

AGRICOLA

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF DALHOUSIE'S FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE

SUMMER 2024

Bringing Worlds Together



Join us for Homecoming 2024!

October 17-19
Dalhousie Agricultural Campus

Events include:

- Blue & Gold Awards Banquet
- College Royal
- Dean's Breakfast
- Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
- and more!

For an updated listing of upcoming events, visit dal.ca/agalumni

Don't miss out on these Fall 2024 class reunions!

October 18-19

Class of '56 - 68 years
Class of '64 - 60 years
Class of '74 - 50 years

October 19

Class of '04 - 20 years

November 16

Class of '14 - 10 years

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Bringing Worlds Together

COVER PHOTO: Pictured is the southwestern section of the Agricultural Campus with the surrounding communities of Truro and Bible Hill on the left and right sides of the Salmon River, respectively. **BELOW:** Bringing Worlds Together is the theme on campus these days, and you'll see evidence of it everywhere — including in the carpet bed facing Pictou Road.



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FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE

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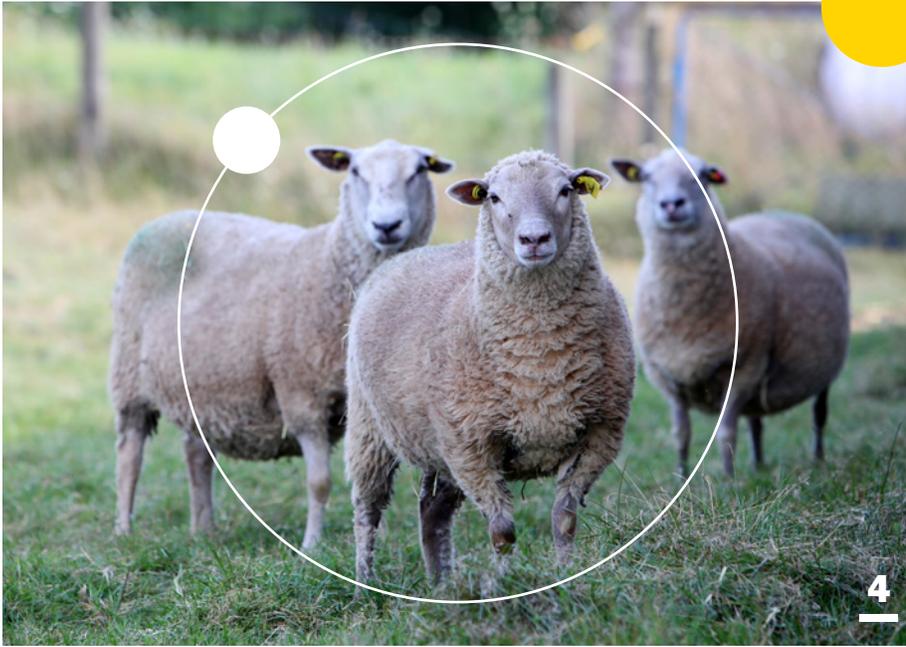
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As Dalhousie embarks on its largest fundraising campaign to date, the Faculty of Agriculture aims to create solutions and educate future agricultural leaders to revolutionize the industry in our region – and beyond.

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Colette Wyllie

Editor, *AGRICOLA*

Alumni Engagement Manager, Faculty of Agriculture

Greetings, Aggies!

I am happy to share that I am writing this letter as the permanent Alumni Engagement Manager for the Faculty of Agriculture. After over a decade in this role, Alisha Johnson has accepted a new position with Dalhousie. I hope you will join me in thanking her for her many years of service to AC alumni and wish her well in her new position. I know I have big shoes to fill as I follow her as Alumni Engagement Manager, but I am thrilled to have the opportunity to try.

It's an exciting time to be at the Agricultural Campus. Although we were sad to say farewell to Dr. Gray last fall, we were thrilled to have Dr. Gefu Wang-Pruski take on the role of acting dean after his departure, and we look forward to welcoming a permanent dean soon. There have been new programs, recent renovations, and groundbreaking partnerships to celebrate, including the new Dalhousie University College of Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University, which you can read more about on page 35.

And most exciting of all is the launch of Dalhousie's Bringing Worlds Together campaign, the largest ever fundraising campaign undertaken by an Atlantic Canadian university. With food security one of the major areas of focus for the campaign, the Faculty of Agriculture has a crucial part to play, and will benefit from major investment as a result. We have ambitious goals for the Agricultural Campus, which you can learn more about in this issue's cover story, starting on page 4.

You'll also find lots of alumni and industry highlights in this issue, including some inspirational award winners. Mullaivannan Manoharan, Dr. Kim Cogswell and Bloyce Thompson were recognized with Blue & Gold Awards in 2023, and Patricia Bishop and Josh Oulton joined the ranks of Dalhousie Aurum Award winners in 2024. Congratulations to all!

The Alumni Association Board of Directors continues to be active in supporting events, providing guidance and representing alumni at large, and the board welcomed its newest member in October 2023. Get to know Robert Larsen on page 36.

Keep an eye on our website, dal.ca/agalumni, for an updated listing of alumni events, and look for us at industry-related events near you.

I hope you enjoy this edition – as always, if you have any comments, please send them along. We love to hear from you!

Colette Wyllie | colette.wyllie@dal.ca | 902.893.6022



Dr. Gefu Wang-Pruski

Dean, Faculty of Agriculture and Principal,
Dalhousie Agricultural Campus (Acting)

It has been my pleasure and privilege to lead the Faculty of Agriculture and the Agricultural Campus over this past year in my role as Acting Dean and Campus Principal. I have learned so much from the amazing people who are passionate about our industry and educating our future leaders.

This especially extends to our alumni who are doing incredible things to lead us into the next century. Read more about several of our alums in the Around & About section of this issue, including Dr. Ernest Korankye and Dr. Raj Lada of VerFa Agrifood Innovations, Kaitlin Guitard of Mowi Canada West, Niran Foster of CNF Family Farm, and Mark Rose, Amanda Greaves and Jakob Vogel of Lely North America.

I was also incredibly proud to be part of the historic announcement of our Bringing Worlds Together campaign this past spring - Dalhousie's campaign for transformational change. This campaign will enable Dalhousie to inspire future-ready leaders, engage in high-impact research, and lift our communities. I was so pleased to engage with many of our Agriculture alumni when I travelled to Ottawa and Guelph.

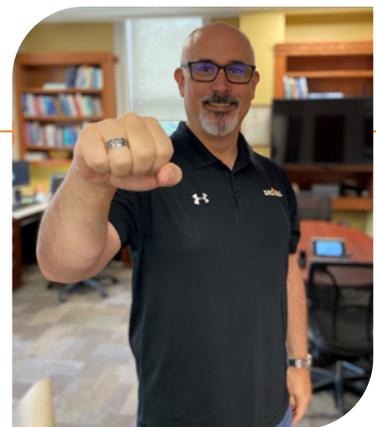
Our Faculty of Agriculture specifically aims to create solutions and educate future agricultural leaders to revolutionize the industry in our region – and beyond. As you can see, our alumni will continue to be a big part of this success.

Our story cannot be told without including the profound influence of our agriculture alumni.

Dr. Gefu Wang-Pruski

Thank you, Dr. David Gray

For more than a decade, the Faculty of Agriculture and Agricultural Campus benefitted immensely from the leadership of Dean and Campus Principal Dr. David Gray. Dr. Gray took the helm in 2013, and at the end of October 2023, moved on to become the inaugural provost and vice-president academic of the University of Niagara Falls Canada. We thank him for all he gave to our campus over his 10 years as dean, and wish him all the best in this new endeavour.







Bringing Worlds Together

The Faculty of Agriculture is deeply committed to being a world leader in addressing global and local food security, sustainability, health and well-being. As Dalhousie embarks on its largest fundraising campaign to date, the Faculty of Agriculture aims to create solutions and educate future agricultural leaders to revolutionize the industry in our region – and beyond.

This spring, Dalhousie launched Bringing Worlds Together, the largest fundraising initiative ever undertaken by an Atlantic Canadian university. The \$750 million campaign for transformational change seeks to find solutions to many of the world's most pressing problems, including climate change, technological disruptions, social unrest, health threats, food security, and more.

As the largest university in Atlantic Canada and a member of the U15 Group of Canadian Research Universities, Dalhousie has established itself as a centre for collaboration, uniting people and organizations with shared interests to create change. Bringing Worlds Together seeks to build on that success and uses three key pillars as guides in this quest: **engaging in high-impact research** to find solutions to local and global challenges; **inspiring future-ready leaders** by creating new ways to offer exceptional student experiences; and **lifting our communities** by fostering more equitable, just and sustainable societies.



Feeding the Future

Dalhousie is poised to become a catalyst for change, and this is especially true at the Agricultural Campus. As the only agricultural institution in Atlantic Canada, the AC aspires to revolutionize agriculture in the region, and takes its role in educating tomorrow's agricultural leaders seriously. The faculty members, staff and students appreciate the collective responsibility to increase food production and decrease environmental impact. And with food security one of the major areas of focus for the Bringing Worlds Together campaign, the Faculty of Agriculture has a crucial part to play.

With a total of eight priorities and a fundraising goal of approximately \$115 million, the Faculty of Agriculture has ambitious plans.

Engaging in High-Impact Research

Over 85 per cent of the research performed at the Faculty of Agriculture is “applied” research – meaning solutions and innovations directly address real-world, industry-led needs. By engaging students early and often in research, the next generation becomes trained to seek solutions and deeply consider the wide-ranging impact of their work.

One key research area is food security. The Atlantic region is ideally suited to explore agricultural innovations that tackle food security, as well as climate change mitigation, access to clean water and economic growth. The goal is to expand and accelerate this important research to improve food security for an ever-growing global population by creating the Food for the Future Smart Farm and Innovation Hub on campus.

To realize this vision, significant infrastructure improvements are needed. Each component of the Food for the Future Smart Farm and Innovation Hub will include new or upgraded buildings, technology and equipment, as well as additional faculty and increased funding for scholarships and research. Bringing Worlds Together will fund several elements within the Food for the Future Smart Farm and Innovation Hub, including a sustainable food systems facility, a precision animal management centre, a sustainable precision aquaculture centre, and a centre for sustainable soil management.





Campaign priority: Sustainable Food Systems Facility

Digitization is transforming the agriculture sector. The sustainable food systems facility will provide world-renowned precision agriculture team members with the high-tech tools and infrastructure they need to make advances that matter. This state-of-the-art facility will help optimize technologies for Atlantic Canada's farming systems and bolster the region's prosperity.

Peter Burgess (Class of '03), executive director of the Wild Blueberry Producers Association of Nova Scotia (WBPANS), explains that to keep wild blueberries competitive in the world market, farmers rely heavily on technology developed at the Faculty of Agriculture.

"Our crop is unique in that it's a naturally occurring native plant in our ecosystem and it's only grown commercially in Quebec, Maine, and the Maritimes," Peter says. "So, essentially, if the research isn't done here, it's not done."

Peter shares that WBPANS has been working with researchers at the Faculty of Agriculture for 35 years, and he feels fortunate to have dedicated faculty members focused on the wild blueberry industry. He sees the new sustainable food systems facility as hugely important.

"This is a larger shift in agriculture in general, but for blueberry growers, it's more than that," he says. "Our producers don't just have a blueberry farm behind their house. They might have fields in remote places, and there are many farmers who have fields from one end of the province to the other. We also need to reduce reliance on labour, because we struggle to find workers. So things like remote sensing, automation, and real-time data and mapping are all things we're looking to integrate into our production systems going forward."

The proposed state-of-the-art facility will attract youth and talent to the faculty and field. It will provide a sandbox for students

and researchers to learn, innovate and collaborate with partners, and it will enable the team to create clean, precision technologies and find better and more sustainable ways to feed a growing global population.

Campaign priority: Animal Management Centre

The animal management centre initiative will rebuild the dairy facility on campus and upgrade sheep housing. The centre will offer the latest industry technologies to support training, research and development. The current dairy and sheep facility, known as the Ruminant Animal Centre, is aging and lagging behind the industry standard.

"This facility is over 30 years old and, in that time, there's been a lot of changes in terms of animal welfare, automation and technology," says Jean Lynds (Class of '90), operations manager at the campus farm. "Even though we've done a lot of upgrades and renovations to try to keep pace, they have all had limitations. We need to do a reset and that's what this campaign will allow us to do."

The current facility would be difficult to retrofit to accommodate and reap the full benefits of advancements in dairy systems, including robotics. "There are whole areas of research we just can't even entertain due to the constraints of our aging facility," Jean shares. "The Faculty of Agriculture is a centre of excellence for agriculture. We always have been, and we want to continue to be, and to do so we need to invest in our future."

Additionally, in recent years, the demographic of those choosing to study agriculture has changed. "In the past, a lot of our students came from a farm background, and that's changing," says Jean. "For a lot of our students, their very first opportunity to interact with livestock is here. We want to be able to show all our students the best management practices that are available and have the resources that are relevant to the industry today."

Fully integrated with the sustainable food systems facility and linked to industry databases, the centre will be a testbed for emerging "plug-and-play" technologies with access to real-time agricultural data. It will improve efficiency and profitability, while ensuring food production is safe, successful and sustainable. The centre will reinforce commitment to the highest animal welfare standards and industry best practices.



Campaign priority: Sustainable Precision Aquaculture Centre

The world would be facing a 50- to 80-million tonne shortfall of food fish by the year 2030 if it weren't for aquaculture. Canada has aggressive goals to meet this critical seafood supply through aquaculture expansion, and the proposed sustainable precision aquaculture centre will play a key role in achieving those goals.

Overall, Dalhousie's world-leading aquaculture and marine science specialists operate the largest university-owned seawater/aquatic research centre in Canada, and faculty members work with industry to develop technical qualifications for those new to or working in the aquaculture field. However, the existing infrastructure at the Agricultural Campus is aging and is limited in capacity and scope. The sustainable precision aquaculture centre will significantly expand the resources available at the Faculty of Agriculture, and by extension available to the aquaculture industry.

Juan Manriquez-Hernandez (Class of '14) moved to Nova Scotia from Chile 17 years ago. He started out doing research on marine habitat protection at Dalhousie's Halifax campus before moving to Truro to complete his Master of Science. He is now a PhD student in the Department of Animal Science and Aquaculture at the Faculty of Agriculture, focusing on the use of microalgae as feed for Atlantic salmon. He knows well the limitations of the aquaculture facility on campus, after spending more than a decade working and conducting research there.

"When I arrived at the Agricultural Campus, there were two rooms dedicated to aquaculture research," he says. "For my masters, I was interested in seaweed and there wasn't the space here, so I had to set up in one of the greenhouses."

There has never been a purpose-built facility for aquaculture education and research on campus, as it was only introduced in 1996. The spaces currently used for fish research are repurposed animal science spaces that aren't equipped with the proper drainage needed for aquaculture research.

"Right now, our facility is small and focused mostly on salmon," says Juan. "We have opportunities with industry here, with other species, and so many possibilities. We already have a great reputation for research and our professors and instructors are excellent. We just need the facilities to take things further. This growth is important."

The sustainable precision aquaculture centre will address key barriers to industry growth, support aquaculture research and training, and facilitate collaborations. The result will be a safer, more sustainable aquaculture industry.

Additional high-impact research priorities

Campaign priority: Centre for Sustainable Soil Management

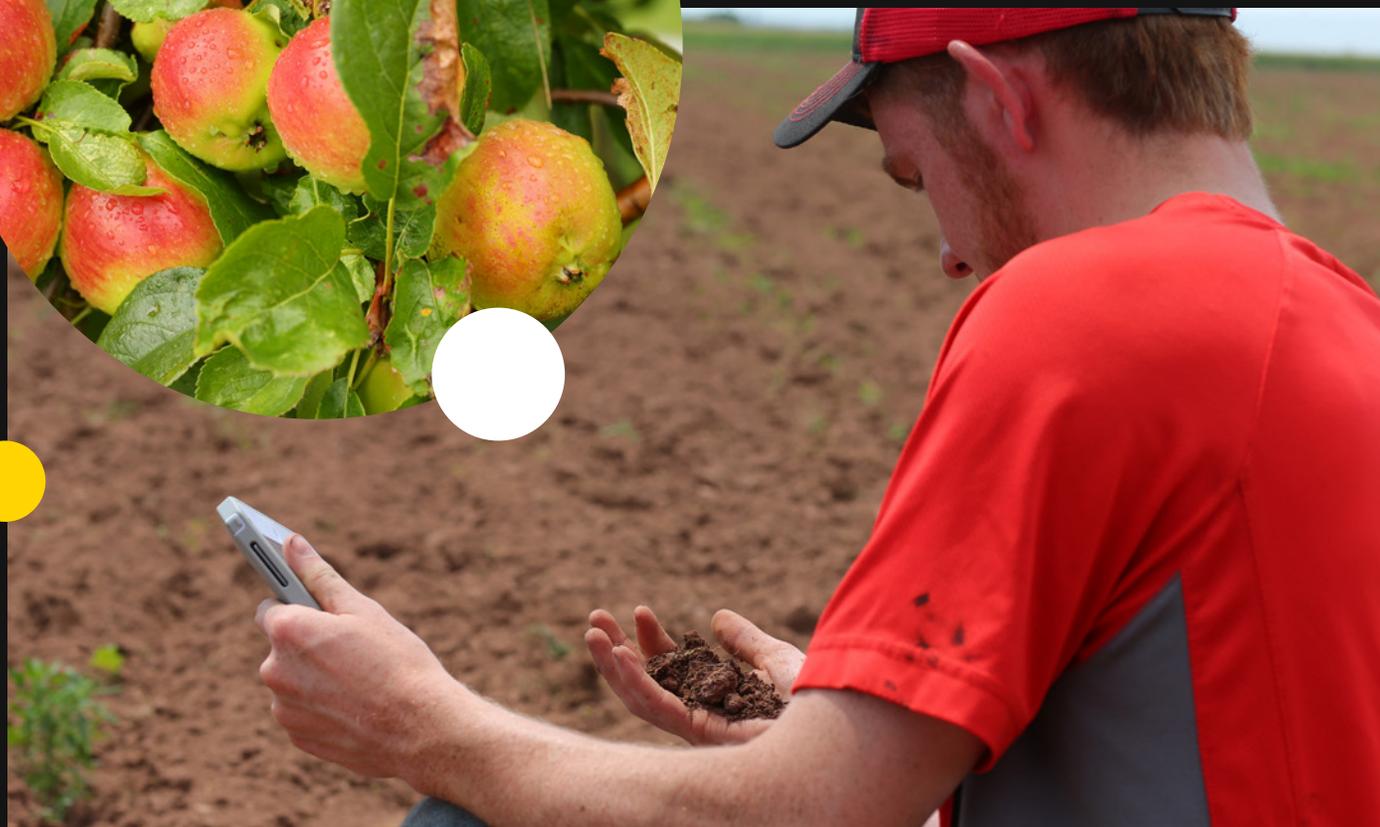
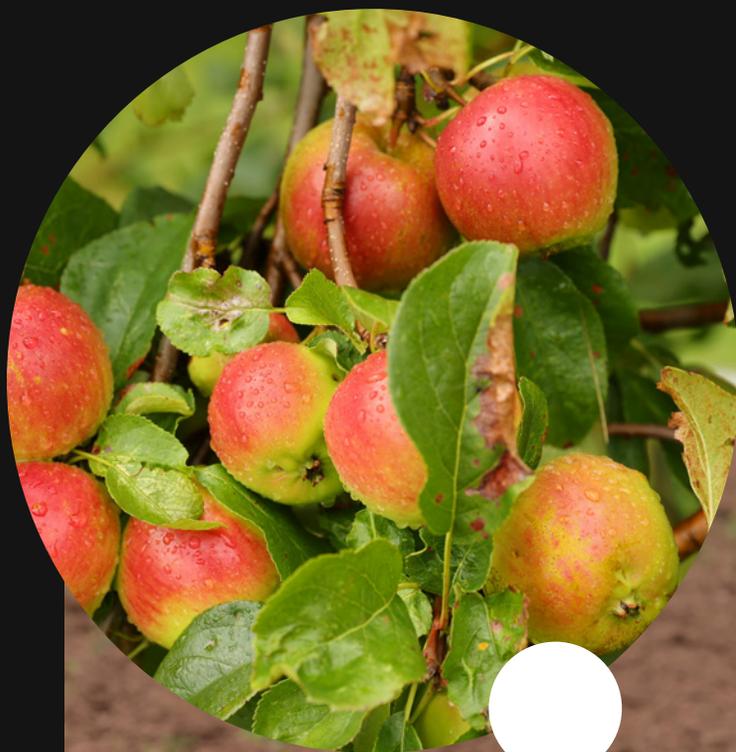
Enhancing soil resiliency is crucial to withstanding climate change challenges. The centre for sustainable soil management will provide a data hub and focal point for education, training, discovery and innovation in soil science, with a regional focus on soil assessment, mapping and management. With additional equipment and support, internationally recognized experts can expand their collaborative, multidisciplinary research to improve Atlantic Canadian agriculture.

Campaign priority: Food of the Future: Sustainability, innovation and food security

By 2050, the global population is expected to need a 50 per cent increase in food production. Traditional farming practices will not be able to meet this demand. The Food of the Future project will create several sustainable solutions that contribute to food security, community health and economic development. The centre will seek ways to effectively extend the growing season, increase food production per acre of land use, minimize environmental impacts of food production, reduce the need for chemicals, find new uses for food and ingredients, and lower or repurpose food waste—all through innovative technology like greenhouses, containers, plant genetics and more.

Campaign priority: Agriculture thought leadership and innovation

Attracting the best and the brightest researchers, teachers and students to make real advances in sustainable agriculture is a priority. Through this campaign, a joint professorship in data and agriculture with the Faculty of Computer Science will be created. Industry chairs that focus on dairy, aquaculture, soils and regenerative agriculture, and innovative food production and processing systems will be created. Attracting world-leading experts will expose students to the top minds in the field and accelerate contributions to agricultural research.





Inspiring Future-Ready Leaders

Leading high-impact research means nothing without supporting the people to carry it forward into the future. The Faculty of Agriculture aspires to be the most student-centric agricultural campus in Canada, offering exceptional education and hands-on learning opportunities. The Bringing Worlds Together campaign will provide the support future agricultural leaders need to succeed, whether they focus on farming, food, aquaculture, climate, sustainability, economic development, big data or engineering—the possibilities and permutations are virtually limitless. It will ensure all students can enjoy an accessible, inclusive rural campus. Graduates will flourish as skilled, innovative and community-minded global citizens who will make meaningful contributions in Atlantic Canada or wherever they call home.

Campaign priority: Support for student success

To inspire future-ready leaders, the campaign will focus on financial and academic support that will help talented undergraduate and graduate students focus on learning. Scholarships, bursaries, awards and internships that attract and support students will be established and enhanced. These supports will consider historically underrepresented groups and reflect the diversity of community on and around the campus. Every qualified student will have access to a Dalhousie Agriculture education.

Alumni Family Bursary

The Alumni Family Bursary fund recognizes students whose family members have also attended the AC. In this way, each generation of Aggies supports the next, ensuring continued access to agricultural education. Bursary support would not be possible without the generosity of alumni. With annual gifts, the fund continues to grow, providing even greater support to students. With increasing costs of living and education, these bursaries bridge a critical gap that allows students to focus on their studies, instead of their finances.

To date, the Alumni Family Bursary has provided a total of \$175,265 to 195 students.



Pictured are Alumni Engagement Manager Colette Wyllie and Alumni Association board member Dale McIsaac with 2023 Alumni Family Bursary recipients at the scholarship banquet in November. First row, L to R: Colette Wyllie, Alexander Grant, Simon Allen, Jill Lockerby, Grace Ashworth, Carmen Oulton, Abby Fisher, Payton Schenkels, Dale McIsaac.

Second row L to R: Sage Yuill, Anthony McLean, Zachary Sherman, Leah Newcombe, Emma Bishop, Leanne MacDonald, Alexander Versloot. Not pictured: Brianna Hiltz, Shayna Keddy, Alex Van De Sande.

Lifting Our Communities

For over 100 years, the Agricultural Campus has benefitted from its surrounding communities and has strived to return the favor. The Faculty of Agriculture's roots are firmly planted in Atlantic Canadian soil, and while strong partnerships have grown within the region, they have also branched out to serve the world. Every day the Faculty of Agriculture strives to lift its local, national and global communities.

Campaign priority: Atlantic Agricultural Interpretive Centre

The Faculty of Agriculture's community focus for Bringing Worlds Together is the Atlantic Agricultural Interpretive Centre. A partnership with Discovery Centre International and the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture, the Interpretive Centre will be the region's premier destination to learn about agriculture and inspire the next generation of agricultural innovators. Interactive exhibits will engage the public, expanding their knowledge, interest and support for modern agriculture.

The Interpretive Centre will focus on the food produced in Atlantic Canada and how it connects the region with Canada and the world. It will explore aquaculture, smart farming, vertical farming, workforce development, research, environmental stewardship, nutrition and more. Mi'kmaq community members are engaged in developing the centre to ensure the content included is accurate and not misrepresented in any way. The Atlantic Agricultural Interpretive Centre will bring an exciting new dimension to community outreach and education activities.

Agriculture plays a key role in addressing some of the most pressing issues of this generation. It can help feed the world, mitigate climate change and ensure a sustainable environment for the future. No other sector impacts lives more.

The world is at a critical juncture, but the Faculty of Agriculture is ready to revolutionize the field through education, research and innovation. The many people behind this innovation – students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community, industry and government partners – appreciate the impact and potential of this work, and strive every day to do even more, even better. Together, we are committed to solving the problems of our time—not making peace with them.

At the Faculty of Agriculture, we're bringing worlds together. Join us.



Support from the Community Credit Union

The Community Credit Union has made a generous commitment of \$25,000 to the Faculty of Agriculture's Sustain by Cultiv8 program. Sustain's garden and farm stand engage students in sustainable vegetable production, research, and value-added agriculture while fostering entrepreneurship and innovation. Together with the Community Credit Union, we look forward to a partnership that will address food security challenges, benefit our community, and model sustainable solutions for future and existing farmers. From L to R: Cultiv8 farm coordinator John Raymond, Community Credit Union president and CEO Georg Oberprieler, and Cultiv8 communications coordinator and sustain summer intern Savannah Gould.



Dr. Ahmad Al-Mallahi

Potato power: McCain Foods and Potatoes New Brunswick renew McCain Research Chair at the Faculty of Agriculture

At Dalhousie, sustainability is woven into every aspect of campus life—from teaching and learning to infrastructure development to groundbreaking research. The university's longstanding relationship with McCain Foods has been critical to its efforts concerning sustainable agriculture.

In 2018, a transformational investment from Potatoes New Brunswick and McCain Foods allowed Dalhousie to hire Dr. Ahmad Al-Mallahi—a renowned expert in agricultural engineering and sensing technologies—as its McCain Research Chair. The goal of Dr. Al-Mallahi's research was to develop machines and equipment with precise operations to optimize farm output while producing food.

"After five years, we created three projects that have resulted in prototypes that were deployed in the field and demonstrated to key stakeholders," says Dr. Al-Mallahi. "In fact, consistently demonstrating our developments proved to be very effective in showing the actual applicability of the research in the field. Developing a solution means that each one of these projects is presented in plug-and-play mode or with clear instructions on how to use the solution as a user, not as a developer."

The project and partnership have proven to be so successful that McCain Foods and Potatoes New Brunswick have dug in for an additional five years of support.

Partnering for transformational change

As Dalhousie moves into its most ambitious fundraising campaign to date, it is bringing worlds together by partnering with stakeholders who believe in the power of high-impact research to advance food security. In keeping with the United Nations' Sustainable Development goal to end hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture, this partnership with McCain Foods and Potatoes New Brunswick is tackling an issue that has far-reaching impacts on our communities.

"The development and implementation of new technological solutions designed to support regenerative agriculture in potato cropping systems offer a promising way forward," explains Matt Hemphill, executive director of Potatoes New Brunswick. "These solutions can encompass a wide range of innovations, including precision agriculture tools, data analytics, and agri-tech applications tailored to the specific needs of potato farmers. By combining the principles of regenerative agriculture with cutting-edge technology, we can optimize resource utilization, reduce waste, and foster the health of our soils, all of which are essential for the long-term success of potato farming in our province."

Regenerative agriculture seeks to create farming systems that are not only productive and profitable, but also environmentally



Members of Dr. Al-Mallahi's team, including Imran Hassan, Yosr Khadrani, and Colton Campbell (Class of '20), were based out of McCain's Farms of the Future site in Florenceville, NB during field season.

sustainable and resilient in the face of ongoing challenges such as climate change and soil degradation. Potatoes are the premier vegetable crop in Canada, with \$1.5 billion nationwide in potato receipts in 2021. The agricultural significance of potatoes is particularly prominent in provinces like New Brunswick, the home of McCain Foods—the world's largest potato processor.

Sustainable agriculture as a key component of food sustainability

McCain Foods has had a view to sustainable agriculture for decades, ensuring that every potato used in their products comes from farms practicing regenerative agriculture. Three years ago, they launched the Farms of the Future initiative, which aims to revolutionize farming by combining advanced research with regenerative practices. The McCain Research Chair represents a shared vision of advancing sustainable potato farming.

"We are both pleased and impressed by the work of Dr. Al-Mallahi and his team," says Dr. Yves Leclerc, McCain Foods' global director of agriculture sustainability. "Potatoes are our passion, and regenerative agriculture stands as a primary focus for both me and McCain Foods, in light of the numerous challenges confronting the agricultural industry. It is only by working together to build an industry-aligned solution that we can truly transform our agricultural production system."

Inspiring future-ready leaders

Dr. Al-Mallahi and his team have also achieved notable success in training the regenerative agricultural leaders of the future by assembling a cohort of four PhD students, four masters students, one postdoctoral fellow, and 13 undergraduate interns. Their research endeavours have resulted in the publication of twelve research articles, including one honoured with the prestigious 2023

IC-IMPACTS HQP Research Paper Award in the theme of food security.

Additionally, they have initiated the process for three patent applications, with progress toward commercialization. Their work has garnered international recognition, notably through an article in *The Conversation Canada*, which has sparked interest in their innovative nutrient-sensing technology.

That's why the McCain Research Chair is a shining example of how Dalhousie is working to solve the problems of our time—not make peace with them. The collaboration between Dalhousie, McCain Foods, and Potatoes New Brunswick demonstrates the pivotal role philanthropy plays in finding solutions and advancing outcomes.



As a major employer in the agriculture sector in Atlantic Canada McCain Foods employs many AC alumni, including Allyson Briggs (Class of '23), Helen Pickard (Class of '22), and Shaun Pelkey (Class of '08).



Kaitlin Guitard

With the Pacific Ocean as her backyard, Kaitlin Guitard (Class of '18) ensures salmon are healthy from “egg to plate” and keeps a keen eye on food processing safety at Mowi Canada West.

Since childhood, Kaitlin had wanted to work with animals, initially aspiring to become a veterinarian. Guidance from a career counsellor in grade 10 directed her to the pre-vet and animal science programs at Dalhousie's Faculty of Agriculture.

“I'll never forget the day the counsellor turned the screen and showed me pictures of the campus. I saw a picture of a cow in a classroom setting, and I was so excited,” Kaitlin shares. “I remember going home and telling my parents ‘I'm going to this university, this is it.’”

At the Agricultural Campus, she worked closely with animals and explored various facets of food production, learning that raising healthy animals is key to profitability and welfare. Her training in biology, particularly microscope work, seamlessly translated into her career.

After graduation, Kaitlin swapped one coast for another, relocating from Nova Scotia to British Columbia. The transition from agriculture to aquaculture was both challenging and very rewarding.

“The steepest learning curve was, I guess, living on a fish farm. It's completely different than anything I've ever experienced. You need a whole new set of skills: learning how to drive a boat, navigate tides, and work with the ocean.”

Kaitlin spent the first three years at Mowi living and working on the water. She started as a sea-site technician, responsible for growing healthy salmon straight from a hatchery at a remote site. She monitored ocean environment, fed the fish, and maintained the floating house she lived in. Soon she was promoted to water quality technician. In this role, every morning she would steer her new boat from site to site, collecting water samples and monitoring oxygen levels and potential threats, such as plankton and jellyfish. Every now and then, the ocean's unpredictability threw her schedule into disarray, highlighting the need for annual tsunami drills and constant agility.

“You witness the most captivating and picturesque scenes of whales, dolphins, and birds,” she says. “It's almost like all your senses are heightened when you are out there, the sights, sounds of loons calling, and the feeling of the powerful ocean beneath you always.”

Now, as a Food Safety and Fish Health lab manager, Kaitlin

works further from the ocean. She monitors food safety for Mowi's primary and secondary processing plants and manages the salmon health samples collected by the veterinarian and fish health team.

With five years of experience in aquaculture, Kaitlin has established herself as an advocate for her industry.

In 2021, she was one of the Mowi employees who voiced concern about the federal decision to close some farms in B.C.'s Discovery Islands. Kaitlin illustrated the ripple effect on the coastal communities and the salmon farming industry, urging the Government of Canada to reconsider the decision.

Kaitlin also raises awareness about the importance of First Nations communities in sustainable aquaculture. “There is no doubt that First Nations are going to lead the way aquaculture is done on the West Coast of B.C.,” she says. “Mowi supports First Nations by taking an active role in their communities, providing employment opportunities and backing their efforts to reclaim their rights in their ocean territories.”

As a member of Young Professionals of Salmon Farming in B.C., she educates communities about aquaculture, breaking down the science and debunking common misconceptions. “There is a lot of misinformation about our practices: how we raise fish, the amount of impact that we have on the oceans,” she says. “People don't know how much monitoring goes into our fish, how many steps we take to ensure that our fish are healthy and safe for people.”

As a result of her advocacy and dedication to the industry, Kaitlin was named Young Professional of the Year by the B.C. Salmon Farmers Association in June 2024. The award, presented during the association's annual general meeting, is presented to a young professional who has made a positive impact on salmon aquaculture in British Columbia.

“I was honoured to be recognized by my colleagues, peers and leaders in the industry,” says Kaitlin. “This award symbolizes what I believe in most – advocating for Canadian aquaculture and sharing the importance of sustainable food production.”

Kaitlin is excited for her future in aquaculture. “I'm interested in looking at the industry in different parts of the world, so this year I'm visiting Norway to see some processing plants. I want to continue to learn and grow in this industry. I'm excited to see new technologies develop.”

And most importantly, she feels proud to be contributing to feeding the world.

“What I really took away from my education was the importance of food availability and fighting food scarcity,” she says. “That message led me to the path I am on today.”



Dr. Raj Lada and Dr. Ernest Korankye VerFa Agrifood Innovations Inc.

It's fairly common for supervisors to stay in touch with their former PhD students. Many continue as collaborators in research, teach together, and maintain close friendships after their formal supervisor-student relationship comes to an end.

Less common? Going into business together.

But that's exactly where Dr. Ernest Korankye (Class of '13 and '18) and Dr. Raj Lada have found themselves, over a decade after they first met.

"I never pictured myself as an entrepreneur," says Dr. Lada, professor emeritus at the Faculty of Agriculture. "But I discovered in my retirement that staying at home was very difficult for me. Starting a new endeavour with Ernest felt like a natural fit."

Ernest came to Nova Scotia from Ghana in 2010 after enrolling in the NSAC Master of Science program. Raj was not his original supervisor, but a twist of fate brought them together. Ernest would go on to complete both his MSc and PhD as part of Dr. Lada's research program on Christmas trees, focusing on balsam fir volatiles.

"Ernest is a very hardworking individual," says Raj. "He took on a complicated project, in a subject matter that was new to him, doing research that had never been done before. I don't know anybody else who would have taken that challenge on, and I congratulate him for it."

As if grad studies weren't enough, Ernest was also finding his path to entrepreneurship. Almost immediately after relocating to Truro, he found himself figuring out how to ship goods home to Ghana, and by 2012, he had established Asante Logistic Group, a business he ran on the side with his wife Anita while pursuing his MSc and then PhD.

"Asante was never something I planned to do," says Ernest. "It didn't start as a business at all. I simply spent time helping to ship vehicles to my friends and family back home."

Although his first business may have started by accident, Ernest is clearly a natural entrepreneur. After much success with Asante, Ernest purchased the former Crossley Carpet factory in 2020, which has enabled even more growth and provided a home to test new ideas.

Coincidentally, 2020 was also the year Dr. Lada retired from the Faculty of Agriculture. Not looking to slow down, and with his retirement travel plans put on hold due to the pandemic, Raj reached out to Ernest to continue a conversation that had started a couple of years prior.

"I had been wanting to get back into plant science, and I specifically wanted to find a way to extend the shelf life of fresh crops," says Ernest. "And once we had the warehouse, we had an opportunity to explore space use efficiency. I wanted to combine warehousing with science. It was Dr. Lada's idea to try vertical farming."

And so VerFa was born.

"VerFa was formed based on three main passions that we have," Ernest explains. "Passion for people, passion for plants and passion for the planet."

Now in its third year of existence, VerFa is focusing on microgreens, and introduced broccoli, purple kohlrabi, collards,



radish, and red kale to market in May 2024. Additional products, including teas, snacks, beverages and freeze-dried produce are planned for the future.

Most of these things can already be found on the market, whether they're produced locally or not. What's unique about VerFa is not necessarily the product, but how it is produced.

"Conventional vertical farming is typically highly capital and resource intensive," explains Raj. "We wanted to create something different. Our intention is not to replace field production, but to provide a niche product that will contribute to food and nutrition security across the country and at any time of the year."

VerFa's production system is fully custom-built and highly innovative, developed through intensive research and with a focus on the fundamentals of plant physiology. Part of the process involved deconstructing a typical production system and eliminating several steps to increase efficiency by massive amounts.

"We are mindful of every single step in our growing process," Dr. Lada says. "Our design is a dry system, with no soil or free-flowing water in use. There is zero wastage, there is no borrowing from the soil nor nutrient leaching. It is also zero-touch, with each unit grown in its own self-contained, biodegradable package. When customers purchase the product the microgreens are actually still in their growing medium, so the shelf life is long – which is important from a food security perspective, especially in reaching remote communities."

While commercialization of VerFa's product is still fairly recent, Ernest and Raj have big goals. Once the demand is established, the hope is to get their product into grocery stores across the country. But the overarching goal is to contribute to healthy communities by providing a nutrient-dense, resource-efficient food product.

"We are committing ourselves to the health of humanity while

contributing to the health of the environment through our unique science and technology-driven approaches," Raj explains. "We want to address food and nutrition insecurity by providing 365 days of microgreen nutrition. There are no other edible plant products currently on this planet as powerful and nutritious as microgreens."

Ernest and Raj are not just thinking about humanity as a whole, however. Locally, they are contributing to the Truro and Colchester economy by providing employment opportunities and providing a pathway for grad students completing their programs at the Faculty of Agriculture to stay in the region – which has been a challenge for as long as the graduate studies program has existed.

"There's been a lot of conversations in the economic development boardrooms about creating industry in our region to keep these great scientific minds here," says Ernest. "We see VerFa as a having major potential to absorb Faculty of Agriculture graduates and researchers as they complete their studies and projects."

Not only that, but they hope VerFa will serve as a model for how AC faculty members and graduates may become entrepreneurs in a way that pushes science forward.

"We want our students to think not only about how they can get a job after they graduate, but how they can work for themselves," says Raj. "VerFa is a great example of how this is possible. I think this is how we can add value to our community, our country and our civilization."

Currently, you can find VerFa products at the Masstown Market, the Truro Farmers' Market and the Halifax Seaport Farmers' Market, but given the extensive shelf life and unique nature of the products, the impressive team behind them, and the entrepreneurial and scientific minds of Dr. Korankye and Dr. Lada, there is no doubt that VerFa will be on shelves everywhere before long.

To learn more, visit verfa.ca.

Mark Rose Amanda Greaves Jakob Vogel

Within the dairy industry, one does not have to look far to come across an AC grad. From farmers to technicians, commodity representatives to nutritionists, Aggies are everywhere.

And that's certainly the case at Lely North America, who currently count Mark Rose (Class of '06 and '09), Amanda Greaves (Class of '10), and Jakob Vogel (Class of '14) as part of their team.

Although none had concrete plans to work in the dairy industry, Mark, Amanda and Jakob all knew they wanted to work with animals, ideally in agriculture.

"Like many, I wanted to be a vet," says Mark, who grew up in Change Islands, NL, but now calls Lantz, NS home. "But a summer working at the Ruminant Animal Centre got me hooked on dairy cows."

He hasn't looked back since. After doing a Master of Science with Dr. Alan Fredeen, Mark went on to work directly in the dairy industry, and has been with Lely for the better part of a decade. In his current role as Regional Development Manager, he manages the development of Lely Centres across English-speaking Canada, as well as managing activities with the regional Lely team, which consists of farm management support, a technical specialist, a milk quality specialist, and two salespeople.

"The Canadian Lely team is exceptional," says Mark. "When farmers invest in a Lely robot, they're not just buying a piece of equipment – they're buying a whole team of people to support them."

Established in 1948, Lely specializes in automated milking and feeding technology for the dairy industry. There are currently over 2000 Lely robots in operation across Canada, milking just shy of 200,000 cows.

"It's simultaneously exciting and challenging to work in innovation in agriculture," says Amanda, a Truro resident originally from Albert Bridge, NS. "Technology and innovation in agriculture is constantly evolving, and although it can be quite difficult to keep up with that, it's a fascinating and rewarding field to be in."



Mark Rose

Amanda started her journey in the dairy industry with Shur-Gain in 2012, after a stint as a research and teaching assistant at the Faculty of Agriculture following the completion of her animal science degree. She's been working in dairy ever since, starting with Lely as a Milk Quality Specialist in March of 2022. In her role she works solely with Quebec farms, which host almost half of the Lely milking and feeding robots within Canada.

"My role is to make sure the cleaning processes are done efficiently and accurately to ensure quality milk is being produced," she says. "A big part of my job is milk optimization – making sure each cow goes through a quick, gentle, complete milking process."

Jakob grew up in Apple Hill, ON, and returned there after completing his joint animal and plant science degree at the Faculty of Agriculture. He has been working in the dairy industry ever since, but only recently joined Lely as a Senior Farm Management Support Advisor in 2023. In his role, he provides coaching to Lely Centre farm management support teams on how to better improve the overall efficiency, productivity, and profitability of the farms they service.

"There is so much diversity in needs and expectations within the dairy industry in Canada," says Jakob. "The reality of dairy farming in BC is vastly different from the reality of dairy farming in southern Ontario or PEI, for example. It's not a one size fits all situation. The farm management support team understands this and is passionate about working for and with farmers to get them to the overall goal of being profitable, sustainable and successful."

It is a universal truth that innovation in agriculture is vital for the industry to thrive. Mark, Amanda and Jakob are proud to be part of that progress.



Amanda Greaves

“Any innovation in agriculture makes it easier for a new generation to come on board and keep farms running,” says Mark. “In many situations, we are helping to keep lights on in dairy farms longer than they would have been able to without automation.”

Jakob agrees. “Seeing the results of automation in action is my favourite part of my job,” he says. “To know we had a part in that, whether it’s being right on the farm moving or grouping cows, fine-tuning settings, or having conversations with vets and nutritionists and getting everyone on the same page, just being a part of that success is awesome.”

Their work also provides them with the opportunity to gain a broad understanding of the dairy industry across North America and beyond.

“I love having the opportunity to learn new things,” says Amanda. “We have a way of doing things here based on our resources, our climate, availability of the workforce, etc. But how we do our jobs here is a lot different than how they do it in Texas, for example. So seeing the on-farm results is incredible, but seeing the bigger picture is also pretty great.”

All three are grateful for the work they get to do, and grateful to the Faculty of Agriculture for providing them with a solid foundation from which to start.

“The knowledge I acquired in my animal science courses fully prepared me for my career,” says Jakob. “The fundamental understanding of cow behaviour and physiology is crucial to the day-to-day work I do now.”

On top of academics, Mark says that the network provided by the Faculty of Agriculture continues to amaze him. “You can go anywhere in this world and find someone who went to the AC. The number of people we meet in our sector that went to the AC or

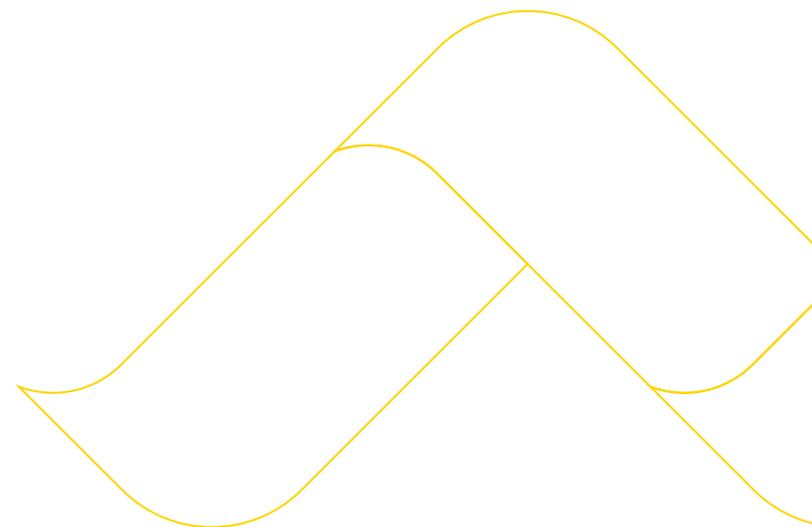


Jakob Vogel

have some kind of connection to campus is amazing.”

Mark, Amanda, and Jakob see a bright future for agriculture, and are proud to be part of that future.

“At the end of the day, we have a lot of people to feed,” Mark shares. “More and more people to feed all the time, and fewer and fewer resources with which to feed them. That’s where innovation and automation come in. We need to be innovative with the resources we have, and we all need to work together to get there.”



Niran Foster

As the second week of June arrives, Niran Foster (Class of '19) dives into the rhythm of summer harvesting. For he and his wife Cadine, running a farm is not just a continuation of their families' legacy but also a way to support the local community.

"In Nova Scotia, we are not growing half of the food we eat. As a result, food prices are high. I'm trying to find a way to contribute to my community by producing healthy food that people can afford."

Niran was born in Jamaica, in a family of small-scale farmers. He followed his parents' path and got a degree from the College of Agriculture Science and Education in 2009. Six years later, he decided to deepen his knowledge and enrolled in Dalhousie.

The plant science program allowed him to dive into the science of farming and explore the business side of agriculture. Niran loved learning on land, praising the demonstration garden for the practical skills he gained. "(The program) profoundly impacted me," he shares. "I saw how agriculture could be a business for me, how I can survive off it if I come up with enough resources, perseverance and patience."

One year after graduation, he and his wife established CNF Family Farm in Truro. Every year, from June to December, they sell their harvest at the Truro Farmer's Market.

"We decided to have it all on one table, so our customers can get every single thing they need," he says.

The Foster family sells leafy greens, root and cruciferous vegetables, squashes and herbs. They share their culture through vegetables like callaloo, popular in Caribbean and West African cuisines.

Niran has faced his share of hardships but still believes farming is more rewarding than challenging.

"A typical day in the garden is a type of therapy for me. If I'm not happy, I go there, and my muscles will relax," shares Niran. "In the first week of July, when you are harvesting garlic, onion and thyme, it smells like you're in a kitchen already. It's an environment you want to be in, it brings you peace."

Niran doesn't shy away from innovation. From 2019 to 2022, he worked on a few agricultural projects as a research assistant



at Dalhousie. He loved studying intercropping of camelina, mustard and peas – how the cultures grow better in symbiosis in comparison to growing alone.

In 2023, CNF Family Farm was honoured with the Truro and Colchester Chamber of Commerce Newcomer Business Award for their impact on the community. But Niran's impact spreads beyond his farm – he cultivates a stronger agricultural industry. As a coordinator of the "Culture of Growing" program, he engages African Nova Scotian youth in agriculture.

The initiative, run through Imhotep's Legacy Academy, spans several locations across the province. Participants engage in all stages of farming, from seedling selection and land preparation to planting and entrepreneurship training. The program aims to address community food security needs and show that agriculture is not just hard, physical work but a viable and rewarding career path.

"The idea is to get people who look like them to be role models, mentors, show how we impact the industry, show that they can do it too," says Niran.

Looking ahead, Niran plans to shift from renting to owning farmland, and plans to build a farmhouse and greenhouses for year-round farming. He wants to continue to share his culture through food. "I would like to bring in workers from Jamaica, grow more produce, and add goat production to the business. Canada doesn't have enough goat on the market, while a lot of people from Jamaica, India and Africa cook it regularly."

On top of his BSc (Agr) in plant science, Niran also holds a Master of Education from StFX. He hopes to also pursue a PhD in agriculture if the opportunity arises.

"I believe in sustainable agriculture. We can grow better without chemicals, let people know where the food came from, and cut out the person in the middle. And that's what we have been doing."





Innovation in aquaculture for a sustainable seafood future

Dr. Stefanie Colombo

Aquaculture accounts for 50 per cent of our seafood, and our ability to continue to harvest wild fish as a source for food is diminishing, according to associate professor and Canada Research Chair in Aquaculture Nutrition Dr. Stefanie Colombo.

“We’re not going to be able to just harvest seafood. Our population is increasing, we’re not all going to be able to eat lobsters and scallops as our main source of protein,” she explained.

Seafood is an important part of the culture of coastal regions, including Atlantic Canada.

“It’s not realistic to think we can feed the world and provide the protein we need and all of these essential nutrients from just a couple of species we harvest from the ocean that are wild,” she added.

“We need to be more innovative than that, and that means farming in the ocean – just like we’ve been farming on land forever!”

Farming the ocean

A third of wild fish stocks are considered overexploited compared to 30 years ago, when 90 per cent of wild fish stocks were considered sustainable and healthy.

“When you consider climate change and more people needing more food, it’s just natural we need to be growing our own food. And for our coastal culture, you can do that both on land and in the ocean.”

Climate change has had a considerable effect on our oceans. Increasing ocean temperatures have introduced new species – such as seahorses – as they attempt to find temperatures to suit their needs. New species means new pathogens.

“We need to be able to protect the animals we’re growing in the ocean. One way to do this is through supporting robust immune systems,” explained Dr. Colombo.

Introducing novel ingredients in small amounts can have a big impact on immune response. One of these ingredients is seaweed. Seaweed has been shown to have a beneficial impact on gut microbiome and in turn immune response.

This is just one way aquaculture is helping aquatic species to mount a better immune response to protect them from the changes of fluctuating climate, including the ocean’s temperature.

Other nutrition research involves dealing with the effect warmer temperatures can have on fish metabolism.

Sourcing sustainable ingredients

As on land with livestock, the biggest input is feed. Feed needs to be considered for its environmental as well as economic sustainability and impact on biodiversity.

“If we’re constantly harvesting wild fish to then include in the diet for farmed fish, that’s a negative impact on biodiversity of our oceans,” explained Dr. Colombo. “Feed has changed over the years and now we’re looking at ingredients that are replacing some of the things we were replacing 30 years ago.”

Dr. Colombo is working with companies to source ingredients that are a better nutritional fit for fish and a better fit in terms of environmental sustainability and biodiversity. Some examples include insect meals like black soldier flies and microalgae.

“Insects are part of the natural food buffet that salmon and rainbow trout eat anyway,” she explained. “Microalgae are basically at the bottom of the food chain in any aquatic ecosystem, providing all the nutrients that trickle up throughout the entire food web. It just makes complete sense to be including that in diets for farmed fish.”

Other feed ingredients, including black soldier fly, are also being investigated in pursuit of a circular economy. Insects are a great example of how we can upscale food waste. Feeding food waste to insects is beneficial to their amino acid and protein profile which in turn is great for salmon when they consume the insects as feed.

“We’re not going to eat the food waste and we probably won’t be eating the insects, but we will definitely eat the salmon,” she added.

And it does not change the taste or the appearance of the salmon. Dr. Colombo’s lab examines the nutritional profile of the filets and determines if there are any impacts on colour, texture, or nutritional profile.

“We look at color. We look at texture and we also do sensory profiling including taste panels. There is no difference at all in colour, texture, or taste.”

Integrated agriculture

“To be able to do this type of innovative research, we need reliable systems, we need all of the sensor technology to be able to monitor these fish,” said Dr. Colombo. “We also need to be aware of training the next generation that’s ready to use this type of technology and understand how it works,” she added.

Integrated agriculture and circularity are becoming increasingly important, enabling researchers to grow different species in the same kind of system. “You can take advantage of the nutrients that are being passed along through the chain.”

One vision for the **Sustainable Precision Aquaculture Centre** is to be able to establish a connected tank system, enabling nutrient-rich water from the fish tank to then move to the filter feeders that will go through to seaweed culture.

“Essentially you are growing vegetable crops plus oysters plus fish in the same system,” added Stefanie. “Taking advantage of your resources just makes sense.”

One of the goals would be to have a working fish farm on campus encompassing the entire production cycle, with the fish becoming available from the food pantry and/or Jenkins Dining Hall.

In Memory

The Faculty of Agriculture and the Alumni Association acknowledge the passing of the following alumni. We extend our deepest sympathy to family, friends and classmates.

Dr. William Collins - 1946	Allan Bruce - 1964
Morris (Moe) Kennie - 1946	Blois Lockhart - 1964
Donald Bishop - 1947	Gary Thorne - 1964
Warren Tregunno - 1947	Walter (Roy) Quartermain - 1964
Dr. Charles Dondale - 1949	George Spence - 1965
Gregory Cummings - 1950	John Lepper - 1965
Donald Beeler - 1951	Alan Huskins - 1965
John Roope - 1951	John Eisses - 1966
Dr. Keith McCully - 1952	John Heukshorst - 1967
William Hanlon - 1952	Paul Hatton - 1974
Dr. George Eaton - 1953	Dr. Catherine Noseworthy - 1974
John (Jack) Aitchison - 1953	James (Eric) Grant - 1974
Alvin Blades - 1953	James Baillie - 1974
Henry MacConnell - 1955	Robert MacIntosh - 1974
Robie Nickerson - 1955	Janet Cochran - 1975
Gilbert Allen - 1956	Charles Killen - 1975
Leo LeBlanc - 1957	Kevin Crosby - 1977
George (Keiller) Shea - 1958	Kevin Simmons - 1980
Dr. William Phillips - 1959	Glendon Mullen - 1981
Ralph Taylor - 1960	Ewart Hall - 1982
Clarence (Bill) Jackson - 1961	George Streach - 1982
Lloyd Morrison - 1961	Gregory Erman - 1994
Winston (Winnie) Matheson - 1963	David Simmons - 2007
Donald Rankin - 1964	
David Shaw - 1964	

Make a memorial gift

Honour a classmate or a friend with a memorial gift to the AC. Your thoughtful gift will be used to support student scholarships or bursaries, to improve campus, or to support an area that is of importance to you or your honouree. An acknowledgement of your gift will be sent to the family of the deceased. For additional information on memorial gifts, please contact Donor Relations at 902.893.6721. Make a gift online at dal.ca/giving.

Blue and Gold Awards

The Blue and Gold Awards program honours alumni who have distinguished themselves through outstanding service to the Faculty of Agriculture, their communities, Atlantic Canada and beyond. Three very deserving alumni were honoured during the annual Blue & Gold awards dinner in October 2023.



Mullaivannan Manoharan

YOUNG ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD Mullaivannan Manoharan (Class of '11 and '14)

The Young Alumni Achievement Award recognizes the outstanding achievements of Faculty of Agriculture alumni aged 40 and younger. Alumni are recognized for outstanding achievement that may have earned them regional,

national or international prominence through service to humanity in their profession or volunteer organizations, through community service or the advancement of knowledge and service to the Faculty of Agriculture.

Mullaivannan Manoharan is passionate about agriculture, and it shows. The Moncton, NB resident purchased land from a local farmer in 2021, and since then has established his own farm: Appleview Orchards, growing nine varieties of apples on 25 acres, and Mountainview Growers, producing hydroponic lettuce, leafy greens, herbs and other fruits and vegetables. In his day job as research associate at NBCC, Mullai leads the agriculture and agri-food research program and is the inaugural instructor for a microcredential course in agriculture.

When Mullai was 21, he left his home in India to study at NSAC as part of the newly established articulation agreement with Tamil Nadu Agricultural University – one of just two students in the first year of the agreement. It was a big step – and one that has paid off for him and his family.



Dr. Kim Cogswell

ALUMNI VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR Dr. Kim Cogswell (Class of '86)

The Alumni Volunteer of the Year Award honours a volunteer who has consistently and enthusiastically donated their time and talents to advancing the objectives of the faculty or the Alumni Association.

Dr. Kim Cogswell is a woman of many hats. The Port

Williams, NS resident is a veterinarian, dairy and poultry farmer, Port Williams village commissioner, and all-around volunteer extraordinaire. Kim has served as a board member for the Chicken Producers of Nova Scotia as well as Atlantic Poultry Inc., as secretary-treasurer of the Wellington Marsh Body, board member for her local church, secretary for the Chipman Corner cemetery, 4-H leader, volunteer for her local school and sports clubs, and volunteer for Agriculture Literacy Month in Nova Scotia, among other agriculture awareness initiatives.

Kim gives her time for the betterment of her community, to make connections with her neighbours, to learn new things, and to act as an advocate for agriculture – a role she very passionately fills.



Bloyce Thompson

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS Bloyce Thompson (Class of '94)

The Distinguished Alumni Award is the Faculty of Agriculture's most prestigious award, recognizing truly outstanding service and commitment to Faculty of Agriculture, industry and the Alumni Association.

Bloyce Thompson is a third-generation dairy farmer and businessman from Eastside Farms in Frenchfort, PE. He has been a strong advocate for the dairy industry locally, nationally, and globally. Bloyce has travelled to the US, Japan, Portugal and beyond to lend his professional expertise in bovine livestock breeding to the dairy industry. He has served his industry as a member of the genetic evaluation board of the Canadian Dairy Network and as a board member of the Dairy Farmers of PEI.

Committed not only to his industry but to his community, Bloyce was elected as MLA for Stanhope-Marshfield in 2019 and again in 2023. He currently serves as Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Justice, Public Safety and Attorney General, and is Deputy Premier for Prince Edward Island.

To view full video citations visit dal.ca/agalumni



2023 Blue & Gold recipients Dr. Kim Cogswell, Boyce Thompson and Mullaivannan Manoharan.



Alumni Association chair Dr. Robyn McCallum addresses guests at the 2023 Blue & Gold Awards dinner.



Mullaivannan Manoharan and Alumni Association vice chair Brian Crouse.



Musical entertainment provided by Gordon Tucker, Dave Staples, and Larry Bjornsen.

Reunions

Class of 1956



Members of the Class of 1956 gathered to celebrate Harry Crouse's 90th birthday in Wentworth, NS in April 2024.

Class of 1959



Members of the Class of 1959 gathered at the Inn on Prince in July 2023 to celebrate their 64th reunion.

Class of 1973



Members of the Class of 1973 gathered at the Agricultural Campus during Homecoming Weekend in October 2023 to celebrate their 50th reunion back where it all started.



Attention Class of 1975!

With many of us having retired since our last reunion, class members are encouraged to update their email addresses with carol.versteeg@ns.sympatico.ca. We don't want to miss anyone when communicating plans for our 50th reunion in 2025!

Class of 2003

The Class of 2003 celebrated their 20th reunion with a throwback gathering at The Barn in October 2023.

Class of 2013

Members of the Class of 2013 celebrated their 10th reunion during Alumni Pub at The Barn in November 2023.

Honouring our retirees

Undeniably the faculty members, instructors and staff have a tremendous collective impact on student experience at the Agricultural Campus.

They've helped shape us as individuals – advising, pushing and challenging us, guiding us to further education or on career paths, and supporting us through our time as students and beyond. In many cases, they've also become our friends.

We would like to acknowledge the recent retirements of the following faculty and staff members from our campus.

Jeff Kay

Dal AC Farm (June 2021)

Andrew Blackburn

Dal AC Farm (May 2024)

Kevin Craig

Facilities Management (May 2024)

Kim Munsie

Facilities Management (June 2024)

Pat Nelson

Department of Engineering (June 2024)

We are sorry to share the passing of the following former faculty and staff members over the last year.

Ian Fraser – former instructor and vice principal, NSAC

Janet Reade – long-time administrative assistant, Department of Business & Social Sciences

David Fielding – former associate professor and sessional lecturer

Dean's Receptions

Dean's Receptions continued until Dr. Gray's departure in October 2023, with events in Charlottetown, PE, and Gaspereau, NS. Acting dean Dr. Gefu Wang-Pruski hosted her first Dean's Reception in Truro, NS in May 2024, where she was joined by local alumni and campus retirees.



Perfect Poultry

The popular Aggies in the Community dinners continued with Perfect Poultry in February 2024. Bringing together over 100 alumni, students, staff, faculty, and community members, this educational, chef-curated event celebrated chicken, turkey and eggs and featured alumni industry speakers as well as campus experts.





L to R: Jeannie Van Dyk (Class of '78), Dalhousie president
Dr. Kim Brooks, acting dean Dr. Gefu Wang-Pruski

Bringing Worlds Together campaign launch

On April 4, alumni, friends, faculty, staff and students filled the Program Room in the Student Learning Commons for the launch of Bringing Worlds Together, Dalhousie's campaign for transformational change. Dalhousie president Dr. Kim Brooks hosted the announcement and was joined by alum Jeannie Van Dyk (Class of '78), who spoke about the importance of the campaign to the Faculty of Agriculture.



Dal AC Community Fine Arts & Crafts Exhibit

The 8th annual Dal AC Community Fine Arts & Crafts Exhibit took place in the MacRae Library this March. Submissions were received from alumni, students, and staff/faculty, and this year's show featured 27 artists displaying 79 pieces of art and craft across a variety of media. Pictured are many of the participating artists at the opening night of the exhibit.

Dalhousie University Aurum Awards

Each year, Dalhousie celebrates a group of alumni chosen by their peers to be Aurum Award recipients – the prestigious Dalhousie-wide alumni award program. These alumni share a dedication to their communities and a passion for change. This year, AC grads Patricia Bishop (Class of '99) and Josh Oulton (Class of '96) joined the ranks of Aurum Award winners and were celebrated at an event in May.

Patricia and Josh bought their farmland – all 144 acres of it – in 2004. The couple has spent the last 20 years working in lockstep with temporary workers from Jamaica to plant, grow, harvest and distribute certified organic produce. The result is a bustling farm operation that grows over a hundred different crops of fruits and vegetables, and humanely raises animals for meat and fibre. It's a lifestyle Josh and Patricia, both descendants of legendary Annapolis Valley farming families, are deeply committed to.

"As locally grown food gets harder to access, we are losing the ability to have a secure food system, and losing the flexibility to sort out solutions that will make food more affordable," Patricia, who has a degree in environmental sciences, says.

And food security and sustainability are Patricia and Josh's *raison d'être*.

It starts with the soil

"We've been feeling the impacts of climate change over the past number of years," Patricia says, referencing long dry spells followed by weeks of torrential rain and wild temperature fluctuations, like 2023's polar vortex. "It's really important to have a regenerative system of agriculture and healthy soil that can rebound."

Josh, who has a diploma in farming technology, has long made it his mission to revitalize TapRoot's soil. "I'm trying to create a healthier soil biology," he explains. "If I feed the soil, it can feed us back."

Community-shared agriculture

And bountiful great food has become a given at Josh and Patricia's farm. So much so, that in 2009 TapRoot launched its community-shared agriculture (CSA) program, which Patricia describes as a partnership between a customer and a farmer. CSA members pay a fee to cover all or part of a farm's operating expenses for an upcoming season. In return, each week members receive a portion of the farm's produce.

Josh and Patricia are aware that cost is a barrier for many folks when it comes to accessing farm-fresh goods. Josh remembers a



woman who came to Noggins Farm Market to fill up her bags with "seconds" – soon-to-expire, free produce. "She just gave me this big hug; she was so happy to have that food," he remembers.

It's a tricky balance for Patricia and Josh, who staunchly believe local, organic produce is integral to a sustainable food system, since there is little to no transportation cost, and it nourishes both the natural environment and our bodies.

"It's real that people can't afford organic food," Patricia says. "But it's also real that organic food is part of the solution to building resilient communities and resilient bodies and a resilient Earth."

From Jamaica to Nova Scotia

The day-to-day operations of a farm require many hands, and the labour just isn't available in the Valley. When locals came to help, Josh says they simply didn't understand all that goes into farming, especially the physical requirements. A neighbour had some Jamaican workers helping with their harvest, and they came to TapRoot at the end of the season. "I remember thinking, 'wow, these people aren't temporary farm workers. They're professional farmers,'" Josh says.

That experience planted a seed that blossomed into 20 years of friendship. Some workers have been coming to TapRoot since then, and others are newer recruits. Most stay between six and eight months, living in a house on Josh and Patricia's property, and doing the heavy lifting of planting, weeding, watering and harvesting.

There is a mutual respect between Patricia, Josh and their farm workers, which Josh says is borne of empathy. TapRoot is well known for their commitment to the fair pay and treatment of their Jamaican partners.

Next-gen farming

Patricia and Josh are celebrating 20 years of marriage this year and have raised three children on their farm. A lot has changed in those two decades, from farm technology to the crops themselves. But Patricia and Josh both say they hope their kids will choose careers in agriculture if that's what makes them happy.

"The work of primary production, whether it's the fishery, forestry or agriculture, is the basis of everything," Patricia says. "We are in a crisis when it comes to how we value the work that's required to provide us with the things we need. If you value local food, then you need to purchase local food. Because that is how you're going to have a local farm."



From top to bottom: graduating student Abby Thiesen celebrates; family members Bonnie MacInnis (Class of '78), Tessa MacIsaac (Class of '24), and Angela MacIsaac (Class of '98) receiving their rings together; Barley Rings all around.

Barley Party 2024

From family connections to lifelong friendships, the Faculty of Agriculture's Barley Ring feels like home for many students and alumni, the latest group of whom were honoured this April at the 2024 Barley Party.

Established in 2010, the Barley Party is the annual celebration for students who have purchased a Barley Ring – the Faculty of Agriculture's widely recognized graduation ring. Seventy-six rings were presented to class of 2024 graduates, who were joined by faculty, staff, alumni and past honorary ring recipients to celebrate their hard work and accomplishments.

Students enjoyed a meal and were individually called to the front of the room to have their rings presented by Dr. Gefu Wang-Pruski, acting dean and campus principal. Chair of the Faculty of Agriculture's Alumni Association, Dr. Robyn McCallum (Class of '13 and '17), served as emcee for the evening.

Scheduled to take place near the final day of classes of the winter semester, the timing allows for even more reasons to celebrate. Although final exams, reports and presentations still loom, graduating students are in the home stretch.

The event has evolved tremendously over its 14-year history, with new traditions established naturally over time.

One of those traditions is the presentation of rings to multi-generational families. For years now, AC alumni with family members graduating have opted to order their own Barley Rings and attend Barley Party to have them presented alongside their loved ones. At the 2024 event, three family presentations were made.

Dwayne and Jordan Barteaux, a father-son duo, help to manage Barteaux Farms along with family patriarch Bob in the beautiful Annapolis Valley. Barteaux Farms produces core fruit, stone fruit, berries, pumpkin, and squash. Jordan will graduate in May with an agricultural business degree and plans to return to the family farm to help his father and grandfather.

"To have the opportunity to receive my ring, together with my son, was a very special experience for me," said Dwayne (Class of '89). "A cherished memory I'm sure will stay with me forever."

Outgoing Dalhousie Agricultural Students' Association president Tessa MacIsaac received her ring alongside her mom, Angela MacIsaac (Class of '98) and great aunt Bonnie MacInnis (Class of '78).

"We wanted to get our Barley Rings to have the family connection and to wear with pride the idea the ring represents," said Angie.

And Sinead Riordon was determined to receive her Barley Ring even after being accepted to Atlantic Veterinary College at UPEI after her third year of study. Her father John (Class of '82) surprised his daughter by attending as well.

“It was important for me to graduate from AC and receive my Barley Ring due to the profound impact and fond memories the school has provided me,” explained Sinead. “Obtaining a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture majoring in Animal Science has provided me with a solid foundation which continues to be useful academically as I continue my journey at AVC. Being able to gain an education through labs on a live and operational farm with sheep, cattle, poultry, aquaculture and more gave me hands-on experience that has helped me become more confident in my abilities,” she added.

Her father John decided to surprise Sinead by attending and receiving his own Barley Ring.

“The father-daughter presentation turned out to be a treasured memory and I will certainly wear the ring with pride and always have a heartwarming feeling,” he said.

The Barley Party surprises continued, with the presentation of an Honorary Barley Ring to a very deserving individual at the end of the night.

Honorary rings are awarded to those who don’t meet the criteria to be eligible for a Faculty of Agriculture ring but who are extremely deserving of the honour. These individuals are ambassadors and supporters of the institution and have made outstanding contributions to the Faculty of Agriculture community. An unsuspecting Dr. Gefu Wang-Pruski was presented with the Honorary Barley Ring for 2024.

“It was a complete shock to learn I was receiving an honorary ring,” said Dr. Wang-Pruski. “I feel so honoured to have been selected by our students and alumni. I have always wanted to be a part of the AC community, and now I feel like a true member.”

A staple on campus since she first joined as an NSAC faculty member in 1999, Dr. Wang-Pruski's devotion to advancing the institution, research, student well-being and the agriculture industry over the past 25 years is seemingly tireless. Along with her position as professor and researcher, Dr. Gefu Wang-Pruski has filled the role of Plant, Food & Environmental Sciences department chair, dean of the FAFU Overseas Education College, and most recently, acting dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and campus principal.

A well-known potato scientist within North America, Dr. Wang-Pruski leads the Potato Molecular Biology and Genomics research lab and the Potato Consumer Research Initiative on campus. She is well-respected in the industry, particularly in the Maritime provinces, where potatoes are a vital part of the economy.

Dr. Wang-Pruski has also been an indispensable resource for the Faculty of Agriculture’s international relations. She has hosted many visiting scholars and sits on the coordinating committee for the faculty’s articulation agreement with the Fujian Agriculture and Forestry university, of which she has been a vital component since its inception. Most notably, Dr. Wang-Pruski served as dean of FAFU’s Overseas Education College from 2013 to 2016. She remains a student advisor for the International College.

Support for students is where she shines. Dr. Wang-Pruski wants nothing more than for every student at the AC to succeed,



From top to bottom: Alumni Association chair Dr. Robyn McCallum congratulates honorary ring recipient Dr. Gefu Wang-Pruski; Dr. Wang-Pruski addresses the eager crowd of soon-to-be ring recipients.

academically and otherwise, and will do anything in her power to enable that success. She makes herself available to all her students and is incredibly approachable. She is kind, welcoming and doesn’t take herself too seriously. An active listener, she will make time for any questions or concerns, and forges true friendships with those around her. She regularly opens her home to her students, providing an especially welcoming environment to those whose homes are very far away.

“This has touched my heart profoundly,” she said. “I can’t think of a better reward after working here for 25 years, and now I feel inspired to work even harder for the students and our campus community!”

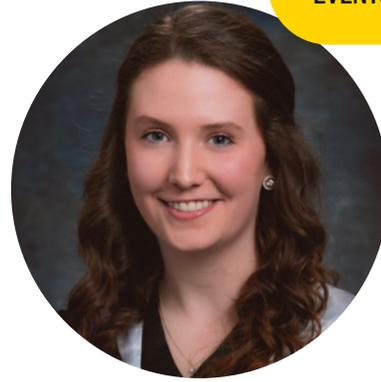
Dr. Wang-Pruski joins an impressive group of past honorary recipients, many of whom were in attendance to celebrate the 2024 ring recipients.



Noah Fraser



Madiya Patriquin



Tessa MacIsaac

Convocation 2024

Years of academics and extracurriculars came to a grand finale for 144 graduates in May 2024 during Convocation celebrations at the Faculty of Agriculture.

As part of graduation activities, every year the graduating class elects those who will serve as Life Executive during Convocation and going forward into the future.

Meet the Life Executive for the Class of 2024: Life President Noah Fraser, Life Secretary Madiya Patriquin and Valedictorian Tessa MacIsaac.

Life President

The Life President is the main representative of the class who will work with other life officers and the Faculty of Agriculture Alumni Association to ensure the interests of the class are being observed in the matters of finance publicity, reunions, and fundraising.

Noah Fraser, a native of Halifax, completed a diploma in plant science and a bachelor of technology in small business management. He has already begun full time employment with a carrot farming operation in the Annapolis Valley.

"I am extremely proud to represent my fellow students as the Life President of the Class of 2024. I look forward to keeping in touch with as many 2024 graduates as possible and wish them all success in whatever lays ahead for them," he said.

Noah spent time with extended family who farmed growing up, exposing him to an industry that has now formed his career path.

Life Secretary

The Life Secretary will provide the link between the class and the Faculty of Agriculture Alumni Association. They will handle correspondence with the class executive and coordinate the mechanics of the class mailing list for special class events and alumni gatherings.

A native of Oxford, Nova Scotia, Madiya Patriquin was drawn to the AC because of its reputation as an excellent agricultural campus.

"I knew my class sizes would be quite small compared to other schools which was a major asset to me. I think it's important for students to be able to connect with their instructors, which is

easier in small classes. I also really enjoy living outside of the city, as I find it much easier to connect with my community."

Madiya completed a BSc in animal science with a certificate in animal welfare and is currently working as a research assistant in sustainable dairy production on campus.

A recipient of the CA Douglas Bursary, Madiya is incredibly excited to be chosen for this position by her peers.

"The AC will always have such a special place in my heart, and I am honored to have this opportunity to represent my fellow graduates."

Valedictorian

The valedictorian is given the honor of representing all graduating students to the Faculty of Agriculture and the community during convocation ceremonies through the delivery of an address.

"Although I had no real background in agriculture, being part of the Nova Scotia 4-H program introduced me to the industry," Tessa explained. "It was through the annual 4-H Weekend I had the opportunity to stay at the AC for a couple nights and tour campus. When the time came to choose what to do after high school, being familiar with the AC, and having some alumni in the family helped to make my decision and I'm so glad I did!"

Tessa, a native of Newtown, Inverness County, NS completed her BSc in environmental sciences with a certificate in sustainable soil management and will begin a Bachelor of Education at St. FX University in the fall.

"I hope to become an elementary school teacher and maybe teach abroad before returning to Cape Breton."

Tessa is thrilled to have been selected by her peers to deliver the valedictory.

"I've so enjoyed my time at the AC and have loved representing students as the DASA president. In just a few short years, my fellow AC students have become such valuable friends to me, and I was honoured to address them one last time and congratulate everyone on their hard work."



Meet Barley 2024 – the gift to the Faculty of Agriculture from the Class of 2024. The newest calf on campus was given the ID number 2024 and has been named Barley. The class also donated \$200 for College Royal supplies for future students. Pictured with Barley are from L to R: Class of 2024 life secretary Madiya Patriquin, life president Noah Fraser, valedictorian Tessa MacIsaac and grad chair Grace Ashworth.



Dalhousie University College of Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University

Dalhousie University to have physical presence in China

Dalhousie's Faculty of Agriculture and the Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University (FAFU) in China are taking the next step in their academic partnership by establishing a jointly run college in China.

The new initiative builds on more than 20 years of programming partnerships that have trained more than 1,000 students.

"Significant achievements have been reached in the aspects of joint educational programs, research, and social extension over more than two decades," says Dr. Gefu Wang-Pruski, acting dean in the Faculty of Agriculture. "This is the logical next step in our partnership."

The Dalhousie University College of Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University offers programs to undergraduate-level enrolling Chinese students, while interested students around the world are also welcome. The college is located on the FAFU campus with a joint curriculum.

"Recently Dalhousie was ranked among the top 400 universities globally and among the top 17 universities in Canada in the Shanghai Ranking Consultancy's 2023 Academic Ranking of World Universities," says Dr. Miriam Gordon, assistant dean, international, in the Faculty of Agriculture. "This joint college is another way we can continue to enhance Dalhousie's global presence and international reputation."

An evolving program

Two bachelor's degrees — one in landscape architecture and the other in agricultural economics — will be offered to start. Students who meet the requirements of FAFU and Dalhousie will be awarded the corresponding degrees from both universities.

"We are confident the joint college will enhance the collaboration between the two universities on all aspects. We will see more highly qualified-personnel exchange, academic exchange, and research collaboration," said Dr. Baodong Zheng, vice president of FAFU. "Building on our longstanding relationship, the joint college is undoubtedly the most significant milestone that further strengthens our partnership of nearly two decades."

The annual enrolment plan will include 120 students per bachelor's degree. These 240 students will be full-time students of both FAFU and DAL.

The bachelor programs will adopt a 4+0 mode whereby students complete their study on the FAFU campus in four years.



Representatives from Dalhousie and FAFU plant a friendship tree (a banyan tree) outside the Dalhousie University College of Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University building.

During the four years, students may voluntarily go to Dalhousie for study, exchange, or research. However, studying at Dalhousie in Canada is not a requirement to complete the degree. As well, duration of study at the Agricultural Campus shall not exceed the duration of study on the FAFU campus.

A joint management committee, which consists of members from both sides, will help to determine the college development strategy, establish rules and regulations for operating the college, and other administrative matters.

"With the input and impacts of the two universities, Dalhousie University College will be highly recognized and respected by the society and the market," adds Dr. Zheng. "This joint college will further strengthen the connection between Fujian Province and Nova Scotia and contribute to academic and cultural exchange between China and Canada."

Dalhousie and FAFU currently offer two joint programs, including a 2+2 program in agriculture and a 3+1 program in landscape architecture. Students in the former spend two years at FAFU and then in Truro, while those in the latter spend three years at FAFU and their final year at Dal.



Robert Larsen

(Class of '21)

Young Farmer

Robert Larsen is the newest member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, joining the board in October 2023. His passion for agriculture, student life and volunteer work, along with his vast network of connections, have made him a valuable asset to the Alumni Association.

Robert graduated from the Faculty of Agriculture in 2021 with a BSc (Agr) in agricultural business. Throughout his studies, he was actively involved in many different aspects of campus life; most notably on the judging team and with the Dalhousie Agricultural Students' Association, where he served three terms as vice president finance and operations and a semester as interim president. Upon graduation, Robert was elected life president of his class.

Robert now farms alongside his family on their beef cattle feedlot and agri-services operation in Cape Traverse, PEI. Passionate about board governance, Robert currently volunteers with four boards of directors, in addition to serving as an executive committee member of the PEI Federation of Agriculture and as Vice Chair of 4-H Canada. Over the last six months he worked with a team to relaunch the PEI Young Farmers Association, and was recently elected as the association's president.

Q. What is a typical day like for you?

While many of my days have a similar routine, I rarely feel like any two days are the same - something I certainly enjoy about farming. I farm alongside my father, Lorne, and younger brother Justin, an AC grad from the Class of 2022.

Every day on our farm includes feeding the cattle and a health check done twice daily. Keeping the cattle bedded with fresh straw and pens cleaned out is another large part of every week. Sourcing and caring for feeder cattle, as well as selling finished cattle are also regular tasks. Then there's regular maintenance of equipment, and sometimes the barnyard or infrastructure. Seasonally, we move from planting our corn crop in the spring, to harvesting grass silage and bailing straw in the summer, to harvesting corn silage and processing delivered high moisture corn in the fall.

Our family also operates a custom planting and harvesting business called Norring Road Custom. We plant corn, and harvest grass silage, corn silage, and cob meal for farm clients across the island. I manage most of the operations, client relations, and human resource aspects of this business, while also operating equipment. Additionally, I look after the administrative and financial tasks for both the farm and NRC.

Q. What are some of the biggest challenges facing the agriculture industry today?

The access to skilled farm labour is a huge challenge, especially on a seasonal basis. Finding equipment operators and truck drivers to bring in the harvest is of concern for many, us included.

Specifically when looking at the maritime beef industry, I worry the regional competitiveness issues with Ontario and Quebec are only growing. This seems to be primarily driven on the cost of production side at the moment. Our feed inputs, corn in particular, are much higher, primarily due to a supply shortage in the region but also related to our growing conditions and the more expensive inputs to grow corn here. Previous feeder cattle supply concerns look to be turning into a shortage given the amount of newborn and feeder calves going up country. A lot of government investment has gone into growing the cow-calf sector in the region, but the result has not been more cattle on local feedlots or being finished in the region.

Q. What compels you to give your time as a volunteer?

I tend to be drawn to things I'm most passionate about such as agriculture, rural communities, governance, and youth-adult partnerships. I find purpose in contributing my time to various organizations and in turn growing my skillset. This drives me and gives me fuel to tackle anything - whether it be on the farm, in business, or in my volunteerism. Having an impact and achieving success with a group of people who are equally passionate about something is very rewarding and that success or impact motivates me to seek out other opportunities and take on other projects.

Q. The Agricultural Campus is a special and unique place, as we hear over and over. What's your favourite part about the AC?

When I consider my network of folks in the agriculture industry, so many of them lead back to the AC. The opportunity the AC offers to foster community and strong networks early on for young farmers and ag professionals I think is truly unique.

Q. What are you most excited to see come out of the Bringing Worlds Together campaign for the Faculty of Agriculture?

Dalhousie's Bringing Worlds Together is an ambitious fundraising campaign to achieve transformational change on campus that will inspire future agriculture leaders, enhance research capacity, and support the Atlantic agriculture industry. With a goal of investing nearly 115 million in the Agricultural Campus, this bold plan will unlock, in my opinion, the university's most meaningful and informed commitment to campus and the region's agriculture community since the merger in 2012. This is absolutely the time to double down on the AC's history of excellence in research and agricultural education and aspire to revolutionize agriculture in the region through research and innovation in precision technologies, sustainability practices, climate adaptation and mitigation, and addressing food security. I'm most excited to see the impacts of these investments down the road on future students, the student experience at the AC, and the tools AC grads will have to meet the challenges of our industry - tomorrow. I have no doubt that we will all strive to meet the moment - today.

Q. As the newest member of the Faculty of Agriculture's Alumni Association, what do you think alumni should know about the Alumni Association? What do you hope to gain from being involved?

The Alumni Association has a fantastic cross section of alum, all who are passionate Aggies and involved in the agricultural industry locally and across the country. We all care a lot about the growth, success, autonomy, and future of the AC, while also maintaining and honouring our campus traditions.

Over the years the Alumni Association has proven itself to be among some of the best ambassadors for the AC, while also not shying away from advocating strongly for students and alumni. I am excited to contribute to that work!

Bringing WORLDS Together



An investment in Agriculture — an investment in life

Agriculture plays a key role in addressing some of the most pressing issues of our time. It can help feed the world, mitigate climate change and ensure a sustainable environment for our future. No other sector impacts our lives more.

The world is at a critical juncture, but the Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture is ready. We are revolutionizing the field through education, technology, research and innovation. The many people behind this revolution — students, faculty, researchers, alumni, and community, industry and government partners — appreciate the impact and potential of their work, and strive every day to do even more, even better.

We hope you'll join us as we commit to delivering the results we need today, while planning for the solutions of tomorrow. Whatever your level of support, your gift will have a real and meaningful impact on people and projects that will change our world for the better.

Discover how:

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