



On our cover

'Discover the Unexpected' introduces **Christopher Helland**, who teaches the sociology of religion. The background behind him shows tattoos that he chose to represent his academic milestones.

Cover design by Jane Lombard. Photo by Janet Kimber.



Photo: Abriel

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by Jim Vibert (BA'77)



Photo: Kimber

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A cause close to her heart prompted volunteer Sarah Dennis (BA'91) to champion the need to improve understanding of epilepsy. Her leadership will result in a major centre for research, education and patient care in Halifax, thanks to the creation of the William Dennis Chair in Pediatric Epilepsy.
by Marie Weeren (BJ(K)'93)



Photo: Abriel

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Dalhousie, The Alumni Magazine

Dalhousie is the official periodical of the Dalhousie Alumni Association and appears three times a year. Editorial deadline for the next issue is Dec. 1, 2006.



Photo: Andrea

Knowing no boundaries

Watching Al Gore's acclaimed documentary *An Inconvenient Truth* at the Oxford Theatre made me realize that my first appreciation of climate change traces directly to an earth sciences course.

While the current film continues to bring the topic of global warming to a new audience, 15 years earlier Professor Marcos Zentilli was awakening students to the environmental implications of our consumption of earth's resources.

Now a professor emeritus, he hails originally from Chile – where incidentally, there's a 5,800 metre volcano named in his honour. I recall that he'd posted a map of the world outside his office that flipped my preconceptions upside down. It gave the southern hemisphere pride of place at the designated top of the world.

As "The Earth and Society" demonstrated for me, intriguing courses and thought-provoking professors have a long-lasting impact (see our cover, and "Discover the Unexpected," page 10-11).

Maps do have a startling way of changing our perspective, as demonstrated again to me recently by marine biologist Ron O'Dor. His preferred map asserts the dominance of the oceans that embrace 70 per cent of the earth's surface, reassigning continents to an appropriately subordinate position. These encircling oceans could become a national research priority due to his initiative to establish the Ocean Tracking Network (see "The Internet for fish," page 4-5). Canadians gain a leadership role by working with experts around the world to understand serious global concerns such as climate change, ocean modelling and marine resource management (see "Tracking leatherbacks," page 3).

The hometowns of two of our alumna are located an ocean apart – Halifax and Sarajevo – but both are making a profound contribution to their community. Forensic scientist Ana Milos is bringing answers to families who endured the siege of Sarajevo (see "Sarajevo, Before and After," Page 7). Volunteer Sarah Dennis is motivated by a family loss to improve the lives of children with epilepsy in the future (see "A Guiding Spirit," page 16).

This issue of the magazine will touch many points on the map, as it is mailed to our international alumni. "Seeing differently" is what the fall issue of the magazine is all about and I hope you enjoy how it unfolds.

Whether Dalhousians are making a contribution through teaching, research or community service, they continue to inspire others.

Sincerely,

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Our contributors

An alumna herself, **Keri Irwin** (BA'98, BCom'01) enjoyed chatting with graduates from different walks of life. Together with writers Ryan McNutt and Heather Meek, she tracked down and interviewed young alumni who are starting their careers.



Heather Meek is a Ph.D. candidate in the Dalhousie English department. She is currently completing a dissertation on eighteenth-century women's writing and teaching a first-year literature class.

Ryan McNutt completed an internship with the Communications and Marketing team this past summer, keeping busy with media relations, organizing events and writing news and feature articles. He is now a communications officer with the Dalhousie Medical School.



Nick Pearce, who recently joined the Communications and Marketing team, was already a familiar face at varsity games as a sports photographer. Nick runs 123photo.ca and has been known to take the rare snapshot of his one-year-old daughter Alicia.

Marilyn Smulders is the web editor with the Communications and Marketing team. In this issue, she spoke with Ana Milos about her journey from Halifax to Sarajevo.

Marie Weeren (BJ(K)'93) is the president of 10th Floor Solutions, a Halifax business specializing in public relations writing and editing. She interviewed Sarah Dennis for this issue.



Tracking leatherbacks



Photos: Nova Scotia Leatherback Turtle Group

EVER SINCE MIKE JAMES (PhD'05) was little, he's been fascinated by turtles. When other kids were saving up for a new bike, he was hoarding his pennies to buy an expensive turtle encyclopedia. And while puppies and kittens were the pets of choice among his peers, he was gazing into the eyes of Felix, a pet box turtle he's had since he was eight years old. (And still has.)

When it came to doing his graduate studies, he was determined to study turtles. Freshwater turtles, he thought, until the university's veterinarian suggested leatherback turtles, an endangered species that had been spotted occasionally in Atlantic Canadian waters.

Dr. James wasn't sure. Conventional wisdom said the turtles, which grow to the size of a double bed and tip the scales at 650 kilograms, were a tropical species. Any leatherbacks seen around here were likely strays pulled off course. So he decided to talk to the people who were bound to know more – fishermen.

Why hadn't anyone asked the fishermen before? When Dr. James started

researching the giant reptiles in earnest, he enlisted their help. During that first summer in 1998, fishermen reported 171 leatherback turtle sightings – quite enough to confirm that the population was indeed established here and warranted further study.

"Every time I see a leatherback, I get excited," says Dr. James. "They're just so cool. And I never get over the size of them – they're huge!"

Dr. James, who is now part of a research team at Dal led by Ransom Myers (MA'80, PhD'83), is also the founder of the Halifax-based Canadian Sea Turtle Network. The framed pale-yellow turtle poster that used to hang in his bedroom as a boy is now over his desk in his tiny office in the Life Sciences building.

He does most of his fieldwork by hitching rides with commercial sea crab and lobster fishermen. Few people in the world study male leatherbacks at sea because it's so difficult to do. Once he spots one – an art form in itself – he hauls it aboard, measures it, photographs it, takes tissue samples for DNA testing, injects a

glass-encased identification microchip in the shoulder and attaches a tag on a rear flipper.

Once he established the turtles were here, the next step was to find out where else they went. He set about capturing about 25 turtles and outfitting them with satellite transmitters. Looking like cute little backpacks that were strapped over the turtles' front flippers, the units captured all kinds of information: where they travel, how deep they dive, how long they swim at the surface, even water temperature. Plotted on a map, the data show the leatherbacks migrate extensively, from tropical to temperate waters.

While Dr. James takes care of the science at sea, his wife, Kathleen Martin, looks after other aspects of the Canadian Sea Turtle Network. She's as crazy about leatherbacks – "those charismatic mega fauna" – as her husband. "This is an incredible species that has remained virtually unchanged since it first began swimming in the world's oceans more than 90-million years ago. And we know very little about it."

– Marilyn Smulders

Intros all around

There are some new faces and new appointments at Dalhousie this year.

Alan Shaver is Dalhousie's new Vice-President Academic and Provost. During his two terms as Dean of Science at McGill University, Dr. Shaver was noted for his leadership in change management, innovation and academic renewal.

Another new face is **Floyd Dykeman**,



Floyd Dykeman

Vice-President External. He served as Vice-President External Relations at Mount Allison since 1994 and will now provide vision and leadership for Dalhousie's external relations.

Other new appointments are: **Russell J. Boyd** – Associate Vice-President Research; **Norman Scrimger** – Acting Dean, Faculty of Computer Science; **Jim Vibert** (BA'77) – Assistant Vice-President Communications and Marketing; **Carolyn Watters** (PhD'86) – Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies; **David Wheeler** – Dean, Faculty of Management.

Ken R. Burt will be Vice-President Finance and Administration, effective Jan. 1, 2007. Tom Traves was reappointed President and Vice-Chancellor for his third three-year term, beginning July 1, 2007.

Medieval chants duly noted

The village of Salzinnes has vanished from maps of Belgium. And the Cistercian convent located there has been gone so long it's not even a memory. But the sweet sound of women's voices that once drifted out of abbey windows will soon be heard again – with the help of Dalhousie musicologist **Jennifer Bain**.

"I have a sense of what it will sound like, but to hear it in a setting like Saint Mary's Basilica will be incredible," says the associate professor of music, whose area of specialization is medieval music.

Collected in a rare illuminated manuscript circa 1554, the choral music would have been sung by nuns in plainsong, not unlike Gregorian chant. The songs, in Latin, marked special occasions in the church, including feast days for saints.

It's believed William Walsh, archbishop of Halifax and an avid art collector, acquired the Salzinnes Antiphonal during his travels in Europe in the 1840s. Curator Judy Dietz rediscovered the manuscript at Saint Mary's University. Now retired, Ms. Dietz is devoting herself to the history of the manuscript. She approached Dr. Bain for help with the music.

"Knowing I was the first musicologist to encounter this music was very thrilling," says Dr. Bain. She recently returned from Australia where she worked with chant scholar Neil McEwan and the St. Laurence Singers, the choir he directs. Dr. Bain has arranged for the choir to perform the music at Saint Mary's Basilica, known for its soaring acoustics, next June as part of the Scotia Festival of Music.

"Music was central to the lives of these women in monastic settings," explains Dr. Bain. "They would have spent literally hours every day singing together."

Every page of the oversized, leather-bound book is beautifully decorated on vellum pages, made of goat, sheep or calf skin. There are some full-page paintings of Biblical scenes, many depicting the Virgin Mary, and other pages with elaborate borders to frame musical notations.

But the manuscript is unusual in that it's so personal. There are 34 portraits of nuns who are identified by name and family coats of arms, including Julienne de Glymes, prioress of the Cistercian Abbey of Salzinnes, who is thought to have commissioned the manuscript. The book gives a sense of the lives of the nuns, in their white habits and black wimples, at prayer, at work and in song.

– Marilyn Smulders



Walking the park

It caught some odd glances from onlookers in downtown Halifax. Walking the Park is the brainchild of four Dalhousie architecture students – **Asher DeGroot** (BEDS'06), **David Gallagher** (BEDS'06), **Kevin James** and **Jacob JeBailey** (BEDS'06) – and was their course project for 'Theory and the Built Environment.' To address issues around green space and the North American obsession with lawn management, the students constructed a lawn that never ends and can be taken with you wherever you go. David Gallagher takes the park for a spin at left.





Photo: Pearce

Scholarship winner Paul Medeiros

Take a Bow

When first-year student **Paul Medeiros** was accepted into Dal's music program, he had no idea he would be bringing a prestigious national award with him. The Hnatyshyn Foundation Scholarships are awarded to exceptional young Canadians in post-secondary performing arts programs. Each of the eight \$10,000 scholarships will nurture the best talent in Canada. He was nominated by his teacher and mentor, Professor Philippe Djokic.

On top of your game

It is evident from the moment you talk to **Carolyn Savoy** (CPA'86) that coaching is much more than a profession – it's a way of life.

In nearly 30 years at the helm of the Dalhousie Tigers women's basketball team, Dr. Savoy has an impressive 70 per cent-plus winning record. Her sports psychology courses in the Faculty of Health Professions provide mental skills training to high-level athletes and teams. Dr. Savoy also applies her training techniques to management teams in the corporate world.

Her latest project, *The Art of Coaching: A Practical Guide to Building Successful Teams*, blends her knowledge with the expertise of 16 other head coaches, providing more than 380 years of combined experience. It explores what it takes to have a successful team and the roadmap for getting there. More importantly, it provides insight on setting and realizing goals, identifying and developing the potential in others, effective communication and leadership – key skills for any team in any setting.

"Teaching players responsibility and accountability, as well as a strong work ethic and the

value of practice and repetition, is far more important than any technical information I can convey," writes Dr. Savoy. "These are the life skills that players will take with them and continue to use over the years."

– Keri Irwin

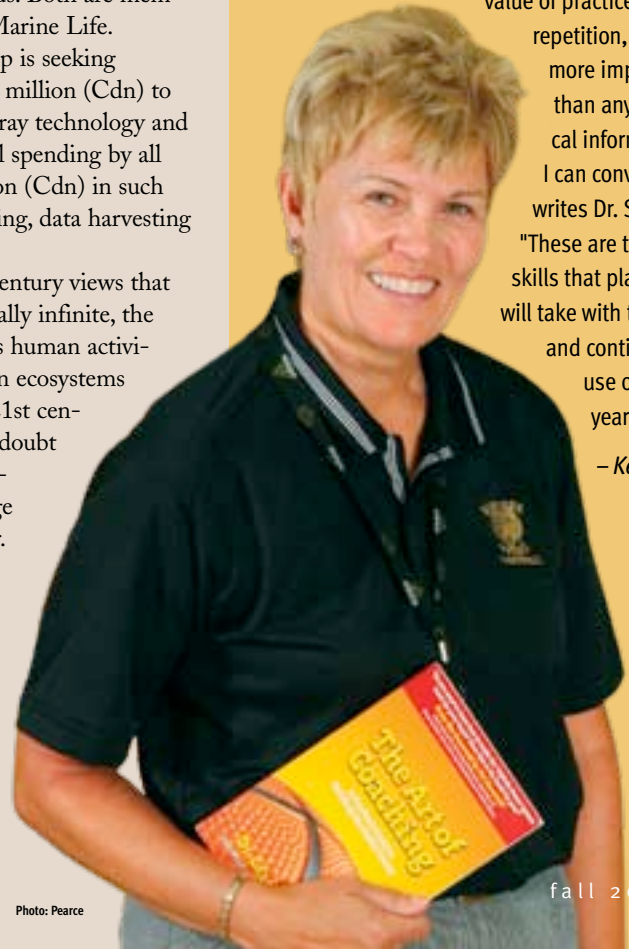


Photo: Pearce

The Internet for fish

Scientists could soon have a highly detailed picture of marine conditions and the migrations of fish and ocean animals throughout the world. Global experts convened a landmark conference at Dalhousie over the summer to work out details of the international Ocean Tracking Network (OTN). It's been dubbed "the Internet for fish."

OTN's goal is to tag a vast range of ocean animals (large and small), with low-cost devices varying in size from an almond to an AA battery. Researchers will then be able to follow them via an extensive array of acoustic receivers on the sea floor.

"Today we know less about our marine life – how these animals live, where they go – than we know about the back side of the moon," says **Ron O'Dor**, who leads the OTN.

"Revolutionary new technologies open the path to smarter fisheries management, better sea life conservation measures, and the potential of abundant and sustainable stocks of commercial fish. These technologies will also provide scientists with a massive increase in observations of rapidly shifting marine conditions in this era of climate change," says Dr. O'Dor, Dalhousie's Associate Dean of Science (Research) and senior scientist for the Census of Marine Life.

The workshop marked the first meeting of all stakeholders in the global network – scientists who tag animals, government officials who will collect, interpret and use the data, and technology experts who have made it possible to follow the migration, often in near

real-time.

The OTN plans a highly inter-connected network spanning the Mediterranean and five oceans: the Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, Southern and Arctic. Partners that will be able to track marine animals and the state of ocean conditions have been identified on all continents. The Pacific Ocean Shelf Tracking (POST) project, based in British Columbia, and the California-based Tagging of Pacific Pelagics (TOPP) project have successfully pioneered these methods. Both are members of the Census of Marine Life.

In Canada, the group is seeking funding of roughly \$35 million (Cdn) to supply the Canadian array technology and estimates total potential spending by all members at \$168 million (Cdn) in such areas as ship time, tagging, data harvesting and interpretation.

"Contrary to 19th-century views that the oceans were essentially infinite, the 20th century showed us human activities can transform ocean ecosystems on a global scale. The 21st century, so far, leaves little doubt that problems will compound as climate change occurs," says Dr. O'Dor.

Asking ethical questions

Meredith Schwartz (MA'04) has earned a 2006 Trudeau Foundation



Scholarship. The national award, presented yearly to 15 doctoral students in the social sciences and humanities, is worth up to \$200,000 and presents a unique opportunity to address major issues

affecting our society and to interact with scholars from across the country.

Ms. Schwartz's PhD research will examine how adult genetic screening for certain diseases – cancers, cardiovascular disease, neurodegenerative disorders – affects social attitudes towards personal responsibilities.

Ms. Schwartz believes the opportunities she's had – from the awards that she's won to the scholarly pursuits she's undertaken – would not have been possible without the support and enthusiasm of Dalhousie's faculty and staff, including her supervisor, Susan Sherwin.

– Ryan McNutt

The truth about

bats? You know, that they get tangled in your hair. That they'd suck all your blood given a chance. That they'll turn you into a vampire.

Those batty ideas highlight that most people don't know the truth about the much-maligned mammals, says PhD student **Krista Patriquin**.

She's just spent the summer at Dollar Lake Provincial Park, where she's been investigating the roosting social structure of the northern long-eared bat, alias *Myotis septentrionalis*. About the same size and colour as the little brown bat, Nova Scotia's most common bat species, it has a duller coat and larger ears.

A quick bit of background: Most bats found in Canada live in trees during the summer. Females congregate in roosts, where they give birth and raise their pups as a group. (Males, on the other hand, live apart and have no role to play in raising their young.) For years, biologists have been trying to determine the kinds of trees preferred by female bats, in an effort to conserve those trees.

Observing the roosts exposed the 31-year-old researcher to a social structure as complex as what's found in a typical high school. Females didn't stay in the same tree, but switched roosts every couple of days



Photo: Abriel

or so. Moreover, the gals didn't move as an entire group to the next tree – some stayed, some moved on, some joined other cliques.

"This pattern is classically observed in elephants, dolphins and chimpanzees and is known as fission-fusion society," explains Ms. Patriquin. "Fission meaning breaking up, fusion meaning joining."

She speculates the bats that spend more time together are probably closely related – and she's taking her theory to the lab where she'll take a peek at their DNA.

"Even though there are 1,100 species of bats in the world, we know very little about them," she says. "They hide very well. They're hard to catch. And they're active at night... but those challenges just make the results that much more worthwhile."

– Marilyn Smulders



Photo: Abriel

It Came From The Video Store

As you scan the shelves at the video store for your annual Halloween fright fest, you'll have to sort through rows of straight-to-video abominations with titles such as *Boa vs.*

Python and *Bloodthirst: Legend of the Chupacabras*. You've probably wondered what kind of people would actually

make those movies. Meet **Thomas Harvey**.

"*El Monstercabras* comes out of the fact that we absolutely adore those crappy, B-grade, straight-to-video horror movies," says Mr. Harvey, a third-year acting major in theatre with a minor in film studies. "We just decided to skip the step of trying to be serious and make a comedy film."

El Monstercabras wears its absurdity on its ripped and bloody sleeve. Directed by Josef Beeby, the 78-minute feature follows mad

scientist Professor Van Diem – played by Harvey – in his attempts to create a cure for everything by fusing genetic information from all of Earth's dangerous organisms. Of course, Van Diem inadvertently creates a hideous monster (also played by Harvey) which proceeds to hunt down a group of "sexy teens" on spring break. No cliché is left un-mocked as the monster hacks and slashes through every B-movie stereotype you can imagine.

While *El Monstercabras* is self-consciously ridiculous, Mr. Harvey is completely serious about the movie. "We saw the film as the transition between doing this as a hobby and doing it as a career," he says. From its \$1,000 budget to its midnight opening at the Oxford Theatre, the film was treated as a professional undertaking.

Who knows? Next Halloween you might find *El Monstercabras* in the horror section of your local video store, just dying to follow you home.

– Ryan McNutt

Sarajevo

Before and After

by Marilyn Smulders

April 5, 1992.

That's the day of
before and after.

Before. ANA MILOS WAS 14 years old, finishing elementary school, soon to enter high school. She lived with her father Zrinko, a physicist, her mother Vesna, a software analyst, and her kid sister Jelena in Sarajevo, a jewel of a city nestled in a valley surrounded by hills and mountains.



Ana's sister Jelena (BEng'04) has joined her in Sarajevo where they now share the same apartment they left as refugees in 1992.

Before. She was a teenager devoted to magazines and MTV. Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson were divorcing, Nirvana's *Nevermind* was heading to the top of the charts, and the Disney movie *Beauty and the Beast* was playing in theatres. She liked to ski in the winter, rollerblade in the summer.

But the former Yugoslavia, the country once ruled by the late Josip Broz Tito, was splitting apart as various republics – Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina – declared their independence. On April 5 that year, massive peace marches took over Sarajevo's streets. One group of protestors was moving toward the parliament buildings when unidentified gunmen fired into the crowd and killed two people. They became the first casualties of the war in Bosnia, and the deaths marked the beginning of the 44-month-long siege of Sarajevo.

"There was a very clear cut between normal life and life under seige," says Ana Milos, 28, now a forensic scientist who has returned to live in Sarajevo a decade after she fled her homeland. "It was very sudden. If there was an intro, it was political and I wasn't aware of it."

After. THERE WAS NO MORE WATCHING TV, no more gabbing with friends on the phone. No one went to school anymore. There was no electricity, no running water, and very little food. The constant shelling shattered the windows in the Milos' second-floor apartment and every other apartment. Snipers picking off civilians made the necessary search for water a perilous pursuit.

After Sarajevo, shown off to the world during the 1984 Winter Olympics, was a crumbling ruin. Eight years after the international event, the mountain-valley city was blocked off from the outside world by Bosnian-Serb forces. Thousands were dead. Virtually every building in the city was damaged due to shellfire.

Vesna took her two young daughters out of Sarajevo on the last humanitarian convoy departing the ravaged city. It was for women and children only and Ana's dad stayed behind. So did her grandparents, who left their home during the Second World War and were unwilling to do so again. "They were going to stay, no matter what the outcome," says Ana.

As refugees, the three headed to Dubrovnik in Croatia, an ancient port on

the Adriatic Sea where Ana has an aunt. But the war raged on, and they moved to Canada a year and a half later.

It was an intense time for Ana. She plunged into Grade 10 at Halifax's Queen Elizabeth High School, which offers lan-

guage instruction for newcomers. She gravitated to subjects like math, chemistry and physics, where a command of English wasn't crucial to understanding the concepts taught.

MISA – the Metropolitan Immigration Settlement Association – helped the family settle into Halifax, with its quaint wooden houses, friendly neighbours and its "tossed salad" model of multiculturalism that seemed not unlike the Sarajevo of old. Having settled into Halifax's Cowie Hill neighbourhood, the family was reunited with Zrinko a few months later, in late 1994. Mom, a Serb, and Dad, a Croat, and the girls all became Canadians as soon as they could take the Oath of Citizenship.

"Once we got over the language barrier, it got so much easier," says Ana. "I didn't hang out with the crowd from former Yugoslavia. But that's the great thing about Canada. It's a medley of everything. I love that about it."

She scored good marks in high school and enrolled at Dalhousie on an entrance scholarship. The study room on the fourth floor of the Killam Library became her second home as she pursued a bachelor of science degree, majoring in biochemistry.

AFTER GRADUATION IN MAY OF 2001, Ana found herself at loose ends. She lingered at “the crossroads,” she says.

As life had returned to normal for Ana and her family, it gradually had for Sarajevo, too. Or at least what passes for normal.

After almost four years of bloody ethnic conflict, the siege of Sarajevo was lifted on Feb. 29, 1996. It’s estimated more than 11,000 people, including 1,500 children, were killed by shelling, sniper fire and other atrocities. In the countryside of the former Yugoslavia, another 200,000 people were dead or missing.

As established by the 1995 Dayton Peace Agreement, which formally ended the war, Sarajevo was declared the capital city of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a country with a rotating presidency (Bosniak, Serb, Croat). Stability was established by setting up a single defence structure, intelligence service, judicial system and customs service. A multi-ethnic police force is still being created.

Ana decided to return to Sarajevo, eager to see her grandmother, alone now that her grandfather had passed away. Her grandmother pinched her cheek, declared she was too thin and made her “a lot of pies.” She travelled around the countryside with the eyes of a Canadian tourist.

“I was supposed to go back to Canada,” says Ana. That is, until a job advertisement for a DNA analyst with the International Commission on Missing Persons caught her eye. When she went for an interview, she was reunited with an old, dear friend she hadn’t seen since before war broke out. “Oh, my God, I can’t believe it’s you,” exclaimed Ana as she hurried to embrace her friend. Arijana Selmanovic had stayed in Sarajevo throughout the siege and completed a bachelor’s degree in biology from the University of Sarajevo.

Both young women got the jobs, never mind that Ana “had no clue” what the International Commission on Missing Persons really did.

The ICMP was created in 1996 following the G7 Summit in Lyon, France. Its task was to put names to the bones discovered in mass graves scattered throughout the former Yugoslavia. Many of the victims were male, most Muslim. ICMP forensic scientists use DNA analysis to link exhumed bones with blood samples

There is urgency to the work – the genetic material in the bone fragments degrades over time. Some of the people they’re identifying have been dead 14 years. In many cases, bodies have been moved from location to location. Sarajevo, and Bosnia-Herzegovina, needs to deal with its past before it can make progress going forward, says Ana.


ICMP scientists are also working to identify victims of Hurricane Katrina in the southern U.S., and victims of the Boxing Day tsunami in Southeast Asia.

“It’s fascinating, cutting-edge science,” says Ana. “But it’s that crucial end result – the identification of someone’s lost brother, father, an uncle, a sister – that gives our work so much meaning and value.”

AFTER EVERYTHING, Ana is back in the newly renovated apartment she grew up in. She shares the space with Jelena,

who also returned to Sarajevo after graduating from Dalhousie so she could stay close to her sister. Jelena (BEng’04) is a chemical engineer and works as a project officer for the European Commission in Bosnia-Herzegovina. She deals with European Union projects involving the environment and agriculture and assesses the country’s progress toward EU integration.

While their parents remain in Halifax, where their former physicist father is now a long-haul trucker, their beloved grandmother is just down the hall.

Ana shares an office with her best friend from childhood at the ICMP. The two forensic scientists can’t watch episodes of CSI together without breaking into gales of laughter. “It’s not really the way it looks on TV,” she says with understatement. “But I really enjoy those shows. It’s good to have a laugh.” 

“These people have no idea what’s happened to the people they love. We bring closure. It allows them to continue with their lives.”

collected from living relatives – and give the victims a name. So far, the commission has made 10,447 positive DNA matches. The tally is updated weekly on the ICMP’s website at www.ic-mp.org.

“The whole purpose of the commission is to help people find their missing loved ones,” says Ana. She and Ariana recently completed master’s degrees in forensic science (serology) online through the University of Florida. (Serology is the science of bodily fluids.)

“As gruesome as the job sounds, it’s not really. We bring closure. These people have no idea what’s happened to the people they love. They know we won’t find them living somewhere, but we can put the dot on the end of their story, and that seems to help them a lot. It allows them to continue with their lives.”

What were you thinking when you were 18?

by Jim Vibert (BA'77)

IN UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION-SPEAK, it's "The Student Experience." For the students themselves, it's life: academic and social, on campus and off. If it isn't the biggest factor in the big decision – where to go to school – what is?

Students today pay more, and expect more than their baby boomer parents. In surveys of university students, Dalhousie already outperforms the Canadian average in many measures of student experience. That's not nearly good enough. President Tom Traves, and our deans, senior administrators and faculty have set Dalhousie's sights on nothing less than developing a student experience of unparalleled quality across Canada.

University-bound 18-year-olds tackle a complex mix of considerations. In consultation with parents, teachers and counsellors, they probe academic reputations, programs offered, price and place (proximity to home, or lack thereof). More to the point, conversations with friends often boil down to the question: 'Where are you going and what's it supposed to be like?' The answer brings us back to "The Student Experience."

At Dalhousie, the question brought us to "Discover the Unexpected."

Oh, we can – and do – fill scads of brochures and web pages with easily supportable claims about the broadest choice of programs, flexible degree options, the most accomplished faculty, the most student-friendly city in Canada, the prestige of a Dal degree, study abroad opportunities, and on it goes. That is expected. It's what every school does and, in the minds of student prospects, it all blends together into a competing, overlapping, indistinguishable cacophony.



Photo: Kimber

Discover the Unexpected takes kids past all that, to real student experiences. Like the reggae drummer inspired by neuroscience; the skateboarder chick who found her entrepreneurial genius; the socially awkward computer kid who smashed out of his shell. Faculty experiences, too: the sociology of religion prof who tattooed artful representations of his academic milestones on his arms; the health and human performance prof who came here as an undergrad, found her place, changed her life, got a PhD, and now has Dal students telling her she's changing their lives. These stories are special, but not rare. We find like experiences everywhere we look on campus.

Dalhousie's "brand promise" – a place of opportunities that will inspire you – comes alive in these experiences. An edgy video interpretation of life on campus is in theatres now.

Many of our sister institutions across Canada, and certainly all the larger schools will invest exponentially more in recruitment than Dalhousie, this year and probably for the foreseeable future.

Dal takes aim at the big/old stereotype


There's an industry out there that folks a block removed from halls of academia (and most within) will never meet. An army of 30- 40- and 50-something experts – in all manner of

human behavior, research, trends, emerging media and the like – are trying to cram themselves into the headspace of your average 18-year-old, middle-class kid who is making that long, but rarely lonely trek from high school to university.

Like most, this army marches on its stomach, and for the last couple of decades it's been well-fed by the wealthy private and big-name U.S. schools that want to attract either the best and the brightest or the richest and best-connected kids in America.

On this side of the border, it's not an army yet, but there are a couple of platoons formed up to answer the call for ever better recruitment marketing. Some see it all as the Americanization of the Canadian post-secondary system. That is, users – the students – pay more and taxpayers pay less, on a percentage basis, of the true cost of education.

But the upside is this: students, surely the reason universities exist in the first place, are more valued than ever. They are also more precious. Only two provinces in Canada – Ontario and British Columbia – project a growth in population in the 15-24 age bracket over the next decade. Statistics Canada projects a fairly steady decline in this age group in Quebec and Atlantic Canada, for as far into the future as statisticians dare look. New England, by the way, shares the same declining demographic profile.

Canadian universities are getting into the student recruitment business like never before. At Dalhousie, we're a long way from engaging a platoon of experts, but we have done the research to know our strong academic reputation remains intact. Questions about overall student experience – fueled by the old big-Dal stereotype – persist. With the experiences reflected in Discover the Unexpected, we're smashing that outdated misconception to smithereens. 



Discover.dal.ca features real stories from real students, as well as Dal's own rock video, "I Feel Fine."

DISCOVER THE UNEXPECTED

Ariel Dewey, Student

I was still discovering my focus in 3rd year. Then, I took an awesome entrepreneurial course and my grades took off. Now I have a real business plan for my own boardshop called Ariel View and the sky's the limit.

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Ready to take on the world

Changing your life, or someone else's. Finding your own sound. Setting your own creative direction. Our youngest alumni are putting their Dal education to work.



Ticket to paradise

EMILY HAYNES (BSC'98) never thought her degree in biology would provide a ticket to paradise. But as far as she's concerned, that's where it has taken her. As director of Nova Scotia's Big Cove YMCA Camp, Emily spends the spring, summer and fall living in a rustic cabin with her partner Andrew and their two-year-old daughter Ella. For them, the setting is idyllic: the family gets the run of what Emily calls a "100-acre backyard."

The stunning cove on Merigomish Harbour, on the Northumberland Strait, is also home to hundreds of campers every summer. Emily calls the camp a

"village for kids, a retreat where young people are not bothered by what's going on outside." At Big Cove, she also cultivates her passion for ecology and environmental science – interests sparked at Dalhousie.

For her, the natural environment is a "huge inspiration," and she instills a respect for nature in her charges through extensive recycling and composting programs. Campers also embark on wilderness camping trips, hiking Cape Chignecto, paddling Merigomish Harbour or exploring the shores of Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton.

Emily traces her abiding attachment to the natural world to her days at Dalhousie. Science classes also inspired her interest in art – she wanted to portray the beauty she saw in nature. All summer, she takes pictures, collects rocks and shells, and cooks. "There's a lot of creativity involved in running a camp," she says.

There's also a lot of work: Emily spends much of her time supporting a staff of 45, talking to parents, managing the budget and promoting the camp. She sometimes counsels homesick campers, a task for which she is particularly suited. At age six, Emily spent 10 days at Big Cove.

"I was really homesick," she says. "I moped around and wouldn't do anything. I vowed never to return."

But she did return, as a 15-year-old counsellor. She came away "totally in love with the place; it's been a part of my life ever since." And now, as Emily prepares to close up camp for the winter, she imagines watching the great cycle of the seasons unfold again next year – in her little piece of paradise.

– Heather Meek

Game Time

VIDEO GAMES ARE HARDLY CHILD'S play these days: in North America alone, the industry generates more than \$7 billion in revenue each year and it's growing. Helping fuel that growth is Jake Morley (BCSc'05), a Dalhousie computer science graduate. As a software engineer with Vancouver-based developer Radical Entertainment, Jake keeps the next wave of games on the cutting edge of technology.

Jake, who grew up in Amherst, Nova Scotia, remembers the very moment he was converted into a gamer. "I got a Commodore 64 and

a stack of games I when was about 10 years old," he says. "I've been borderline addicted ever since."

Despite this, Jake had never really considered a career in the industry until Electronic Arts – the makers of such iconic game series as Madden football and NHL hockey – sent recruiters to Dalhousie in October of his final year. After subsequent interviews they offered him a post-graduate position in Montreal. There, he worked on *Need for Speed: Most Wanted*, among other titles.

Recently, Jake changed gears and joined Radical Entertainment, whose hit games have included *The Simpsons: Hit and Run* and *Road Rage* games, along with this fall's release of *Scarface*. While a team of designers and artists plan how each game will look and play, Jake is one of the programmers behind the scenes who provides them with the tools to make it happen.

Radical's studio is something to be seen: with an indoor log cabin, a huge kitchen and a complete games room, it's part studio, part campus and part playground. Jake says the "Willy Wonka atmosphere" helps balance the hard hours the employees put in. "People have this

idea that the industry is just playing games," he laughs. "But a tremendous amount of work goes into making those games, along with a lot of money."

Jake credits his time at Dalhousie with providing the technical skills and work ethic necessary for the challenges he faces. "I think Dal's computer science program really does prepare people to get out there and integrate their skills in a business environment," he says.

As he begins work on his newest project – the next game in the *Crash Bandicoot* series – he thinks ahead to opening his own studio one day and sees Halifax as the ideal place to do so. "I think that there's a tremendous wellspring of activity out here that's just waiting for someone to tap into it."

– Ryan McNutt

Seeking his own musical style

CHRIS CHURCH'S (BMUS'94) music ranges from Beethoven to bossa nova. Violinist, vocalist and songwriter, he's been called a "stylist on the violin, morphing between different communities." Chris explains – modestly – that he's seeking out his own style. But his music is already a unique blend of jazz, rock, pop and world sounds.

Clearly, experimentation is at the core of his art. His current passion lies in "finding the violin and where it's from, and learning a little bit about its roots." His music teems with Greek, Brazilian, Indian and Eastern European influences. He recently spent a week at an Arabic music camp in New England, and plays regularly with Jesse Cook, a flamenco jazz guitar player.

How did a Dalhousie degree in violin performance lead to this? At Dal, he studied under Philippe Djokic, a world-class classical violinist, and his mentors included Don Palmer, one of Canada's premier jazz musicians. He learned about discipline and focus, while developing his "own improvised flavour."



Photo: Pearce

By the time he graduated, Chris felt he had “a taste for just about everything.” He considered pursuing graduate studies in classical music in the United States, but chose instead to join a Halifax world music band. This eventually landed him in Toronto, where he now lives.

Life in the big city has allowed Chris to enrich his eclectic interests. Between solo performances, the promotion of his critically acclaimed debut album *Here* (2004) and gigs with tango bands, he writes arrangements for Canadian symphonies and plays in classical quartets. He has recorded with the likes of Charlotte Church and Lennie Gallant, and recently did a three-month tour of North America.

Chris often comes home to see family, run in Point Pleasant Park and experience what he calls the “buzz” of the Halifax music scene.

He was



Photo: Pearce

recently featured in *The Coast*, Halifax’s weekly arts and entertainment magazine, and played at the Atlantic Jazz Festival. He may be a man of the world and a Toronto urbanite, but Chris’ easy smile still suggests Halifax local.

– Heather Meek

Joining the circus

WHILE OTHER KIDS DREAM of running away to join the circus, Alison Beaton (BSc’02, BScPT’03) of Mabou, Nova Scotia, had other plans. An athletic child who was injured often, her recovery experiences inspired her to decide at age 13 to become a physiotherapist. She stuck with that goal, graduating from Dal’s physiotherapy program. As it turns out, she got to join the circus too.

Alison is currently working as a physiotherapist with Cirque du Soleil, the world-renowned modern circus that combines elements of street performance, opera, ballet and rock music.

Alison is one of two health services staff who travel with the Montreal-based troupe’s new *Delirium* show.

“We cover all health concerns,” says Alison of her mobile clinic. “We set up our clinic like any other physio clinic with appointments and emergency coverage during performances and rehearsals; we just tear it down and set it back up again every two days.”

So far – to her relief – there have been no show-

stopping injuries since she began touring with the show in January. They have had some 911 calls, fractures that happened in the performers’ free time, with necks, knees and shoulders being the most common injuries. “I’m working with high-level athletes who are very motivated to get back to what they’re doing,” she says, noting they make fantastic patients.

Alison lives on one of 13 tour buses for the show’s cast and crew, which travel along with 25 tractor trailers full of gear. They generally stay in a city for three to five days before packing up and moving on.

“There are definitely pros and cons to living on the road, but it never gets boring,” she says. “It’s always exciting.”

Alison

is used to working in unique circumstances: in her third year at Dalhousie, she spent 10 weeks on a work placement at various hospitals in South Africa. “That experience made it easier to adapt to different situations like this one,” she says. And while she’d like to spend more time abroad at some point, for now Alison is happy following the open road as *Delirium* travels up the West coast this fall and hopefully to Europe next year.

– Ryan McNutt

That’s entertainment

HOW MANY OF US CAN CLAIM watching hit television programs as a job requirement? For Carolyn So (BCom’05) this is a reality. From creating merchandise for shows such as *Desperate Housewives*, *Lost* and *Grey’s Anatomy* to facilitating telephone interviews with *Amazing Race* competitors for the Asian Press, this Dalhousie grad is leaving her mark on Disney.

Carolyn got her start at Microsoft in Halifax, where she completed two of her required work terms as part of her commerce program before moving on to Mattel in Toronto, which she feels gave her a competitive edge.

“The work experience during my program was relevant to my course work and chosen field, and helped me to get where I am today,” she says.

Upon graduation, she returned to her childhood home, Hong Kong, and landed a position as a marketing coordinator with Buena Vista International Television – the international distribution arm of The Walt Disney Company.

When asked about the highlight of her job, Carolyn replies, “working for the ‘Mouse House’” (a nickname for Disney in honour of their icon Mickey Mouse).

“I have a great excuse to watch excessive amounts of TV! After watching the shows, I brainstorm different products and get to see these ideas formulate into actual merchandise.” Her favourite products include a set of pillowcases embroidered with “McDreamy” and “McSteamy” for *Grey’s Anatomy*.

Her degree gave her a macro perspective of business, allowing her to see how her role and contribution within a company fit into the bigger picture. This way of thinking drives her to make a difference in her personal life as well. Carolyn recently returned from a week-long trip to Mongolia, where she spent her vacation working and playing with



street kids from Ulan Bator, including showing them how to fly kites.

“The camp was two hours outside the capital city and literally in the middle of nowhere, with no running water or phone lines,” she explains. Quite a

change from the modern day luxuries most of us take for granted.

Her position brings Western culture, television shows and home theatre entertainment to the Asian market, which is very fitting for someone who has called both Hong Kong and Canada home. When comparing the two, Carolyn notes, “the biggest difference is the amount of people. Hong Kong’s population is seven million packed into about the same size as Halifax Regional Municipality.”

– Keri Irwin

Best foot forward

AS A STUDENT ATHLETE at Dalhousie, Kelly McKean (BScK’00, MASc’05) put her footwear to good use. An AUS all-star in cross country and track and field, the Oakville, Ontario, native was a member of numerous championship teams and, in her final year, finished sixth in Canada in track and field.



Today, Kelly not only wears the shoes – she makes them. After earning both a bachelor of kinesiology degree and a master’s in biomedical engineering from Dalhousie, Kelly has made the transition from star athlete to researcher for the world’s largest athletic company. At Nike, she helps design, manufacture and test running shoes and cross-trainers to best fit the needs of today’s athletes, from the well-paid professional to the casual amateur.

“We do biomechanical analysis on athletes and we use that information to influence design, enhance athletic performance and decrease the risk of injury,” Kelly says. She actually did some work for Nike while studying at Dalhousie under the guidance of Dr. William Stanish, an orthopedic surgeon with the Faculty of Medicine. Focused on knee ailments, including osteoarthritis and ACL injuries, her work impressed Nike and led to an offer of employment when she graduated.

(This isn’t the first time Dalhousie talent has caught Nike’s eye: Kelly’s manager, Gordon Valliant, is also an alumnus.)

Always one to push herself toward new challenges, Kelly embarked on a bold adventure before she joined Nike. For five months, she biked across South America, travelling from Chile to Peru and seeing the countryside in a way most tourists never do. “Travelling by bike, you get to meet locals and see their way of life,” she says, noting the experience was well worth the physical effort. “I got to see the country a whole lot closer.”

Be it through her travels or her time on the track, Kelly’s athletic accomplishments help her make footwear that allows other athletes to reach their own goals and dreams. For Kelly, being able to use both her academic and her athletic education is what makes her job so immensely rewarding.

“It’s very important in my job to have that athletic background; it would be very hard to do without,” Kelly says. “It’s great being able to combine my education with that background on a daily basis.”

– Ryan McNutt 



A guiding spirit

Sarah Dennis (BA'91) finds meaning in a family tragedy by volunteering for a cause close to her heart

by Marie Weeren

I'M EARLY FOR MY INTERVIEW with Sarah Dennis (BA'91) and feeling like a member of the paparazzi as I sit in my car, a few houses back, and watch her watering flowers. Scampering on the lawn is a tiny black dog – later on, I learn it's called Boo, the only name Sarah's three daughters could agree upon. The quiet, tree-lined street of large homes conveys a sense of peace and timelessness.

But, as Sarah knows too well, peace can be destroyed in an instant and a world turned upside down. That's exactly what happened in 2002 when her brother, William Dennis, died suddenly at age 30 from complications related to an epileptic seizure.

William is why I've been invited into the home of Sarah, her husband Phil Jenkins (LLB'88) and their

young girls Abigail, Alexandra and Gillian. And William is never far from our conversation as we sit together in the family room.

"I said to somebody the other day that there is no normal . . . life goes on but it's in a totally different way," Sarah says. "It was earth-shattering, but then you've got to pick up the pieces. But they never go back in the same way."

The choice, as Sarah saw it, was "curling up into a ball and not getting out of bed, or getting up and making something positive out of something awful."

The new William Dennis Chair in Pediatric Epilepsy Research is a definite positive. The \$3.5-million fundraising goal for the Chair – the first of its kind in Canada – was realized thanks to a \$2.3-million gift from the Dennis family and the generosity of other donors. Sarah is thankful to all those who believed in the cause and offered support and encouragement.

"The Chair will build on the existing foundation of excellence in epilepsy research at Dalhousie Medical School and IWK Health Centre," says Dalhousie President Tom Traves. "It will provide funding in perpetuity to attract a leader in pediatric epilepsy, and will draw additional clinical and academic talent into pediatric neurology." The prestige of the chair will enable the recruitment of a candidate of international stature and the establishment of a major centre for research, education and patient care in Halifax.

Epilepsy is a neurological disorder affecting approximately one per cent of the population, including about 9,500 Nova Scotians. While the disorder is a common one, and while there are effective treatments for many people with epilepsy, medical researchers continue to work hard to come up with better treatments capable of helping even greater numbers of people.

"It would be great if they could find a cure. That's the ultimate," Sarah says, when asked what changes she hopes the Chair will deliver. "But if we can increase exposure for Atlantic Canadians towards epilepsy information, reduce some of the stigma . . . or if somebody is having symptoms and all of a sudden realizes that they do have epilepsy and seeks attention before they die, like William did, then we will be so happy."

Sarah's approach to fundraising for the Chair mirrors her approach to life, says Dale Godsoe (BA'65, BEd'66, MEd'87),

former vice-president external at Dalhousie. "She didn't leave a stone unturned. She dreamed a dream and she stuck to it and she accomplished an amazing amount in a very short period of time." Sarah researched, reflected, sought advice and then met with everybody who could offer support or suggest others who could provide support.

This may help explain why Sarah, a vice-president and director of The Halifax Herald Limited – publisher of the largest, independently-owned newspaper in Canada – is believed to have been the youngest chair of the IWK Health Centre Board of Directors and, in 2004, was named one of Canada's Top 40 Under 40™, a national program managed by the Caldwell Partners. Her board service includes positions with the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council and the Dalhousie Medical Research Foundation.

When each achievement is mentioned, Sarah is self-effacing. The IWK experience: "I don't know why they picked me because I probably tripped a lot and made a lot of mistakes but I learned so much." On meeting other Top 40 Under 40™ recipients: "It really inspires you to do the best you can do . . . There was such a range of people who had accomplished so much. I quite often wondered what I was doing there but it was a great experience."

She takes the most pride in her accomplishments at home – her children. "My main goal is to raise three children who are going to be good human beings and caring . . . independent and strong."

In her own development, Sarah describes her Dalhousie student experience as "formative." Going to university shapes who you are and creates a sense of independence, she says, adding it also teaches good navigation skills.

She has navigated a new course since her brother's death, which has "changed me, immeasurably," she says. Sarah now lives more for the moment and has learned not to "sweat the small stuff." While she doesn't plan too far ahead, she hopes to continue to make her mark at the Herald.

"I would be honoured to be the fourth generation of the family to lead that paper," she says. "An independent newspaper is so important, and to be the one to continue that would be great."

For our interview today, Sarah is wearing a tailored brown blouse and white pants. The outfit is a far cry from her costumes at



Sarah, with William and their father Graham Dennis (LLD'03) on family vacation

last winter's fundraiser for the Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia, "A Different Stage of Mind, Antics on the High Seas."

From my seat at one of the tables that filled Pier 21's Kenneth C. Rowe Heritage Hall, I could see Sarah, also known as pirate captain Green Eye Ellie, with a parrot on her shoulder and a tricorne on her head. She and three other business leaders raised piles of 'pieces of eight' before and during the event, and provided some of the evening's entertainment as performers. Sarah became Barbra Streisand, lip-synching to "Don't Rain On My Parade," complete with wig and, as I learned later, the press-on nails needed to perfect the flicking of hair. Though the audience was clearly supportive and quick to applaud, I recognized the courage it must have demanded.

"It was fun looking back on it now, and the four of us who were all pirates bonded over it," Sarah says, after delivering a few beats of the song. "You learn not to take yourself too seriously."

Cheering Sarah on in her performance was Lesley MacInnis (BSc'88). They were next-door neighbours growing up, and now host alternate Friday night family dinners at each other's homes. Sarah is loyal, a great listener, and has "always got a plan for something to do that we're going to enjoy," says Lesley. "She is truly an amazing person and an amazing friend ... I'm very blessed."

As our interview draws to a close, Sarah takes me on a tour of her house. "We have pictures of William everywhere. We talk about him all the time," she mentioned earlier.

Indeed, there are many photos – on the fridge, on the walls, in the bedrooms.


Now, through the William Dennis Chair in Pediatric Epilepsy Research, her brother's influence will extend beyond the circle of family, friends and colleagues. "I think he'd be honoured, humbled, proud. Then at times when I get emotional about it, I think he'd be saying, 'Oh, come on Sarah,'" she says softly. "He would never want us to be sad. He'd be proud of what we're doing and want us to just keep going." 



Photo:Abriel

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**DALHOUSIE
UNIVERSITY**

Inspiring Minds

A friend in deed

Everyone should have a friend like **David Bissett** (LLB'62, LLD'03). While there is no doubt about his exceptional business acumen, his devotion to higher education is what will inspire generations of students here at Dalhousie and across the country.

In 2003, David, along with his wife Leslie, announced a \$2 million gift to establish the David and Leslie Bissett Student Learning Centre at Dalhousie University. Providing a mechanism to proactively reach out and engage students through personalized contact supported by leading edge technology, the Centre is transform-



David Bissett

ing Student Services and reshaping the entire learning culture and environment of our university. Permeating every aspect of the student experience, it reminds all faculty and staff of their primary purpose – to provide students with an exceptional educational experience.

David exemplifies the best principles, values and practices that Dalhousie imparts to its students. He has turned his hands and heart to giving, volunteering and fundraising as a full vocation with a mission to expand the culture of giving in the business community. David's motto: when you're capable, start giving back to the community. Get involved. You won't regret it.

David Bissett is the 2006 ClearSight Wealth Management Friend of Education Award winner.

– Ian Murray

MasterMinds Lecture Series

October 26, 2006 • 10:30 am

Whither the forests of Nova Scotia?

Dr. Peter Duinker, professor, School for Resource and Environmental Studies
University Hall, Macdonald Building

February 2, 2007 • 10:30 am

Have humans wrecked our coasts?

Heike K. Lotze, Canada Research Chair in Marine Renewable Resources
Scotiabank Auditorium, McCain Building
www.dal.ca/masterminds

Dalhousie Alumni Association celebrates winners

Award of Excellence for Teaching: Dr. Peter Aucoin (MA'66)

None of us will ever reach the point where we know everything - Peter Aucoin

Dr. Peter Aucoin has engaged students in his "abiding commitment to the search for truth" in the fields of public administration and political science since 1971.



Dr. Aucoin

Peter is held in esteem for his expertise both by his students and professionals in the public service, but his comprehensive knowledge is only one facet of his teaching. Equally important is his ability to use his considerable experience to involve his students in a process of 'learning how to learn' about government institutions and administrative structures.

Peter prepares students for future careers in the public service and academia, in equal measure. Whether new to the field or seasoned public servants, his students value his knowledge, dynamic and enthusiastic teaching style, thought-provoking analysis and keen wit.

Peter's work as an educator extends beyond the classroom. The views of a number of former students were captured by a senior public servant who observed that he is "an outstanding teacher and significant

contributor to public policy discussion in Canada and elsewhere in the world."

Peter is a teacher who loves his subject and delights in sharing his knowledge with others. He is a consummate master of drawing students out and engaging them in subjects in which they may not have even realized they had an interest. He sets a very high standard for his own scholarship and invites students to share in his thirst for knowledge.

A. Gordon Archibald Alumnus of the Year: Dr. John Christie (DDS'71)

Dr. John Christie has been delivering inspired dental education to scores of students since the 1970s. He also has



Dr. Christie

provided leadership to Dalhousie through the Faculty of Dentistry alumni relations committee, the admissions committee, the part-time faculty advisory committee, the advisory committee on the appointment of a chair for the department of pediatric and community dentistry, and the dean's search committee.

In 1983, John was instrumental in establishing an alumni recognition process to honour outstanding alumni of the Faculty of Dentistry. He is a generous donor to the

2007 ALUMNI AWARD NOMINATIONS



The **Dalhousie Alumni Association** is committed to recognizing the dedication, excellence and inspiration of our alumni. Help us celebrate by nominating a fellow grad for one of our 2007 Awards:

- A. Gordon Archibald Alumnus/a of the Year Award
- Outstanding Young Alumnus/a Award
- Alumnus/a Achievement Award

For further information, contact Shawna Burgess:
E-mail: shawna.burgess@dal.ca
Phone: (902) 494-6051 or 1-800-565-9969
Fax: (902) 494-1141

university and encourages others to match his level of giving.

John has a thriving practice in Bedford, N.S., and contributes to the community through the Atlantic Canada Aviation Museum, the Cerebral Palsy Association, the Canadian Diabetic Association and Big Brothers Big Sisters Nova Scotia.

Outstanding Young Alumna: Dr. Patricia Benoit Chafe (BSc'88, BScHC'89, BEd'92, PhD'99)



Dr. Benoit Chafe

Dr. Patricia Benoit Chafe is known in the figure skating world for her work in developing a new system of judging. Read her profile in *Spotlight on Alumni*, page 23.

Alumnus Achievement Award: Dr. David Fraser (MD'58)

Dr. David Fraser has been a guiding force in the radiology community for nearly 50 years as a mentor, teacher, researcher and leader.



Dr. Fraser

Retired now, his guidance continues through the Dr. David B. Fraser Learning Centre at Dalhousie – a model for teaching radiology throughout North America.

Hailing from a long line of Dalhousians, David was chair of the radiology department for 17 years and president of the Victoria General Hospital medical staff in 1985. Further, he has served as visiting professor at George Washington College and the Universities of Calgary, British Columbia, and McGill. David and his wife Jean are generous philanthropic supporters of Dalhousie.

David's dedication to Dalhousie and medicine is unmatched. He earned a place in history for bringing the first MRI machine to Nova Scotia and for establishing the Department of Radiology Research Foundation in 1983. Among his many awards are the commemorative medal for the Queen's Golden Jubilee and the Radiology Society of North America's gold medal.

– Ian Murray

The J. William E. Mingo Memorial Scholarship

John Bragg remembers **Bill Mingo** (BA'47, LLB'49, LLD'98) as “a wise counselor, a terrific mentor and a great friend.” Mr. Bragg and others have established an endowment at Dalhousie in memory of Mr. Mingo, not only to mark his tremendous contribution to Nova Scotia, but also to preserve the values he held so dear. Mr. Mingo passed away in November 2005. He was nationally recognized as one of the

founders of Legal Aid in Nova Scotia, and was instrumental in the establishment of the Law Foundation of Nova Scotia, supporting legal education, research and law reform.

The J. William E. Mingo Memorial Scholarship for International Study was established through memorial donations of over \$600,000 from a group of Mr. Mingo's most dedicated friends. Dalhousie Law School graduates who have achieved academic excellence, demonstrated leadership and impeccable character can apply for this scholarship valued at \$25,000 per year, to pursue graduate legal education outside Canada.

– Ian Murray

Tax savings for donors
The federal government has eliminated capital gains tax on publicly listed securities given as donations to charities. This initiative provides donors with excellent tax savings when making gifts of securities, as they are no longer required to pay tax on the capital gain and they also receive a tax credit or deduction (41% to 48% according to province).

Note: In our spring issue, Jennifer Leighton (BScK'06) was incorrectly identified (“Dalhousie athletics a family affair,” p. 24). We apologize for the error.

Events



Alumni get-together in Quito, Ecuador: Mark Richardson (BA'99), Canadian vice-consul to Ecuador, Sarah-Lee (Hines) Richardson (BJ(K)'97), Canadian Women of Quito, Carson Noel (LLB/MBA'91), Aurelian Ecuador S.A. and Darryl Lindsay (PhD'98), Ecuacorriente Resources

9th Annual Dal Golf Classic
Students, alumni, friends and staff enjoyed a beautiful day at the 9th Annual Dal Golf Classic tournament on August 31. Funds raised go to the Athletic Endowment Campaign to support Dal's student athletes. Dal was able to grant \$57,000 in athletic scholarships this past spring alone!

Let us know what you've been up to:
alumni.records@dal.ca



St. John's: (above) Alumni and friends gathered in Newfoundland on June 8th.



Sydney: Cape Breton hospitality was the order of the day on June 15th.

Upcoming events

Watch for more events later this fall in **Fredericton** and **Ottawa**.
For event details and updates, check www.dal.ca/alumni

1 9 4 6

Gordon A. Taylor, BENG (NTSC) and **Sharon D. Dublin**, MN'96, were married at the All Saints Anglican Cathedral in Edmonton, Alta., on May 20, 2006. The happy couple now resides in Bedford, N.S.

1 9 5 3

John E. Houghton, BENG (NSTC), a life-long conservationist, has received the T.B. "Happy" Fraser Award for Atlantic Salmon Conservation, the Atlantic Salmon Federation's top award for significant efforts to save the region's wild salmon. It recognizes his 15-year efforts to actively restore populations to their natural range along the Atlantic coast.

1 9 5 5

Constance R. Glube, LLB, LLD'83, was named an officer of the Order of Canada in April 2006. Ms. Glube was the 21st chief justice of Nova Scotia and first female chief justice in Canada.

1 9 5 8

James Burchill, BA, retired in May 2006 after a 50-year career as a church musician. Dr. Burchill was the organist at All Saints Cathedral in Halifax for 25 years and performed over 370 concerts as an organ recitalist and accompanist. He also taught at numerous

schools, including Dalhousie University. Now settling into retirement, he is looking forward to his four-month cruise aboard the Queen Elizabeth II.

1 9 6 1

Denis Stairs, BA, was named an officer of the Order of Canada. Dr. Stairs was Dalhousie's Vice-President, Academic and Research from 1988 to 1993 and is a professor emeritus of political science.

1 9 6 5

Ralph Ferguson, BA, was honoured with a Mel Hebb Hourglass Action Award for service to the community of persons with disabilities. Ralph, who chairs the Nova Scotia Disabled Persons Commission and is vice-chair of the Nova Scotia League for Equal Opportunities, received this award for his work in publishing *Eastern Views* (www.easternviews.com), an online internet newsletter dealing with disability issues and concerns.

1 9 6 8

Stephen Knowles, BA, recently retired from the Procedural Service of the House of Commons, where his last assignment was to the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs. Last year, he and his wife Christine Jannasch completed an 800-kilometre walk along the

pilgrimage route through France and Spain. They live in Gatineau, Que., and may be contacted at sknowles@cyberus.ca.

1 9 7 1

Lawrence Klein, BA, co-founded Thought Technology Ltd. in 1974. The company supplies 85 countries with machines used in more than 100 branches of medicine. They are at the heart of the sports science of the AC Milan Football Club and were the secret weapon of the 2006 World Cup Championship team.

1 9 8 0

Lorna Findlay, BA, is currently completing her MEd in curriculum studies at MSVU and working as a resource teacher with the Halifax Regional School Board.

Eleanor Humphries, BSc, president and CEO of the Halifax International Airport Authority, has been named one of Atlantic Canada's Top 50 CEOs by *Atlantic Business* magazine.

1 9 8 1

David M. Cooper, LLB, and his wife Jacquie have moved to a resort island in Thailand, where he accepted a position with Belmont Limcharoen, practicing property and corporate commercial law for mostly international clients.

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Inspiring Minds

Figuring out the score

Passion merges with persistence. Involved in figure skating since the age of nine, **Patricia (Benoit) Chafe** (BSc'89, BScHC'89, BEd'92, PhD'99) a shy mathematician from Lower Sackville, N.S., combined her love for skating with her passion for mathematics to help revamp the scoring system for the International Skating Union.

Her background in figure skating as an athlete, coach and official gave her a competitive edge. She was able to communicate effectively, understand the concerns and positions of all involved and develop a new system free of controversy.

Why the need for all this change? While the previous system, based on ranking, is an effective process for many decision-making applications, it has huge shortcomings in the sporting environment. When compared to the past, "the differences in skill and execution of the athletes in the world today are so fine," Dr. Chafe explains. The new system actually uses a more basic form of mathematics – it doesn't eliminate the subjective nature of the sport, but rather allows for a comprehensive set of standards and rules that didn't exist before.

Aside from her technical skills, Dr. Chafe's background in math pushed her farther than she thought possible. She recalls her PhD experience: "I learned for the first time about struggling in something that you are good at, and not giving up. To get past the hardships and challenges, and succeed with many doubts along the way."

An important mindset, especially for working with elite athletes who want to go further but feel they've hit a roadblock.

"My talents lie in the ability to do math," says Dr. Chafe. "I am an average athlete who loves to participate. It never occurred to me that one day I would stand in a meeting of hundreds of international delegates and successfully debate radical change in international sport."

Her commitment to excellence and fairness both in sport and her own life made a difference in the sport she loves. The road to the Olympics was truly a memorable journey, beginning with her math classes in the Chase Building. She continued on to become an analyst at



the 2006 Torino Winter Olympics in Italy, where she provided feedback to medal-winning athletes. She also provided context and analysis to the commentators for NBC, the largest television network at the games.

Now, Dr. Chafe is using her experiences and expertise to provide strategic advice to both not-for-profit sport organizations and individual athletes. Her mathematical skills provide unique insights to help her clients move forward, identifying strengths and weaknesses, and mapping the most efficient path to achieve their goals. Her work is empowering others to look at a new way to examine their sport, maximizing training and talent and allowing for a more positive experience.

– Keri Irwin

1 9 8 4

Scott Burke, BA, has been named the new artistic producer for Eastern Front Theatre. Previously, he was the artistic producer at Ship's Company Theatre in Parrsboro from 1998 to 2003 and played a leading role in establishing the new \$2-million theatre facility. Most recently, he served as artistic direc-

tor for Theatre New Brunswick from 2003 to 2005. His acclaimed productions include *The Parrsboro Boxing Club*; *Chairmaker*, *the Musical*; *Mary's Wedding*; and *Kilt*.

Lex Gigeroff, BA, who worked on the science-fiction series *Lexx* in Halifax for almost seven years with fellow Dal grads **Paul Donovan**, BSc'75, LLd'04, and **Michael Donovan**, BA'74, LLB'77, LLd'04,

now teaches drama and writing and does mercenary script work for a half dozen productions. He currently has three film scripts that have been optioned and two more in development.

Erin Steuter, BA, MA'87, is this year's recipient of the Herbert and Leota Tucker Teaching Award. Dr. Steuter is an associate professor of sociology and has taught

at Mount Allison University for 11 years. Recognized for her innovative teaching style, community outreach, passion for sociology and research and publications in the field of media analysis, Dr. Steuter is also the recipient of a Paul Pare Research Award this year.

1 9 8 7

Leigh Nofle, BSc(PHARM), and John Begle are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter, Sophie Lorraine, on Apr. 15, 2006, at the IWK Grace Health Centre in Halifax, N.S.

1 9 8 8

David G. C. McCann, BSc, MD'88, has been appointed the vice-chair of the American Board of Disaster Medicine by the American Board of Physician Specialties.

SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI

From Joe to genealogy

Jeff Douglas (BSc'93) came to Dalhousie to become a dentist.

"That was my childhood dream," says the busy actor, who shot to cross-border fame as "Joe" in Molson's memorable I Am Canadian beer ad.

"Growing up in Truro, dreaming of a career in the performing arts wasn't very realistic at the time. It seemed to be something for people who lived in big cities."

By his second year at Dal, however, he switched gears. When a classmate dropped by his residence one day with an application for the dentistry admissions test, "I opened it, and this voice inside my head yelled 'NO!'" recalls the Gemini-nominated TV host, who's currently helming two documentary series on History Television.

"It was a watershed moment. I called my mom and dad and said 'I'm quitting school to become an actor.' They said, 'Oh no, you're not! You're finishing school first!'"

Studying psychology and criminology by day proved to be very useful, while he honed his acting chops at night "by serving Chicken Kiev" at Grafton Street Dinner Theatre. He then studied theatre performance at Concordia University before moving to Toronto.

He's often on the road taping *Things That Move*, now in its second season. "A testament to human ingenuity," he says, it examines the inner workings and cultural impacts of everything from jetliners to garbage trucks. He's also bringing genealogy to prime time, with a new series premiering this fall. *Ancestors in the Attic* delves into family histories, heirlooms and legends, such as a "coffin ship" of Irish immigrants who wound up on an island in the Miramichi.

Mr. Douglas makes time for movie roles as well, appearing in the film *John Q* with Denzel Washington and Robert Duvall, and *Touch and Go*, an independent feature shot in Halifax. His TV credits include *Sue Thomas, F.B. Eye* (Showtime), *This is Wonderland* (CBC) and *Missing* (Lifetime).

Even so, people still recognize him as Joe – his big break in the beer ad six years ago led to coverage in *People* and on *The Today Show*.

"It's the reason I have the job I have now," he says. "I'm grateful for everything that's happened to me, and it actually made me really proud to be Canadian. It came out at a seminal moment, when we really started to celebrate ourselves as Canadians. It's been cool to ride that wave."

– Marla Cranston



Photo: Pearce

He's still Canadian: Jeff Douglas moves on

1 9 9 0

Alexander Swift, BSC(PHARM), and his wife Elena are proud to announce the birth of Robert Thomas on March 13, 2006. Robbie is a brother for Clara (7), Andrew (5) and Laura Jane (2), and the family lives in Dartmouth. Alex is an emergency physician with Capital Health and also works for DND.

1 9 9 1

Monique Wiebe, CCS, and husband Kenneth would like to announce the birth of their third son, Benjamin Edward, on June 29, 2005.

Kevin Delano, BCOM, is chief marketing officer for Consumer Impact Marketing Ltd. (CIM), the fastest-growing and largest sales and marketing solutions company in the country. Honoured as one of Canada's 50 Best Managed Companies for the past five years, CIM has offices in Toronto, Montreal and New York. Although Kevin resides in Toronto, he considers Nova Scotia home and enjoys summers in Hubbards, N.S., with his wife **Nancy Macleod**, BA'89, and their three daughters.

Susan (Beamish) Goheen, MD, her husband Kevin and children Ben (16), Casey (14) and Josh (12) have moved from Barrie to Ottawa, Ont. Susan starts work this fall at the Ottawa Hospital (civic campus), department of anesthesiology.

1 9 9 2

Pamela Joan Clarke, LLB, recently joined the partnership of Wickwire Holm in Halifax., where she practices bankruptcy/insolvency and corporate/commercial law. Pamela also recently joined the boards of directors for both the Canadian Insolvency Foundation and the Risk Management Association. She lives in Halifax with her husband, **Brad Sarson**, LLB'95, BAAMC, BA'90, and their sons, Adam (3) and Jared (8).

1 9 9 3

Patricio Zapata, MBA, would love to hear from classmates and would be happy to help any prospective students in Mexico who are applying for a degree at Dal. Contact him at patricio_zapata@hotmail.com.

John Paul Carnell, MSW, BA'73, BED'74, BSW'84, has retired from the Halifax Regional School Board after 32 years as a teacher, social worker and high school guidance counsellor. He was ordained to the permanent diaconate in June by the Archbishop of Halifax and has assumed duties in the central Halifax pastoral unit.

1 9 9 4

Edward "Ted" Lin, BSC, and his wife Pamela Kao are very pleased to announce the birth of their first child, daughter Tiffany Grace, on June 1, 2006, in Boston, MA. The family resides outside Boston, where Ted has worked as a chemist in the research department of biopharmaceutical company Biogen Idec since 1997. Friends and classmates can contact him at bostonted@hotmail.com

Leeann McGovern, BA, MURP'96 (TUNS), and her husband Rodney Waugh, are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Erica Brid McGovern Waugh, on April 22, 2006. The happy family lives in Halifax, N.S., where Leeann is a park planner with Parks Canada.

Julie (Romkey) McNeil, BSC(PHARM), BSC'88, BA'89, and husband **Mike McNeil**, BSCN'00, DHSA'02, would like to announce the birth of their son, Peter William, on March 15, 2006. He weighed in at 8lbs, 11oz.

1 9 9 6

Tabitha Rogers, BSC, graduated with a MD degree from the University of Ottawa on May 17, 2006. She will begin a five-year psychiatry residency this July in Ottawa, Ont.

1 9 9 8

Michelle Chrétien, BSC, won an award from the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), for her PhD thesis. It will be presented in August 2007 in Torino, Italy. Michelle works in the department of chemistry and biochemistry and the Centre for Biological Applications of Mass Spectrometry, at Concordia University in

Montreal, Que. Friends and classmates are invited to contact her at michelle.chretien@gmail.com.

1 9 9 9

Christine Bonnell-Eisnor, BENG, and **John Eisnor**, BENG, MASC'02, along with their daughter Grace, celebrate the birth of son Ian Gregory on August 31, 2005. Christine is a reservoir engineer with the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board; John is a facilities engineer with the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour.

Olga Anna Kuchar, PhD, MCSC'96, was selected to participate in the National Academy of Engineering's 2006 US Frontiers of Engineering Symposium in Dearborn, Michigan. She is a senior research scientist at the Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

Greg Moores, MBA, LLB, BCOM'95, and **Julie (Seymour) Moores**, BENG (TUNS), BSC'95, are pleased to announce the birth of their second daughter, Lauren Marie, on March 29, 2006. Lauren is also welcomed by her big sister, Sarah (March 6, 2003). Greg and Julie are now living in St. John's, Nfld., and would love to hear from friends at greg.moores@nf.sympatico.ca or Julie.moores@warp.nfld.net.

Krista (Robertson) Orchard, BSC (PHARM) and husband Allan announce the birth of their second child, Robert James, on April 3, 2006, a little brother for Ashlee Gayle (May 23, 2003). They live in Hampton, N.B., where Krista is a clinical pharmacist at the Saint John Regional Hospital. Friends can contact them at akorward@yahoo.ca.

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Nicholas Thorne, BA, BSc'98, MA'01, is working for Novartis in Basel, Switzerland. Friends and fellow Dalhousians in Switzerland can reach him at nrthorne@yahoo.com.

2 0 0 1

Nicole (Borovan) Ginsberg, LLB, married Donald Ginsberg of Montreal on May 28, 2006, in Halifax, N.S. They are now living in Ottawa, Ont., where Nicole acts as legal counsel for the federal government. Previously, she practiced law in Vancouver

for a number of years and then completed a LLM degree at McGill University.

Nancy Thornton, BSc, has been a proponent of sustainable development for CUSO in El Salvador over the past six years.

2 0 0 2

Ryan Pringle, BCOM, LLB'05, is working and living in Sydney, Australia. He is interested in getting in touch with other Dal graduates in Australia and can be reached at

ryanpringle99@gmail.com.

2 0 0 5

Melissa Jennings, BA, is working at Cambridge International Training Centres in Omdurman, Sudan, teaching English and soft skills to doctors, lawyers, engineers and other professionals. Currently, she is organizing a course specifically for NGO employees with knowledge of English – an exciting opportunity to use her double major in international development studies and political science. The staff and students at the school are great and the area is beautiful. Friends can contact her at ehmjac@linuxmail.org.

2 0 0 6

Brett van Heyningen, BCOM, has accepted a sales associate position at ADP Canada, a human resources and payroll services company. He proposes small business solutions for companies with fewer than 50 employees. The position is in Halifax, N.S., and he is excited to be staying in the Maritimes.

In Memoriam

Eric Joseph Mullaley, ARTS & SCIENCES, Halifax, N.S., on April 1, 2006.

Yvonne (LeBrocq) Nickerson, ARTS & SCIENCES, Lakeland, Fla., on June 12, 2006.

Donald MacKay MacRae, BSc'30, MD'34, Halifax, N.S., on May 30, 2006.

Robert "Bob" Creelman Barnstead, BSc'35, Mahone Bay, N.S., on May 9, 2006.

Samuel J. Fairstein, BSc'30, MD'35, Mount Vernon, N.Y.

Amelia Bertha Goldman, BCOM'37, Fredericton, N.B., on June 14, 2006.

Harold Frank Aiton, DPHRM'41, Woodstock, N.B., on April 7, 2006.

James Littler Harrison, BSc'41, Dartmouth, N.S., on April 17, 2006.

John Andrew "Jack" Ritchie, MD'42, Newmarket, Ont., on May 30, 2006.

John R. Vaughan, DDS'42, Halifax, N.S., on July 29, 2006.

James Fraser Keays, BSc'39, MD'43, Miramichi, N.B., on March 22, 2006.

Ivan Chesley Price, MD'43, London, Ont., on April 13, 2006.

Howard A. Locke, MD'45, New Glasgow,

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At the centre of the Hurricane

Working for the NHL is definitely a dream come true for former Dalhousie Tiger **Derrick Pyke** (BMgmt'02, BScR'02), who is now enjoying life on the other side of the glass as a corporate sales executive for the Carolina Hurricanes.

Mr. Pyke credits his Dalhousie degree for helping him develop the skills he uses in his career today. His degree in recreation



management combined his business desire with his love of sports and offered practical experience. "The internship in my final year was one of the most beneficial aspects of my degree," he explains. "It provided me with the opportunity to become involved with a major event that was taking place in Halifax at the time, a National Junior A Hockey Championship." This eventually led to his first job.

Following his then-girlfriend, now wife

Joanna (Freeman) Pyke (BScK'99) to the U.S. for her work turned out to be one of the best moves of his life. He was able to use his playing career and his experience marketing the Halifax Metro Centre and the Halifax Mooseheads to land him his current position, in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Perks include attending NHL games – and lots of them. Mr. Pyke is working a game all the time but the icing on the cake was winning the Stanley Cup in 2006. "I've dreamt about the Stanley Cup forever – to actually spend time with it is pretty amazing," says Mr. Pyke.

"Game seven against Edmonton was an unforgettable experience. The atmosphere was unbelievable – fans stood for the entire game. I had never seen anything like that before, not for a hockey game."

In his current position, he applies the drive, determination and work ethic learned from years of lacing up his skates during his own successful hockey career. Instead of supporting a play or scoring a goal on the ice, he focuses on revenue generation for both the team and the RBC Centre, raising dollars that allow for the on-ice magic.

These days, his plays center around the development of corporate partnerships with national, regional and local companies, mainly in the form of marketing and advertising agreements. But make no mistake, Derrick's heart is still, and always will be, at the center of the sport he loves.

– Keri Irwin

N.S., in May 2006.

Robert Finbar Buckingham, BENG'47 (NSTC), on Sept. 28, 2005.

John F. Burke, DDS'47, Sydney, N.S., on Aug. 4, 2006.

Lloyd Acres, DPHRM'48, Oxford, N.S., on Oct. 24, 2003.

Stewart J. Drury, LLB'48, Q.C., Dartmouth, N.S., on June 8, 2006.

Donald MacLeod Ripley, DENGR'48, Ingleside, Ont., on May 25, 2006.

Helen Freda (Shields) MacIntosh, BA'49,

DED'49, Halifax, N.S., on Aug. 7, 2006.

Edward Raymond Moore, BENG'49 (NSTC), Ottawa, Ont., on May 24, 2006.

Frank Charles "Tusker" O'Neill, BENG'49 (NSTC), DENG'90 (TUNS), Halifax, N.S., on July 3, 2006.

J. Earl Feener, LLB'50, Q.C., Halifax, N.S., on April 9, 2006.

Aubrey Edmund Johnson, MD'50, Great Village, N.S., on May 10, 2006.

Patrick Joseph Casey, BENG'51

(NSTC), Venice Gardens, Fla., on April 20, 2006.

John W. Lindsay Sr., DENG'49, BENG'51 (NSTC), DENG'91 (TUNS), Halifax, N.S., on May 5, 2006.

Ronald L. McCarther, BENG'51 (NSTC), Halifax, N.S., in 2001

Walter Patterson, BSc'49, BENG'51 (NSTC), Fredericton, N.B., on June 2, 2006.

John A. Ryan, BENG'51 (NSTC), St. Catharines, Ont., in August 1998.

Grant Walls, BCOM'51, Lunenburg, N.S.,

on Aug. 3, 2006.

Daniel Henderson Franklin, DENGR'50, BENG'52 (NSTC), Dartmouth, N.S., on May 4, 2006.

S.G. Burke Fullerton, MD'52, Halifax, N.S., on April 10, 2006.

Benjamin David Karrel, MD'52, Truro, N.S., on June 14, 2006.

Shawna (Warren) Wolfe, BA'52, MA'53, Toronto, Ont., in May 2006.

Roger Cyr, LLB'53, Port Stanley, Ont., in May 2006.

Maynard F. Taylor, BSC'49, MD'53, New Port Richey, Fla., on May 28, 2006.

Jean Murray Lennox, DTSN'54, Halifax, N.S., on June 28, 2006.

William Rigby Townsend, DPHRM'54, Fredericton, N.B., on June 5, 2006.

Alan Alastair M. Drysdale, MD'55, Halifax, N.S., on May 13, 2006.

Harold Franklin Verge, BENG'56 (NSTC), Bedford, N.S., on June 30, 2006.

Gordon "Gord" Sidney Rankin, BCOM'57, Calgary, Alta., on July 10, 2006.

A. Dexter Bruce, BCom'59, Bridgewater, N.S., on June 27, 2006.

Donald John MacNeill Sr., BSC'59 (PHARM), Truro, N.S., on July 2, 2006.

Rita (Rieksts) Bistevins-Kaufmanis, MD'60, Antigonish, N.S., on Aug. 6, 2006.

Joseph E. Danso-Dapaoh, MD'60, Kumasi, Ghana, on Aug. 27, 2006.

Patricia "Pat" Ann Keene, BA'59, BED'60, Halifax, N.S., on May 7, 2006.

Harold William Brogan, DDS'61, MED'89, Dartmouth, N.S., on Aug. 2, 2006.

Arthur Raymond MacNeil, MD'63, Halifax, N.S., on April 6, 2006.

David A. Rideout, MD'63, Saint John, N.B., on Apr. 20, 2006.

John Alexander "Jack" Dougall, BA'64, Halifax, N.S., on May 14, 2006.

Dugald Christie, LLB'66, West Vancouver, B.C., on July 31, 2006.

James "Jim" Edward Meikle, BED'66, Stellarton, N.S., on June 18, 2006.

David J. Cooke, MSC'67, PHD'70, London,

Ont., on April 1, 2006.

H. Louise Simons, BSC'67, Kingston, N.S., on May 3, 2006.

John Henry Callaghan, MD'68, Charlottetown, P.E.I., on March 11, 2006.

Anna (Hendsbee) Hayes, MA'70, Oshawa, Ont., on June 23, 2006.

Edith Flora Patricia "Pat" Keeping, MSW'70, Lake Echo, N.S., on July 7, 2006.

Donna Faye MacQueen, BSC'70, Cape Breton, N.S., on July 30, 2005.

Arthur H. Patterson, MD'70, Lunenburg, N.S., on June 13, 2006.

Robert Alan Dacey, BA'72, Halifax, N.S., on May 15, 2006.

David Davis, BA'73, Burlington, Ont., on May 6, 2006.

William Woon Kap Wong, PGM'73, St. Anthony, Nfld., on July 23, 2006.

Peter Janega, PHD'74, Ottawa, Ont., on April 14, 2006.

Thelma G. Mollon, BA'74, Sydney, N.S., on June 12, 2006.

David P. Prince, BA'75, Halifax, N.S., on April 17, 2006.

George F. Salib, PMG'76, Grand Falls, N.B., on June 7, 2006.

Blaise MacDonald, LLB'77, St. Andrews Channel, N.S., on June 5, 2006.

Robert Wayne MacDonald, BSC'77, Halifax, N.S., on May 14, 2006.

Sylvia Ann Batt, LLB'78, Ottawa, Ont., on June 15, 2006.

Susan E. (Land) Cavanaugh, BSC'78, BSCPT '83, Raleigh, N.C., on April 30, 2006.

Linda Carolyn Falkenham, MED'79, Mahone Bay, N.S., on May 18, 2006.

Ashok L. Joshi, PGM'79, Victoria, Australia, on Jan. 14, 2006.

Edward Kamski, PGM'80, Toronto, Ont., on June 18, 2006.

Stephen Dwight Kavanagh, MBA'80, Westmount, N.S., on April 24, 2006.

Frederick Ray MacKinnon, LLD'80, Halifax, N.S., on July 26, 2006.

Dennis Gerard Theriault, PGM'83,

Peterborough, Ont., on July 5, 2006.

Dale Arthur Bennett, BED'87, Calgary, Alta., on Aug. 7, 2006.

Vere Karsdale Mason, DENG'88 (TUNS), Toronto, Ont., on June 1, 2006.

Winifred (Cowen) Fougere, MA'92, Dartmouth, N.S., on June 14, 2006.

Prudence Anne Watson, LLB'99, Toronto, Ont., on June 3, 2006.

Thomas Christian Norwood, BSC'02, Halifax, N.S., on April 28, 2006.

Sherry Ann Butt, DNPS'04, Hatchett Lake, N.S., on Aug. 1, 2006

Megan Joan Corkum, BScN'05, Yarmouth, N.S., on July 6, 2006.

In memoriam

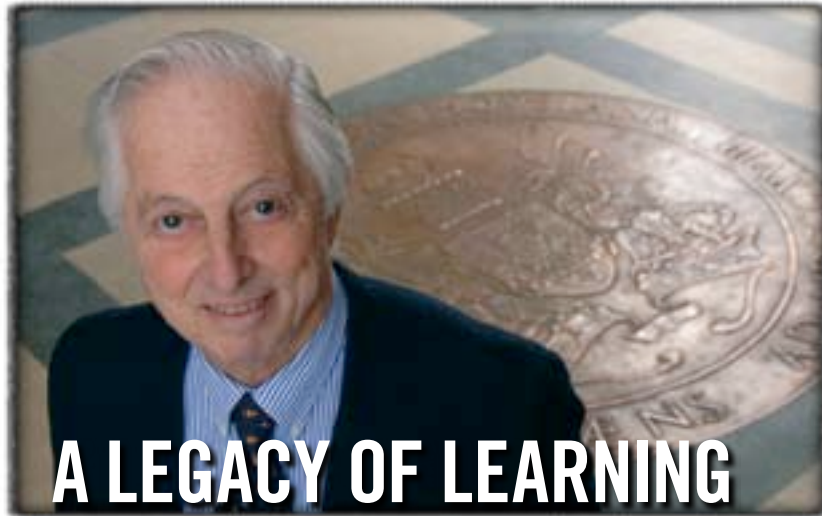
Judge **Ronald St. John MacDonald**, C.C., Q.C., LL.M., LL.D. - 78, passed away peacefully



September 7, 2006, in Halifax. The former Dean of the Dalhousie Law School was a renowned scholar in the rule of law in international relations. He was featured in the Spring, 2004 issue of *Dalhousie, The Alumni Magazine*.

Dugald Christie (LLB '66) was killed in a cycling accident while riding across Canada to bring attention to the need of ensuring that all citizens, irrespective of status or income, have equal access to justice.

Colin Gash (BEDS '04) has been recognized for his concern for the community by the Arts Council of Cheticamp which has dedicated the award-winning 'Le Theatre Petit Cercle' in his memory.



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SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI

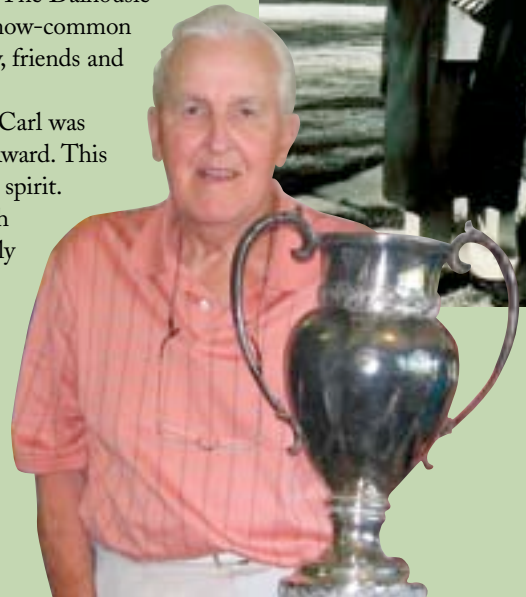
80th birthday surprise for 'Coleslaw' Giffin

Dr. Carl Giffin (MD'51) has had many nicknames over the years, but the one that stuck was given to him by his varsity basketball teammates while on the road playing Mount Allison. The Dalhousie team stopped by a popular restaurant where 'Coleslaw' discovered his love for the now-common side dish. This was just one of the fond Dalhousie memories he shared with family, friends and former teammates at his recent 80th birthday party.

The highlight of the party was a flashback to the 1946-47 varsity season when Carl was awarded Dalhousie's top honour for a male student-athlete, the inaugural Climo Award. This award was bestowed for outstanding athletic ability, clean sportsmanship and team spirit. Carl's daughter Gaye arranged to have the prestigious trophy, now entering its 60th year of presentation, on hand at the party to surprise the guest of honour. Originally awarded to him by Mr. Climo himself during the Munro Day dance, Carl was thrilled to have his fondest Dalhousie memory brought to life. Also active in many other extracurricular activities, he was an interfaculty hockey champion and part of a singing quartet.

He went on to practice medicine in Inverness and his later studies in psychiatry led him toward instrumental roles in opening many mental health centres around the province. Coleslaw Giffin now calls Truro, N.S. home.

- Teri Lake



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From courtrooms to comedy, an unexpected career



Photo: Adriell

Photo: Peare

Name: Candy Palmater

Jobs: Mi'kmaq Liaison Officer for the Department of Education, political activist, columnist, rising comedy star

Lifetime passion: Being larger than life!

Notable Achievements:

Valedictorian at her graduation from Dalhousie Law School (LLB'99); Multicultural Education Council of Nova Scotia 2006 Recognition Award Recipient; vocal advocate for the rights of Aboriginal peoples; a one hour documentary on her life story, airs Canada-wide this fall on CBC Newsworld

“When you come from adversity, humour is cheap medicine.”

When I was a kid, my report card always said ‘Candy is a bright student who unduly disrupts the class.’ Now I’m getting paid to unduly disrupt the class!

- I’m a bureaucrat and I describe myself as a recovered lawyer, but there is so much more to The Candy Show than that.
- I was always a ham, but I never thought I could actually get paid to make people laugh.
- What I don’t do is make jokes about my gender, culture or sexuality in a derogatory way. I make people laugh at the ridiculous stereotypes society has about various people.
- In the end, it’s about having another outlet for my voice. I am a local columnist and an activist, but my comedy brings national and international coverage – so I use it as a tool for change.
- A fan once told me, ‘You’re the thinking person’s comic.’ I couldn’t ask for more.

Research: Dawn Morrison