Nova Scotia and perhaps in all of Atlantic Canada,” says Mr. Sobey, 75, who retired seven years ago and is now “chair emeritus” for the Sobey family business, Empire Company Limited. “I believe we should build on our strengths. And what better than one of the strongest universities in the country? The university with the best law school, the best medical school? When I was asked (to lead), my answer was, ‘absolutely.’”

The Dalhousie University of the 1950s was a relatively small tight-knit place, with an enrolment of about 1,500 (compared to today’s 17,000). Three-quarters of Dal students were men and very few lived on campus. The faculty complement was small, with about 50 professors in the Arts and Science faculty, 18 in Medicine, seven in Law and one lone full-time professor in Dentistry.

In his two-volume The Lives of Dalhousie University, P.B. Waite characterizes that Dalhousie as being “cosy but second-class.” Even as veterans from the Second World War had graduated and moved on, the university had a “wartime feeling,” with inadequate facilities and budgets so tight “that a professor of chemistry had to apply to his dean even to get a new beaker.” That said, the professors were given a great deal of latitude and enjoyed their academic freedom. They were “inspiring minds” before anyone thought to brand the phrase and put it on letterhead.

Dalhousie has never lost sight of the importance of the professor-student relationship and its low faculty-student ratio remains a point of pride. Bold Ambitions aims to build on that strength in helping Dalhousie realize its formidable goal of becoming the best university in Canada – to be “cosy and first-class.” Campaign organizers have identified five themes to advance the university which have less to do with bricks and mortar than in building supports for students and enriching their experience in the classroom and on campus.
Calgary resident David Bissett — Bold Ambitions’ honorary chair for the Western region — was the yearbook photographer when he was a student at Dal, first doing three years of general arts courses followed by two years of law. He says his most interesting courses were political science taught by J.H. Aitchison and philosophy taught by George Grant — “he of the unmatched socks and the tie askew,” recalls Mr. Bissett. “I remember distinctly his course in logic. It very much helped the young mind.”

Since graduating from Dalhousie, Mr. Bissett and his family relocated to Calgary, where Mr. Bissett managed the western operation for a major Montreal-based investment manager, then founding his own investment advisory firm Bissett & Associates. As a Calgarian, he and his wife Leslie give generously of their time and money to community causes in Calgary, including establishing the Bissett School of Business at Mount Royal College.

But he’s always had a soft spot in his heart for Dalhousie. In 2003, the Bissetts gave $2 million to establish the David and Leslie Bissett Student Learning Centre, an academic advising office aimed at making the transition from high school easier for first-year students. For many years, he’s also funded the Bissett Scholarship, a full four-year scholarship, which goes to outstanding, community-minded students from Cole Harbour High.

“Every year, I get letters from kids who benefit by going to Dalhousie and that’s really nice,” says Mr. Bissett.

Hailing from tiny Five Islands, N.S., Purdy Crawford went to Mount Allison University and then Dalhousie Law School. Even now, he thinks back on his teachers and credits them with challenging his thinking: the “Socratic” Horace Reid, Dean of Law from 1950-64, W.R. Lederman and Ray Murray, who’d annoy his students by ending his lectures with “this stuff is horribly complicated; you’d better do your reading.” His classmates included Constance Glube, former chief justice of Nova Scotia, and Bertha Wilson, the first woman appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Halifax at the time was rough around the edges, although Dalhousie itself was “top notch.”

“It had all the advantages of being small and having great professors,” says Mr. Crawford, who went on to get his masters in law from Harvard University. He pursued a legal career with Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt, leaving lawyering in 1985 to head Imasco Limited.

Considered the dean emeritus of Canada’s corporate bar, Mr. Crawford — to turn 80 this year — still goes into the office most days; he rejoined his old firm as counsel in 2000. He serves on a few boards, but he’s choosy about what he says yes to.

“Ten years ago, I’d probably be running this campaign,” says the Dalhousie booster, who has chaired two campaigns at Mount Allison. “So serving as honorary chair (of the Central Region) is something I do gladly. I’m a great fan.”
Why DALHOUSIE? Why now?

It’s about impact. Universities matter more now than at any time in history. Our world is beset by daunting challenges – environmental degradation, global insecurity, cultural conflict – whose solutions require a fundamental shift in thinking.

Dalhousie University is uniquely positioned to tackle these global challenges. With a strong commitment to research, we possess the program breadth and depth of a much bigger institution, but on a scale that enables close interaction between students and the research/academic community. This creates a dynamic learning environment. Drawing on these strengths, Dalhousie is focused on the big questions – those that have implications on a local, national and global scale. We’re already well on our way. Over the past few years, Dalhousie has developed interdisciplinary programs aimed at exploring solutions to these complex economic, societal and cultural problems. Enrolment is strong, and our research expertise is recognized around the world.

Investment now will deepen Dalhousie’s capacity for excellence, pushing us further to achieve our vision of becoming the very best university in Canada. By investing in the student experience, as well as in our research and teaching capacity, this campaign will take Dalhousie from very good to truly great.

Tom Traves, President,
Dalhousie University

Join us in rising to the challenge!
How do we inspire young minds to reach their full potential?

How do we cultivate leaders of integrity and vision?

How do we nurture a generation committed to sustainability?

How can we build strong synergies among health care professionals?

How can we reimagine the world around us for 21st century living?
At DALHOUSIE, we’re working on it.

The answers to these big questions are complex. These are huge challenges in search of bold solutions. We know this at Dalhousie University. We know because some of the best minds grappling with these issues work and study right here.

Dalhousie University has big plans to address these challenges. To do that, we’re embarking on a $250-million fundraising campaign, *Bold Ambitions: The Campaign for Dalhousie*.

*Bold Ambitions* will advance knowledge to tackle society’s toughest issues by investing gifts from alumni and friends in five strategic areas. The first two involve the student experience inside and outside the classroom. The remaining three are sweeping interdisciplinary initiatives: sustainability, broadly defined across scientific, economic and societal spectrums; improving health care through integrated health care training; and innovation and design, a team-based collaboration between the Faculties of Engineering and Architecture & Planning.
“If you’ve got passion, if you want to learn, if you want to give, Dalhousie will always support you.”

Azza Abouzied, Killam Scholar in computer science
Receiving a $40,000 renewable scholarship has renewed Isaac Norman’s faith in the kindness of strangers.

“It’s so nice to be the beneficiary of that generosity,” says the first-year kinesiology student, who was recognized for potential for personal, academic and professional success. “Receiving the scholarship is very inspiring. I hope to one day be in a position to do something like this for youth in my community.”

Isaac is just one of hundreds of students who are benefiting from new scholarships generated through Dalhousie’s Bold Ambitions fundraising campaign, which seeks to establish a $25-million investment in new undergraduate scholarship and bursary support, with an additional $10 million targeted to graduate fellowships to attract the best and brightest scholars.

The fact is that for many low- and middle-income students, the prospect of affording a university education is a daunting one. In fact, approximately 25 per cent of Dalhousie students require some form of financial support during the course of their studies. Government support and private scholarship funding have simply not kept pace with increased education and living expenses.

The generosity of donors

“Health Sciences is one of Dal’s most expensive programs and were it not for receiving a scholarship, I would never have been able to pursue my dream of studying radiological technology,” says first-year student Keri Roberts. As the youngest in a large, blended family with 11 kids, she knew that money would be very tight. “For sure, university has been a big adjustment, but my scholarship enabled me to live in residence and be close to all the resources that Dal offers to help me succeed.”

Due in great part to donor generosity, Dalhousie awards scholarships and bursaries valued at more than $7.5 million to students each year. In addition, the university contributes $15 million from its operating budget for a total of $22.5 million in student financial support. In fact, for every $1 Dal receives in tuition income, a full 43 cents is allocated to students in the form of scholarships, bursaries, awards and employment opportunities.

Imagining where they can be

The new TD Black Student Opportunity Scholarship will provide promissory scholarships for black junior high students who show great academic potential but lack financial resources. Cinera States, a third-year Dal student who mentors Grade 7, 8 and 9 students in science-related activities, says than many of the kids she works with may very well benefit from this support.

“The students are very keen but most of them don’t have the financial means to go to university,” says Ms. States. “This scholarship fund will help provide those resources.”

Supporting graduate students

Dalhousie is one of only five Canadian universities designated a Killam institution. The Killam trust provides scholarships and prizes to help build Canada’s future by encouraging advanced study. Since 1967, the Killam trust has provided more than $60 million to Dalhousie scholars, recognizing Dalhousie as among the very best in graduate and post graduate education.
It’s an IDEA whose time has come. A building where design and innovation meet. Where Dalhousie engineering, architecture and planning students will have new and better space in which to solve problems, build prototypes and learn about each other. Where social and academic interactions among staff, faculty and students will occur easily, and where the broader community will be part of the learning environment.

The IDEA (Innovation and Design in Engineering and Architecture) Building for the Sexton campus is one of the initiatives of Dalhousie’s Bold Ambitions campaign. The $20-million project will directly support the two faculties’ emphasis on design and teamwork through high-quality workshops and prototyping facilities, upgraded technology and increased social and group meeting spaces.

It’s a vision that the family of John W. Lindsay, Sr. (BEng’51 (NSTC); DEng’91) has helped to realize, through their gift of $1 million in his memory in 2008. Mr. Lindsay, who founded J.W. Lindsay Construction, deeply appreciated his Dalhousie and Nova Scotia Technical College experiences. His wife, Marjorie Lindsay, said he was somebody who looked to the future, and wanted to “make Dalhousie engineering school the best that it can be.”

“Engineers believe strongly in the built environment and what good buildings can do and how good buildings can enrich anything that you’re working on,” says Dean of Engineering Joshua Leon. “The right space, the right tools, are all part of what you need to succeed. I think John Lindsay understood that and he certainly spoke very eloquently about the need for rebuilding this campus and was very committed to it.”

Mrs. Lindsay also spoke eloquently and warmly at the campaign’s public launch in Halifax in March. She said her husband had such respect for Dalhousie and wanted to give
back to the university what it had given him. When asked
in an earlier interview what he would think of the gift, Mrs.
Lindsay replied: “John was a very humble man. He wouldn’t
do it for the recognition. He would do it because it came from
his heart.”

The IDEA building will give students an opportunity to
take greater ownership of their own learning by giving them
access to the facilities and space they require to apply their
design skills.

“For us, design means problem-solving, it means
building things – starting from the earliest stages of the
concept through to something which actually is constructed,”
Dr. Leon says. “The new building will allow us to have
students see more of that process and be more involved in
that process themselves.”

Dean of Architecture and Planning, Christine Macy,
endorses the importance of hands-on experience. “Just
like composers have to really understand how to play an
instrument to be able to compose for it, in architecture and
engineering and even planning it’s much the same way,” she
says. “You have to have a sense of what’s involved in making
buildings, landscapes, or machines, to be able to decide how
to improve them and to innovate.”

Shared work and social spaces also foster learning
between the disciplines. “Some engineers and architects
will work together in their working lives,” Dr. Leon says. “So
we can introduce them to each other here, and introduce
students to the notion that not everybody thinks exactly the
way that they do about how to do something and that there
are many different ways to solve a problem.”

The value of shared perspectives transcends the IDEA
building, Prof. Macy says, “This is a model of where the
university is heading in the future – to say, ‘Okay, we need
specialization to have expertise, but, boy, we also need a way
to be able to work together, to be able to collaborate from our
areas of expertise and to have students recognize the value
of that collaboration at multiple points throughout their
education.’”

For architecture student Phil Wilson, the school’s studio
approach and his undergraduate work term experience gave
him an appreciation for collaboration.

“A lot of times there’s collaboration that happens in
the workplace between not only architects but different
consultants who come in and people from all different
realms,” he says. “Days when we had those meetings,
those were the most informative days when you learned
the most.”

Learning in the IDEA Building won’t be limited to those
working within its walls. The intent is that the public will be
more involved, through potential projects linked with the
community, public lectures and exhibits of students’ work.

“Because both engineering and architecture and
planning are all basically making things – the ideas happen
through making – people will be able to actually see those
things,” Prof. Macy says. “So it makes intellectual inquiry very
tangible and it’s great to have an opportunity to be able to
share that with the broader public.”
Tom Traves held the tiny packet of cheese and crackers skyward. Inside an event room in downtown Halifax, lunch-goers had just dined on braised beef and deconstructed lemon meringue pie.

His non-gourmet speaking prop—a 18-million of which are produced annually by Kelvin Sams’ (BComm’87) Sunrise Foods—was meant to illustrate a single point: that Dalhousie can bolster the Nova Scotian economy by generating ideas. The Dartmouth-based company and the Industry Liaison Office forged a relationship with the university’s industrial engineers. Together, they developed concepts and solutions for manufacturing processes that increase productivity.

Dalhousie’s president was before the Halifax Chamber of Commerce to talk about “...working hand-in-hand with industry and government to accelerate economic developments that you must lead.”

Halifax’s business community was all ears.

“Dalhousie,” declared Ian Penny (MBA’03) vice-president, Atlantic Canada, CIBC commercial banking, “is a catalyst for economic growth in this province.”

Of that there can be no doubt. Dalhousie’s sheer size—5,750 full and part-time faculty and staff, a $600-million annual operating budget along with its $1-billion contribution to Nova Scotia’s GDP—makes it one of the province’s largest corporate entities.

Yet, Dr. Traves spent more time talking about the scope of Dalhousie’s ambitions than the magnitude of its payroll. His message was blunt: Nova Scotia, which ranked last among Canadian provinces in economic growth during the past 20 years, is ill-equipped to compete in a new, intensely-competitive global marketplace where smarts, not rock-bottom labor costs, will determine success.

“We need to move from being ‘Canada’s ocean playground’ to ‘Canada’s ocean innovator,’” he told the crowd attending the chamber’s Distinguished Speakers Series.

“TOGETHER we can

“We are keen to partner with THE REAL DRIVERS OF OUR ECONOMY,”
says Dr. Traves.
**Enter Dalhousie.** Its graduates are Nova Scotia’s scientists, engineers, IT professionals and entrepreneurs of the future.

As important as turning out knowledge workers is the university’s evolving role as an incubator of innovation. Spin-off companies that find commercial application for Dalhousie R&D are already some of the most inventive outfits in the province. Consider, for example, Cape Breton-based Atlantic Fiber Technologies, which now sells a synthetic fiber developed by Dal researchers for use around the world reinforcing concrete mines, tunnels, pavements, bridges and industrial slabs. Or Thorasys, a medical technology company whose marquee product – a portable device that helps doctors diagnose and monitor respiratory ailments – was also created in a Dal research lab.

Dalhousie collaborates as well as commercializes. Faculty spread their expertise to the private sector through consulting contracts and via the province’s Productivity and Innovation Voucher Program, which allows companies looking to boost productivity and innovation to tap into R&D might.

The university partners with the private sector in other ways too. Last year, for instance, it invited companies and government agencies involved in Nova Scotia’s ocean sector to band together to form the Halifax Marine Research Institute (HMRI). The objective of the institute: to collaborate on projects that will fulfill the needs of an industry in which Nova Scotia has a natural advantage.

“Absolutely on the money,” Colin MacDonald, co-founder of Clearwater Seafoods calls Dr. Traves’s proposal to align Dal’s future research in a whole host of disciplines with private sector growth opportunities.

That kind of collaboration underscores a host of Dalhousie initiatives. The university has already struck a new external advisory board to ensure it turns out graduates that meet the province’s labour market requirements. Then there’s Dahousie’s push, with its corporate partners, for greater access to Natural Sciences and Engineering Council of Canada (NSERC) research funding. NSERC already funds three Dalhousie industrial research chairs, which are designed to investigate innovation in sectors with commercial potential. Another five chairs are in the works.

“Small and medium Nova Scotian firms don’t necessarily have the money to develop R&D,” says Martha Crago, vice-president research. “Partnering with these corporations means we can share our brain power and leverage federal funding in a way that benefits the entire population.”

A new way of thinking is something Nova Scotia clearly needs to compete in the global economy. In his speech Dr. Traves called for an “attitudinal revolution” towards innovation in the province.

“We must build a culture of innovation,” said Dr. Traves, urging the government to adopt a province-wide payroll deduction plan to give employers an incentive to hire new graduates. “We must identify clear goals for development. We must create an integrated innovation ecosystem that aligns key players in key sectors within the framework of our strategic goals as a province.”

There’s no time to waste says the business community.

“Our backs are against the wall,” declared Halifax marketing strategist Peter Skakum. “For Nova Scotia to come out of its cocoon every player has to work together. Educational institutions like Dalhousie have an important role to play. But it’s not their job to do it alone.”

“We are keen to partner with the real drivers of our economy,” says Dr. Traves.
Catering to local tastes

BY RYAN MCNUTT

Photos: Nick Pearce
What I knew about mushrooms prior to meeting Leonard North:

One: They’re the first vegetables to be taken off my slice of pizza before I eat it.

Two: They provide super powers and extra lives when playing Super Mario Bros.

But as Mr. North turned on the lights in one of the bunker-like growing rooms at his Valley Mushrooms farm – filled with large plastic bags of compost bursting with white mushroom tops – I was about to get an education.

“Here’s how you can tell that a mushroom is mature,” he said, kneeling down and picking a specimen from the bag. “The stem will grow longer, the veil will stretch, the cap will get a little bit soft, and then you have the core.”

He tears open the mushroom to reveal a crumbling, pink interior. “You can pick them at an earlier stage than this, and they’ll hold up well – they just won’t have the same amount of flavour.”

He passed the mushroom to Angela Emmerson, Dalhousie Food Services’ dietitian who, like me, was visiting the farm for the first time. Jeff Kelly, marketing manager, also with Food Services, snapped a few photographs before we continued on the tour of the facility.

We heard how Valley Mushrooms has been in business in Waterville, Nova Scotia for 16 years, growing white mushrooms, portobellos, ‘baby bellos’ and other varieties that are enjoyed across the Atlantic provinces – including at Dalhousie. We were shown how mushroom compost is made on-site. And we learned why Mr. North is working to expand into more exotic varieties.

“In restaurants, farm markets, they’re all looking for more product. And our population is changing too. Just this morning I sold to a couple of Polish folks; Eastern Europeans know oyster mushrooms really well. Asians know shiitake mushrooms really well – they’re the second most widely used mushroom in the world. Mushrooms are a global food. And we can grow ‘em right here.”

Growing “right here” is decidedly the point of our visit. Three years ago Dalhousie Food Services, which are provided by ARAMARK, launched “Farm to Table,” a program designed to bring more local food varieties to campus and promote local food to the Dalhousie community. In 2008, 40 per cent of food purchased for campus dining halls and retail locations was local. By April 2010, that number was up to 54 per cent.

Starting this year, Food Services is expanding the program with a new element called “Who’s Your Farmer?” hoping to build stronger relationships between Dalhousie students and the source of their food.

“We’ve been bringing a few of our suppliers into the dining halls to talk to students, but now we’re traveling the province a few times a year to visit the farmers themselves; get to know them, learn more about how they operate and bring that information back to Dalhousie,” explains Ms. Emmerson. “And we get to learn about new food options for Dalhousie, so getting to know them better is good business too.”

In 2008, 40 per cent of food purchased for campus dining halls and retail locations was local. By April 2010, that number was up to 54 per cent.
The push to focus so heavily on local food reflects a new generation of engaged, environmentally-conscious students keen to know about what’s on their plate.

“It’s amazing the questions today’s students ask – they really want to know as much as possible about their food,” says Brad Keddy, who as general manager of H & E Keddy Bros., acts as a middleman between local suppliers and Dalhousie Food Services, delivering fresh produce to campus daily. “Back when I was a student, as long as it tasted good, that’s all that mattered! Not anymore.”

...the heat extracted when cooling the mushrooms is used to heat the farm, an effort recognized by Dalhousie’s Eco-Efficiency Centre as one of its 2009 ‘Success Stories.’

...the heat extracted when cooling the mushrooms is used to heat the farm, an effort recognized by Dalhousie’s Eco-Efficiency Centre as one of its 2009 ‘Success Stories.’

The arrangement that Dalhousie Food Services has with Keddy Bros is simple: if it’s available local, they get local. So while products like bananas and oranges that simply can’t be grown locally are shipped in, foods like apples, potatoes and other produce are sourced from within Nova Scotia year-round. And in prime months like September and October, the produce Dalhousie receives is often upwards of 70 per cent locally sourced.

Doing so not only helps achieve Dalhousie’s sustainability goals – the university’s food services earned an ‘A’ in the 2011 College Sustainability Report Card – but also supports local businesses.

“And then there’s the quality factor,” adds Ms. Emmerson. “When it’s in season, local food simply tastes better.”

Earlier that same morning, before visiting Valley Mushrooms, we drove deeper into the Annapolis Valley to Kings Processing in Middleton. A federally-inspected food processing facility, Kings provides Dalhousie with the bulk of its potatoes through Keddy Bros.: 40-45 cases per week, or more than 1,000 pounds of spuds.

Owned by two local farmers – Bruce Rand of Randsland Farms and Arthur Woolaver of Basinview Farms – the company places great importance on supporting local food.

“When it’s in season, we get as much of our product as we can from here in Nova Scotia,” explains Jeremy Hunter, Kings’ chief operating officer and general manager. “In the winter, of course, we’re buying a lot of produce out of the U.S. The difference, though, is that we cut it here. Once you cut something, its shelf-life drops dramatically. So cutting it on-site keeps it fresher and keeps local jobs here.”
He takes us on a tour of the facility, where it’s clear that food safety is a top priority: just getting inside to take a look around requires us to wash our hands, don lab coats and hairnets and even disinfect our shoes. Inside, over 60 employees work away at preparing and packaging fresh produce like peppers and cauliflower.

“Our whole plant is basically a big refrigerator, with different rooms with different temperatures,” says Mr. Hunter. “Even our wash water is refrigerated, so the produce always stays at the right temperature.”

As we move through the facility, we discuss how while many consumers are attracted to shopping at farmers’ markets, processing companies have to go to the next level to ensure the safety of their products.

“Our customers demand it of us,” says Mr. Hunter, noting that each of the processing rooms is washed down regularly and gets an extensive cleaning for eight hours every night. “In this day and age, it’s our duty to keep up with top standards for safety.”

One of the challenges for local companies serving the Atlantic Canada market is that they have to do a little bit of everything.

“We’re in a share group with 11 other companies in North America, and we’re by far the smallest in the group,” says Mr. Hunter, a 20-year veteran of the food processing industry. “Some of those guys will do more pineapple in a year than we do kilograms of everything. That’s just the nature of the business. We have to do a lot of different things – a little of this, a little of that – to grow and be of any decent size.”

Mr. North expressed similar concerns as he showed us his back lot where he produces thousands of tonnes of mushroom compost each year.

“We do everything ourselves: we go from making the compost, to growing the mushrooms and packaging them. Elsewhere, that might all be different companies. But we’re in such a small market that we have to do it all.”

But that total ownership also gives local food providers the power to chart their own path. In Valley Mushrooms’ case, that means expanding sustainability initiatives alongside the business: for example, the heat extracted when cooling the mushrooms is used to heat the farm, an effort recognized by Dalhousie’s Eco-Efficiency Centre as one of its 2009 ‘Success Stories.’

The morning winding down, the staff from Dalhousie Food Services ended their farm tour excited not only about their next trip – planned for the summer – but about returning to campus and sharing what they learned with students in the months ahead.

“I love working at the university,” says Ms. Emmerson. “I learn so much from the students, and they push us every day to do even better.”

Local purchasing helps achieve Dalhousie’s sustainability goals — the university’s food services earned an ‘A’ in the 2011 College Sustainability Report Card — and it also supports nearby businesses.

Dalhousie Food Services purchases 54 per cent of its food locally, investing over $1.8 million in local farms and suppliers in 2009-10.

In addition to Kings Processing and Valley Mushrooms, some of those providers include:

- **Noggins Corner Farm** in Wolfville, N.S. 
  lettuce, sweet corn, spinach, zucchini 
- **Van Meekeran Farms Ltd.** in Lakeville, N.S. 
  apples 
- **Randsland Farms** in Canning, N.S. 
  broccoli, red cabbage 
- **Scotsburn Dairy Group** of Scotsburn, N.S. 
  ice cream
Jim Wilson (MBA’87) knows how to bring people together. This ability, a sense of fun and a passion for Dalhousie are key strengths he will carry into his new role as president of the Dalhousie Alumni Association (DAA).

“What I hope to bring is engagement of both alumni and students,” says Mr. Wilson, founder and president of Wilson Executive Search. “We’ve seen some really, really cool examples of connecting the alumni with the students and there’s some magic that comes along with that.”

Mr. Wilson has helped to create some of that magic through his leadership role in the return of football to Dalhousie after 34 years. “There was quite an appetite for football,” he says, noting that Dalhousie Football Club games see the university and broader community come together in an atmosphere of fun and school spirit. “The students had never seen so much black and gold gear being worn in one spot.”

There’s also lots of Dalhousie spirit at the DAA board. Mr. Wilson says, “I take over from Nancy Barkhouse. It’s been an absolute pleasure to work with her and we’ve put together an outstanding team of highly energized folks on the alumni board.”

Mr. Wilson, whose university involvements include heading the MBA Alumni Association and chairing Dalhousie Board of Governors’ Student Experience Committee, appreciates the work of DAA presidents who have preceded him.

“I think they all did a great job and we’re just going to carry on the tradition and have a lot of fun,” he says. “Go, Tigers!”

Marie Weren

Homecoming and reunions 2011

You’re invited to celebrate Dalhousie University’s Homecoming from Thurs., Oct. 20 until Sat., Oct. 22 in Halifax. This is an opportunity for alumni and friends to return to campus to see what’s new, celebrate anniversaries of graduating classes, connect with current campus life and have some fun. The three-day celebration will offer something for everyone.

A signature event is the annual dinner which will kick off homecoming weekend on Thurs., Oct. 20 at the Cunard Centre. This year we’re celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Dalhousie Arts Centre. This year’s DAA award recipients will be recognized. Everyone is welcome – tickets will be available for purchase this summer.

A special invite goes to our graduating classes of ’71, ’66, ’61, ’56, ’51, ’46 and earlier to celebrate your reunion milestone this year. Participate in class photos, connect with old friends, or maybe get involved with planning a special event for your class. The Alumni Office is happy to offer assistance in planning your get-togethers, or even just helping you to connect with classmates you may have lost touch with.

Additional events will be both on and off campus – faculty activities, campus tours, varsity games, a tailgate party, a concert and more. The Alumni Office is working closely with the Alumni Association, Student Union, Student Services, residences, Athletics and many others to ensure that the weekend appeals to a range of interests. There will be at least one common theme though, and that’s fun.

Building on last year’s event – which was the first homecoming for Dalhousie in 15 years – we plan to deliver a homecoming experience that will become a tradition for alumni both in Halifax and the region, as well as for those visiting from away. Homecoming is about bringing the Dalhousie community together to reminisce, make new memories and rekindle that Dal spirit.

Events will be supported by alumni, faculty, student and community volunteers – please contact the Alumni Office if you would like to get involved.

Watch for your invitation and visit dal.ca/alumni for further details as planning progresses.

For more information on Homecoming, email alumni@dal.ca or call 902.494.2808

Photos, from top: Boston, Calgary, Nassau

“...The more we get together, together, together...” We’ve been happy to meet and greet Dal alumni at events this spring in Florida, Boston, Bahamas, Calgary and Ottawa. And the good news is that there are plenty more to come. Look for alumni receptions in Truro and Sydney, N.S. in June; P.E.I. in September and Newfoundland, Saint John and Moncton, N.B. in October.

For complete event details and updates, visit www.dal.ca/alumni/events
And don’t forget to join us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/dalumni) and LinkedIn (join the Dalhousie University Alumni Group).
Dalhousie Alumni Association (DAA)
2010-2011 Board of Directors
Nancy Barkhouse (BA'72), N.S., president of DAA
Jim Wilson (MBA'87), N.S., vice-president and in-coming president of DAA
Andrew Bennett (BA'95), Ont. Barrie Black (BA'71, LLB'71), N.S.
Alexandra (Alix) Dostal (BA'98), Ont., vice-president, communications
W. Marc Douglas (BA'06), B.C.
Jamie Fraser (BSc'82, MD'86, PGM'93), N.S.
Bonita Hansra (MBA'05), Ont.
Courtney Larkin (BMgmt'10), N.S., chair, new alumni
Donalda MacBeath (LLB'79), Alta., chair, governance
Nancy MacCreaddy-Williams (LLB'89), Board of Governors representative
Gayle Murdoch (BComm'04, MBA'06), Ont., chair, mentoring
Aubrey Palmeter (BEng'82, MBA'86), N.S.
Robert Ripley (MED'94), N.S., chair, scholarships and awards
James Stuewe (BMgmt'05, MPA'09), Ont., chair, chapters
Shaunda Wood (BSChE'91), N.B.
To contact the DAA board, please email alumni@dal.ca

A new chapter for the Dalhousie Alumni Association

The Dalhousie Alumni Association (DAA) board recently hit a new milestone in its work to enhance engagement of alumni across the country – the creation of the alumni chapter initiative. In April, the association launched the first new chapter in Toronto.

Hearing from alumni around the world inspired the DAA board to create the chapter initiative as a means to increase opportunities for alumni across Canada and beyond to engage with each other and with Dalhousie. Although informal networks of alumni already exist in a number of cities, an opportunity exists to formalize and enhance these networks, increasing the link with Dalhousie, other alumni and the DAA.

From this vision, the chapter concept was born. “The chapter initiative will help strengthen connections among alumni and between alumni and the university,” says James Stuewe (BMgmt'05, MPA'09), a DAA board member who helped establish the Toronto chapter. “Through the Toronto chapter, alumni will have fun and engage through local events, networking opportunities, and a more regular, we hope, two-way dialogue with the university.”

The Toronto chapter is looking forward to a busy and exciting year ahead, with plans afoot for an annual Dalhousie alumni event, opportunities for alumni to engage socially, both in person and online, and collaborations with the university on major events. “The Toronto alumni chapter is in an exciting planning phase,” says Gayle Murdoch (BComm'04, MBA'06), a board member. Along with Mr. Stuewe, she’s leading the chapter initiative. “We are currently putting together a board, setting objectives, and planning our first event and official launch.”

The Toronto chapter is just a first step in the dream to create an alumni chapter network throughout Canada and beyond. The energy and enthusiasm of Dalhousie alumni lends itself brilliantly to a thriving chapter community. Chapters are possible anywhere – enthusiastic volunteers are all that are needed. If you might be interested in being part of this exciting initiative, please contact us at president@alumni.ca. Alix Dostal (BA'98)

World’s Largest Lobster Tailgate

Join us for a new Dal tradition.
Saturday, October 1
Lobster Tailgate 4 pm • Kick-off 6 pm
Visit dal.ca/alumni for more information and to purchase tickets.
“My group rates saved me a lot of money.”

– Miika Klemetti
Satisfied client since 2008

See how good your quote can be.

At TD Insurance Meloche Monnex, we know how important it is to save wherever you can. As a member of the Dalhousie University Alumni Association, you can enjoy preferred group rates and other exclusive privileges, thanks to our partnership with your association. You’ll also benefit from great coverage and outstanding service. At TD Insurance, we believe in making insurance easy to understand so you can choose your coverage with confidence.

Get an online quote at
www.melochemonnex.com/dal
or call 1-866-352-6187
Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
1960s

1961

Robert A. Cunningham (BComm) is looking forward to his 50th class reunion this fall. He urges anyone with a class reunion scheduled this year to try and fit this into your life. Reunions are valuable for visiting with former classmates, for seeing the university as it is today and for learning about Dalhousie’s future plans. Drop a note to rcunningham@ns.sympatico.ca

1964

Senator Donald H. Oliver, LLB, LLD’03, has been elected Speaker pro tempore of the Senate of Canada, becoming the first African-Canadian to hold such a position. He was also recently appointed member of the Board of Regents of the Nova Scotia Council for the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award and Lifetime Honorary Governor of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. During 2009-11, he received a Special Board Award of Excellence from the Black Business Initiative in Halifax; a Leadership Award from Planet Africa in Toronto; a Distinguished Man of Honour Award from the Black Business & Professional Association in Toronto; a Freedom Award from the Black Cultural Centre in Dartmouth; and a 2011 DreamKEEPERS Life Achievement Award from the Canadian Martin Luther King Day Coalition in Ottawa.

1970s

1971

Judith Boss, MA, is pleased to announce that her logic and critical thinking textbook THINK (McGraw-Hill), which has sold over 20,000 copies throughout the world in its first three years of publication, is currently being translated into Chinese. Dr. Boss is also author of four other textbooks for McGraw-Hill, including Analyzing Moral Issues and Ethics for Life. She currently lives in Rhode Island with her daughter, son-in-law and two wonderful granddaughters.

1972

Dr. Thomas Murphy, BSc, MD’76, PGM’78, has been appointed assistant dean of medicine at the University of Texas in Houston. Tom and his wife Glenda (Goodine), MD’77, PGM’79, have a large practice in Houston. They have a summer residence in the province and enjoy staying connected to Nova Scotia.

1976

Mike David Perry, LLB, has recently retired from his position with the Newfoundland and Labrador Legal Aid Commission to concentrate on writing. His first novel, the adventure-thriller Child of the Grail, was published in February 2011.

1977

Martha Barry Zed, BN, is presently campaign director for a $15-million campaign in support of medical education in New Brunswick. The campaign is part of a recruitment and retention strategy of New Brunswick physicians in partnership with community leaders. Martha continues to run a private firm, advising businesses on health
and education issues. She is on the Atlantic board of CBCF and the IWK Health Centre Board representing New Brunswick, Chair of the Privileges Review Committee, and a member of the IWK Board of Management. Martha is married to Peter T. Zed QC. He has a law practice concentrating in business law, including regulatory law, labour law, and energy issues. Peter and Martha have five children, four presently residing in Halifax: Peter (Cox and Palmer), Joseph (Schulich School of Law at Dalhousie), Elizabeth (medical resident), and Matthew (Dalhousie Faculty of Management). Kate is an educator with the Toronto Board of Education, teaching children with exceptionalities.

1980s

1981

Dr. Ian Holloway QC, BSc, LLB’85, was appointed dean, Faculty of Law at the University of Calgary in March 2011. To his appointment as dean, Dr. Holloway brings demonstrated leadership at a decanal level and an outstanding commitment to excellence in teaching and research. He has served as the dean of law at the University of Western Ontario since 2000. Prior to this appointment, Ian was associate dean at the Australian National University (1999-2000), a visiting professor of law at the National University of Singapore (2007) and a visiting scholar at the University of Cambridge (1997). In 1999, he received the Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching from the Australian National University. His teaching and research interests are in the areas of administrative law and legal history, and he has numerous scholarly and journalistic works to his credit.

1983

Bev Vincent, BSc, PhD’88, has won the Al Blanchard Crime Story Award for his short story, “The Bank Job.” It tells the story of five bunglers who concoct a plan to rob a bank to help one of them get out of trouble with a loan shark. The humorous caper is published in Thin Ice: Crime Stories by New England Writers from Level Best Books. The Al Blanchard Award is named after the late author of two mystery novel series and numerous short crime stories. Bev is author of two Bram Stoker Award-nominated books on the works of Stephen King. He has published approximately 60 short stories, including appearances in Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine and the Mystery Writers of America anthology of police crime stories, The Blue Religion, edited by Michael Connolly. More information is available on his website at www.bevincent.com

1990s

1990

Tory S. Thorkelson, BA, recently completed his first module of the Doctorate of Professional Studies from Middlesex University in the United Kingdom. The program is allowing him to build on both his many years of EFL experience in Korea and Japan, as well as his KOTESOL experience at all levels. His research will focus
on comparing the management and services provided by KOTESOL and its sister organizations in order to suggest ways and means for them to better meet the needs of the broader teaching community in Korea. Tory is currently associate professor, English Language and Literature Department, Hanyang University, Seoul. http://kr.linkedin.com/in/torythorkelson

1993
Sarah L. F. Devereaux, BEng (TUNS), MEng’99, has been named the first woman president of the Consulting Engineers of Nova Scotia. She is senior environmental engineer at the Halifax office of Dillon Consulting.

1994
Paul MacDougall, BEd, released his first book in October 2010. Distinction Earned: Cape Breton’s Boxing Legends 1946–66 highlights the accomplishments of significant Cape Breton fighters like George “Rockabye” Ross (about whom MacDougall has also penned a play), Tyrone Gardiner, Blair Richardson and Francis “Rocky” MacDougall and trainers like Johnny Nemis. Between 1965 and 1967, five national boxing champions in different weight classes were from Cape Breton. Paul now works at Cape Breton University, where he teaches in the Health Studies Department. He has also written numerous plays, short stories and features for magazines. Distinction Earned is published by Cape Breton University Press.

1995
Glen Ward, BA, BSc’98, and Dianne (Winsor) Ward, BSc’96, BScPharm’00, are pleased to announce their marriage. The couple was wed in Shediac, N.B., on Sept. 4, 2010. It was a day to remember as Hurricane Earl was the uninvited guest to the outdoor wedding. Dianne is currently the manager of Lawtons’ largest long-term-care pharmacy in Bedford. Glen was recently appointed regional vice-president Eastern Canada for Mortgage Architects. They are currently living in north-end Halifax.

1999
Colleen Margaret Diggins, BSc, BScOT’99, and Donald Mark Regular, BComm’01, are pleased to announce the birth of Cameron Earl Regular, born Dec. 10, 2010.

2000s
2001
Keri Irwin, BA’98, BComm, has just completed her master of public relations at Mount Saint Vincent University. Her research focused on social media and social capital. Friends can reach her at keri.irwin@dal.ca, Facebook or LinkedIn.

Chauncey Kennedy, BComm, and Dawn Kennedy, BComm, welcomed their second child, Parker William Kennedy, into the world on Nov. 17, 2010. After the delivery, Dawn affectionately
When he looks back, Phil Leadbeater (BScOT’95) says it was his good fortune not to have been accepted to med school. Keen to become a doctor after working 18 years as an army medic, Mr. Leadbeater returned to high school as a mature student to catch up on the math and science credits he needed to do a science degree. But as it turns out, it was his application to Dalhousie’s School of Occupational Therapy that was successful.

“Someone at Dal said ‘yes’ to me and let me occupy one of the 36 seats and it changed my life,” says Mr. Leadbeater, now an occupational therapist in private practice in Brighton, Ont.

“I think we forget what it means to us. We graduate and go off in our lives and we forget where we came from.”

Recently back at Dalhousie for his 15th anniversary class reunion, Mr. Leadbeater brought with him a painting he commissioned of the Forrest Building, where he attended his occupational therapy classes. The Forrest is also the Dal home for nursing and physiotherapy students.

Titled “Journey through the Forrest,” the painting shows the historic red brick building framed by the foliage of several tall trees. It was inspired by a poem, “Enchanted Forrest,” he wrote upon graduating that recounts the student’s journey to knowledge.

“We stumbled over rough terrain/we stubbed our toes/we skinned our knees/ yet, at times/ we managed to stop/ and smell the roses along the way.”

He arranged to have the painting made into prints. They are being sold for $10 each with the proceeds going to an admission scholarship fund. The original painting now hangs in the Forrest Building.

“I guess I wanted the alumni to get more involved and remember this place that means so much to us.”

OT alumnus Phil Leadbeater commissioned “Journey through the Forrest,” by artist Chase Wills
They each deserved one, too.

Ernest Buckler
Alden Nowlan
Rita Joe

2002
Ryan Douglas Deschamps, BA, MPA’05, MLIS’05, is garnering lots of awards and accolades these days. In November 2010, he was awarded the inaugural Metropolitan Award by Fusion Halifax for his innovative, visionary and catalytic leadership in Halifax, particularly in the areas related to eLearning, social networking and community engagement. Then, in March 2011, he was named a Mover & Shaker by LibraryJournal.com and in May 2011, he was closing speaker at the Atlantic Provinces Library Association (APLA) conference. He has also accepted a new position as director of public services at the Regina Public Library.

2004
Claire Wren, MPA, and husband, Kevin Dugas, are thrilled to announce the birth of their second daughter, Jesse, born November 2010. Big sister Sophie, 2, is happy with the new addition to the family.

Allegra Snyder, BEDS, MARFP’06, and husband, Kenny, are pleased to introduce everyone to their healthy baby boy, Vanier Duvar MacLean (AKA “Van”). All of his names come from their two families and he hasn’t complained yet, so they feel good about it. Van was born a little over a week early on Wednesday, December 8 at 3:05 p.m., weighing in at 7lbs 10oz and with a full head of hair. They couldn’t be happier to have him home and they are overjoyed to have him in their lives.

2007
Lisa Kamperman, BA, describes herself as the international development studies alum that ended up working in rural development in Canada and not abroad. From working for the Nova Scotia government in community and rural development, to working for a non-profit in Southeastern Alberta as a regional development project officer, she has made excellent use of her degree in spite of her regret that she did not go abroad for any part of her studies. Lisa is currently the manager for the non-profit Southwest Nova Biosphere Reserve Association (www.snbra.ca) – one of 15 designated biosphere reserves in Canada. She is based out of NSCC in Middleton, N.S.

Calling all theatre grads
Department of Theatre reunion
Celebrating 40 years of the Dalhousie Arts Centre!
October 14 & 15
For information, contact fassalum@dal.ca
www.dal.ca/fass
He calls it his “dirty secret,” because what self-respecting, singing-for-his-supper, traveling musician would “fess up to an economics degree?

“Having an economics degree makes me know how much money I don’t have,” says Ian Sherwood (BA’98) dryly.

Ah well, you’ve got to do what’s true to your heart, which is exactly what he did, picking up his saxophone and guitar and moving to Toronto to study music following his graduation from Dal in 1998. While there, he became part of the jazz scene, then returning to the east coast in 2005 to start again, this time as a singer-songwriter.

“I sort of overdosed on the whole jazz scene and it didn’t suit me: I was a square peg in a round hole and I wanted a solid break,” explains Mr. Sherwood.

He’s definitely found his groove, writing his best songs when he’s on the road, singing lines over and over to himself until he can pull over and jot them down. His third CD, And Now the Fun Begins was released this spring and garnered a 2011 East Coast Music Association (ECMA) nomination for best male solo recording. And, his economics major is actually put to use as he builds his career in the music business; there are business plans and grant proposals to write, people to network with, CDs to market and performances to set up.

“When I’m making music I’m cognizant of the audience: who’s going to want this and who’s going to enjoy this?” he says. “If I’m really going to work at this as a career, I have to look at the money-making side of it.”

The 2011 ECMA awards weekend, held in April in Charlottetown, P.E.I., saw two other Dal alumni honored for their musical accomplishments. Rose Cousins (BScK’99) was awarded the 2011 ECMA Female Solo Recording of the Year and SOCAN Songwriter of the Year. Rose has been featured several times on CBC and other news outlets for her angelic voice and raw talent when it comes to song writing. She began taking guitar lessons while studying at Dal, worked in alumni relations and eventually turned music into a full-time profession.

Singer Chelsea Nisbett (BA’08) returned to the podium and took home two awards at this year’s ECMAs. She won Gospel Recording of the Year and R&B/Soul Single Track Recording of the Year for her album Anchored Roots. She wrote or co-wrote eight of the 10 songs.

Marilyn Smulders
In Memoriam

Mildred Gordon (Nickerson) Ritcey, BA’29, Calgary, Alta., on March 3, 2011
Frances Robertson (Beatteay) Wickwire, BA’31, Halifax, N.S., on February 2, 2011
W. Keir Clark, BComm’34, Montague, P.E.I., on November 28, 2010
Max Fishman, BEng’35 (NSTC), Halifax, N.S., on March 1, 2011
Lorna Muir (MacPhee) Johnson, BA’37, Elmsdale, N.S., on February 17, 2011
William Stewart Seson, MD’42, North Bay, Ont., on November 25, 2010
Jean Drury (Young) Wilson, DED’43, St. John’s, N.L., on February 28, 2011
Carl W. R. Tupperterns, DPHRM’37, BSc’37, Glace Bay, N.S., on February 20, 2011
James Sidney Jami, BSc’38, MD’43, Halifax, N.S., on April 7, 2011
Freda (Garson) Perlin, BSc’44, Toronto, Ont., on March 7, 2011
Austin MacLennan Creighton, BSc’42, MD’45, Tatamagouche, N.S., on November 11, 2010
Janet (Gillis) McKay, BA’46, Salt Springs Pictou, N.S., on January 13, 2011
Constance Marie (Demille) Corkum, BA’47, Etobicoke, Ont., on March 2, 2011

Dalhousie Fund – helping students reach their full potential.
Thank you for your support.

Haylan Jackson, Class of 2011
David Janigan was in his last year of postgraduate training in medical and surgical pathology when his studies took him overseas in 1961. While strolling through a London antique market with his wife, Marilyn and three-year-old daughter, he met a fellow Canadian working in one of the shops. For about $30, the gentleman sold him a well-preserved map of northeastern Canada and the United States dating back to 1752. It was there Dr. Janigan (MD'57) and his wife Marilyn took up a special interest in cartography and began growing their collection and curiosity.

Over the next three decades, the pair travelled to museums, libraries and various dealers all over North America and Europe, purchasing new items and learning about the history of mapping in North America. The couple sustained their map interest for over 30 years. Sometimes he would find one; sometimes she would. Fortunately for university archives specialists, the pair kept impeccable records of their purchases. Certain maps came with statements of authenticity and one with a detailed description of the process used to remove a map from an atlas.

The David and Marilyn Janigan Map Collection was generously donated to the university as a set of 18 maps of the Eastern Seaboard that range from 16th to 19th centuries. Some are charts or plans of harbours and coastal towns, while others illustrate large coastal areas. The earliest map is from 1548 by Giacomo Gastaldi titled, “Tierra Nueva” and was the first printed map that focuses on the northeastern part of North America. Another includes the hand-coloured map of Nova Francia et Regiones Adjacentes by Joannes de Laet and the superbly coloured work by John Blaeu dating back to 1662. The Blaeu map was Marilyn’s find and purchase.

Dr. Janigan, a former student and retired professor in the Faculty of Medicine, says his donation is a testament to his gratitude toward Dalhousie University and all the opportunities he's received over the years. “My association with Dal has been fortunate. I’m very grateful to it thus the donation of my collection.”

Creighton Barrett, archives specialist, says the acquisition is a significant donation to the library’s already impressive collection of historical maps. Cartographic materials like this provide important context to other materials held in university libraries and can be used in many different ways, he says. The donation not only supports learning and teaching at Dalhousie but is an important contribution to Canada’s heritage. Katie McDonald
For nomination guidelines, contact the Honorary Degree Committee: senate.dal.ca

Know someone else who deserves an honorary degree?
Let us know.

Dalhousie University
Inspiring Minds

Robert Lloyd Power, BA’72, Dartmouth, N.S., on March 24, 2011
James Thomas Brennan, BA’73, Dartmouth, N.S., on February 19, 2011
Louis Roger Montigny, BScPH’74, Charlottetown, P.E.I., on December 9, 2010
Helen Rita (Lawrence) Aterman, BA’74, Ottawa, Ont., on March 12, 2011
Jean Frances Beveridge, MA’75, Wolfville, N.S., on November 29, 2010
Susan Kathleen Grant, BSc’74, BEd’75, Halifax, N.S., on February 15, 2011
Randall David Power, BComm’76, BCommHC’77, Dartmouth, N.S., on January 1, 2011
Jean-Yves Plourde, MSc’73, MD’77, PGM’77, Cap-Pelé, N.B., on January 9, 2011
Dorothy Joan (McClair) Morais, BN’77, Pictou, N.S., on February 12, 2011
Laurel Diane Watling, BA’78, Halifax, N.S., on January 22, 2011
Mary Christine Sparling, MA’78, Chester, N.S., on March 16, 2011
Theodore Scott Fowler, BSc’76, MBA’79, Halifax, N.S., on February 1, 2011
David Everett Henderson, BA’71, BEd’72, MSW’80, Halifax, N.S., on March 2, 2011
Mark Francis Dempsey, BComm’78, LLB’81, Bedford, N.S., on March 25, 2011
John Gregory Robinson, BA’78, MA’80, LLB’83, Shubenacadie, N.S., on December 6, 2010
Ellen Lynn Yorston, BN’86, Halifax, N.S., on December 9, 2010
Herbert Ansley Marshall, BSc’41, BEng’43 (NSTC), DEng’87 (TUNS), Goderich, Ont., on March 2, 2011
Patricia Elizabeth Spears, BScN’92, Portuguese Cove, N.S.
Jean Elizabeth Morpurgo, BScPT’85, BA’93, BAHCN’97, Halifax, N.S., on December 3, 2010
Robin Lianne Thorsen, BSc’10, Truro, N.S., on December 1, 2010

Dalhousie alumni save 25% off the regular price of an individual or family membership - pay just $41 a month or bring the whole family for $63 a month*!

SAME MEMBERSHIP, BETTER PRICE...IT PAYS TO BE AN ALUMNUS!

Check us out online for monthly promotions and membership specials, as well as the great selection of Tiger Gear and Baby Tiger Gear available at the Dal Athletic Shop!

*based on annual membership purchase, plus applicable taxes

Dalplexx

CONTACT DALPLEX FOR DETAILS • 494-3372 • ATHLETICS.DAL.CA
NAME: Emily Edwards
HOMETOWN: Antigonish, N.S.
POSITION: Research Associate, Community Health & Epidemiology
PASSION: Horses and books about horses
RIDING: She started to learn dressage at the age of nine under riding coach Mary Lew Murray at Fairwind Farm in Pomquet.
WRITING: After finishing her PhD thesis (Trinity College, Dublin) on eating disorders, Emily decided to write her own novel – the kind of book she would have gobbled up when she was young. When she was a kid, Bookends in Antigonish created a section of horse books just for her. She’s read them all, classics including Black Beauty by Anna Sewell, My Friend Flicka by Mary O’Hara and The Black Stallion by Walter Farley, and juvenile series including The Saddle Club by Bonnie Bryant and the Jinny books by Patricia Leitch.
THE TWIST: What makes The Trouble with Being a Horse different is that the main character, Olivia, an 11-year-old rider, wishes she was a horse – and then is shocked when she actually becomes one.
CANTER A MILE IN MY HOOVES: It wasn’t a huge stretch for Emily to think like a horse because in dressage, communication is so finely tuned that rider and horse become one.

“It’s all about body language – the horse can read you based on your cues, how you shift your weight, for example.”

THE WHOLE BIT AND BRIDLE: Emily decided to publish her own book and established her own company, Single Stride Publishing, to do so. She had to register the company, copyright her book, get an ISBN number, find a printer and get her book in stores. “I did every little bit of it,” she says, proudly. “After doing my PhD, it was a walk in the park.”

THE REVIEWS: While writing the book, she felt strongly that she’d like girls who love horses to read her manuscript and give her feedback. Their reaction? “When can we read the sequel?”

Research: Marilyn Smulders
Alumni Insurance Plans: A simpler solution for protecting your family.

Term Life Insurance  ▪ Income Protection Disability Insurance
Major Accident Protection  ▪ Health & Dental Care
Critical Illness Insurance

Call us at 1-888-913-6333.
Or visit us online at www.manulife.com/dalhousiemag for more information.
For the Frasers, Dalhousie is more than a university. It’s family. James Fraser’s (BSc ’82, MD ’86) father and mother went to Dal. So did his wife, Susan. Today, their daughter Katherine continues the family tradition as a second-year science student. Tiger Pride is deeply rooted in the Fraser family tree – a pride they celebrate at every opportunity with the latest Dal apparel and accessories from the Dalhousie Bookstore. Make it a part of your family tradition.

From hats to hoodies, from mugs to mittens - the Dalhousie Bookstore brings school spirit to life. Shop online or drop by the Bookstore today.