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On our cover
A visit to Frank Lloyd Wright’s home in the desert told Keith Tufts what he ought to be doing: architecture. The two-time Dal grad designed the Seaport Farmers’ Market.
Portrait: Nick Pearce
Background: Keith Tufts, Lydon Lynch Architects

To market, to market
It’s the place to see and be seen. If you haven’t had a chance to visit Halifax’s new Seaport Market, sustainable designer Keith Tufts shares his inside perspective.
by Marilyn Smulders

Gender balance in the student body
Boys Adrift is how one author describes it. Statistics Canada describes it as a ‘long-term trend.’ Increasingly, seats in university classrooms are being filled by female students. Why? Experts are divided.
by Elaine McCluskey

Man in demand
Encouraging cooperation in parliament isn’t for the faint of heart. Peter Milliken reflects back over the past decade and his time as Speaker of the House.
by Ryan McNutt

The keys to the castle
Running the gamut from opera to jousting, this course takes advantage of the aerie perspective on baroque culture offered at Český Krumlov castle. Theatre, music, history and costume studies students had front row seats.
by Marilyn Smulders

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Nature’s first green is gold

Fall’s rush to vermillion brings to mind Robert Frost’s familiar tribute to the fleeting nature of green, “her hardest hue to hold.”

When it comes to sustainability, green is here to stay on campus.

We’re not only talking about the potential for problem-solving; we’re actively contributing solutions and promoting change.

Change has to start at home. Nowhere was that more evident than at the official opening for the new Mona Campbell Building on the corner of Coburg Road and LeMarchant Street (see “Stepping it up,” Page 4). While it was a highly visible construction project for commuters, what was tucked out of sight is every bit as interesting. There’s a cistern to capture rainwater, a shower room for cyclists and a solar wall. It’s the latest milestone in an ongoing trend toward a greener campus (See “Guest View,” Page 3).

Meanwhile, our alumni are creating community facilities unlike what’s come before through sustainable design. It felt like the entire local community tramped out to embrace Halifax’s new farmers’ market (See “To market, to market,” Page 10). Two-time graduate Keith Tufts shares his vision for the Seaport Market, including wind turbines, a worm room, and geothermal wells.

In the midst of the Gulf oil spill, a trio of ‘millennial’ generation mechanical engineers were called upon to construct an accurate 3D model of the gushing wellhead. Focusing under intense pressure, they assisted the process of capping the well by visually representing the seabed structures (See “High-pressure problem solving,” Page 32).

In light of this demonstrated leadership, consider for a moment the potential represented by our incoming class. Enrolment is up about 4.2 per cent, going by preliminary figures. International students are now 10 per cent of our student body, adding diversity to the social and intellectual life on campus. The novel Environment, Sustainability and Society program, which prepares the next generation of multi-disciplinary problem-solvers, is brimming to capacity.

And speaking of campus life, the buzz this fall involves the return of football as a club team. The action on offer for Dalhousie Homecoming Weekend, Oct. 21 to 23, includes a game. Among the crowds a few will doubtless sport football themed ‘Unconquered since 1977’ regalia.

And now, I can honestly say that I’ve been there, done that, bought the T-shirt: Go, Black and Gold!
I started by doing the math. At the university the square footage of building space equals approximately 2,250 homes, about the same number as the community I grew up in.

In our campus home space we consume, relative to a household, proportionally more energy and water to support innovation and services such as research, recreation and residences.

With big numbers come big opportunity.

Green building practices have been incorporated into new building designs throughout the 1980s and 1990s at Dalhousie. The Kenneth C. Rowe Management Building and the Risley Hall residence both used strategic design, including window placement to maximize natural light and recovery units to capture heat from hot water.

Green building on campus is entering another transformative phase. Integrated design teams – with staff from across the university, working along with sustainable designers, architects, builders, engineers, and energy management firms – intend to make some big changes.

Two new buildings opening this year and next are candidates to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)® Gold and Silver ratings. Included among the green features in these buildings are a solar wall, a green roof, a rain water cistern, air quality monitors and bike racks.

Green building practices are not just about building new. In fact, much of our building stock is older and here to stay. Currently, the Life Sciences Centre is undergoing a large sustainability retrofit that will save significant amounts of energy and water, while improving conditions such as lighting level. A campus-wide lighting upgrade and more major building retrofits are also in the planning stages.

Later in the fall, Dalhousie will switch to burning natural gas. This will have significant benefits including reducing greenhouse gases and air particulates. This is the first stage of an innovative heating and cooling plant project which will be a key strategy of a campus energy plan the university is developing.

Over the years Dalhousie has signed international sustainability agreements such as the Halifax Declaration. These initiatives are some of the many projects we are pursuing to meet these declarations and our own Dalhousie Sustainability Policy and Plan. I can see a future where we can easily monitor green and efficient systems online with our sustainability dashboard, spotting problem areas and making adjustments quickly. I can imagine walking past solar arrays, a sophisticated heating and cooling plant and many other simple, efficient and elegant sustainable designs.
It would be an understatement to say that Charlotte Edwards is enthusiastic about beginning medical studies this fall in the first year of the Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick (DMNB) program. “I feel this amazing mixture of excitement, opportunity and probably a little anxiety,” says Ms. Edwards, who is from Rothesay, New Brunswick. “I’m really, really happy to be selected to be a part of this.”

Ms. Edwards and 29 other New Brunswick residents are members of Dalhousie Medical School’s Class of 2014 without having to leave their home province. Students in Saint John and Halifax will share the same curriculum.

“It is important to explore the opportunities sparked by the establishment of DMNB, as we head down the path of the new Faculty of Medicine patient-centred curriculum in a student-centred undergraduate program located at two campuses,” says John Steeves, Associate Dean, DMNB.

Lectures will be delivered through video conferencing and on-site tutoring, and hands-on experience gained through labs and a learning resource centre. For their first two years, Ms. Edwards and her colleagues will be based at the Saint John campus of the University of New Brunswick. In their third and fourth years, students will complete clerkships across New Brunswick, including Fredericton, Miramichi and Moncton.

“This is where I want to practise,” Ms. Edwards says. “Meeting all of these other doctors here that are going to be my mentors, and getting a real feel for what my day-to-day life is going to be, will have lots of advantages.”

DMNB is a Dalhousie Medical School program in collaboration with the Government of New Brunswick, University of New Brunswick and Horizon Health Network.

“This marks an exciting new chapter in a long relationship with New Brunswick,” said Dalhousie President, Tom Traves. “Our medical school has an important and unique mission: to truly be the medical school of the Maritimes.”

Marie Weeren

Stepping it up

The Mona Campbell Building is the greenest place to go to class on Studley campus. Like the Seaport Market on the Halifax waterfront, the academic building at the corner of Coburg and LeMarchant Streets is a showpiece of green design, from the urinals in the men’s washroom to bike racks outside the building instead of parking spaces.

The Mona Campbell Building provides a convenient and accessible facility for the larger communities we serve. The green building is the fitting home for the year-old College of Sustainability. It’s also the new address for the campus computer store PCPC, the College of Continuing Education, the School of Social Work and research labs for the Faculty of Computer Science.

“Dal’s efforts at green building began with the Rowe Building in the 1990s,” says Rochelle Owen, director of Dal’s Office of Sustainability. “But here we’re really stepping it up a notch and it’s a part of larger, more cohesive effort.”

Besides the new building – the building’s designers are hoping for a gold LEED rating – other initiatives at Dalhousie include the multi-million retrofit of the outdated Life Sciences Centre, switching from Bunker C oil to natural gas and a major campus lighting retrofit involving more than 50 buildings.

Camilla Das Gupta is one of the students studying in the Mona Campbell Building. She’s studying in the new Environment, Sustainability and Society program which has seen a strong growth in enrolment this fall. To learn more about Camilla, visit DISCOVER.DAL.ca.

Marie Weeren
Making a mark on Halifax

The silhouette of grain elevators has long made Halifax’s skyline unique. This reminder of Dover Industries is now joined by another landmark of the family’s community legacy: the Mona Campbell Building.

The namesake of the latest campus addition had a long association with the university. Dalhousie awarded her an honorary degree in 1982. When Dr. Campbell was only 33, she inherited major shares in several companies. Just two years later she assumed the top executive position of Dover Industries, a position her late father would not have imagined a woman holding. The year was 1954 and female executives were few and far between.

When she first took over Dover Industries, it was a modest company that milled flour and produced ice-cream cones. Under her leadership, the company grew into Canada’s first conglomerate, with interests in paper products, flour milling, straw manufacturing ... and still, the ice-cream cones.

In addition to sitting on the board for Dover Industries, Dr. Campbell was the first woman elected to the board of Toronto-Dominion Bank. She maintained her interest in Dalhousie, serving on the Advisory Board for the School of Business Administration. She also sat on the board for the Canadian Club of Toronto and the Metropolitan Toronto Zoo.

The arts owe a great deal to her patronage. She was a founding member of the Royal Ontario Museum and the Toronto branch of the National Ballet and National Youth Orchestra. She bequeathed her collection of Lorenzen ceramic mushrooms to the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia because she wanted the art to be appreciated in the province where it was produced.

Close to her heart was her farm near Guelph where she was surrounded by dogs, cattle and thoroughbred horses. Dr. Campbell was a prominent supporter of the Ontario Humane Society and the veterinary program at Guelph University.

Dr. Campbell’s family has grown to include great-grandchildren.

Being Green

The Mona Campbell Building features:

• bike racks on the perimeter of the building and in the basement
• a shower room and lockers for use of cyclists
• cistern to collect non-potable water
• organic food selections at a pizza joint on the first floor
• 85 heat pumps to recirculate heat from different parts of the building
• high-efficiency lighting with sensors that detect when a room is in use or not
• “OptiNet” air quality sensors that measure humidity, carbon dioxide and small particles
• low-flow fixtures in the bathrooms
• rainwater collected from the roof and gutters to flush toilets
• “Bubbledeck” technology used, a construction method using plastic balls that uses fewer materials and energy than traditional methods
• “green” roof, planted with sedum and grasses
• 200-metre square solar wall to preheat ventilation air

Marilyn Smulders
New perspective on Peggy’s Cove

Peggy’s Cove is known for its iconic lighthouse and scenic fishing shacks. But what about its Irish moss and algae?

Dal students enrolled in the summer class, Introduction to Marine Life, spent a misty August morning scampering over boulders and through marshy areas on their way to the rocky shore. Once at the ocean’s edge, they took away samples of algae, moss and kelp to examine under the microscope back at the laboratory.

“Something green and blobby works for me!” announced Kyle Mustard, a second-year student majoring in history and sustainability, as he peered into a rust-colored crevice.

The class is geared to non-science majors and attracts students in a wide variety of disciplines. It’s one of 10 in the Faculty of Science’s SEASIDE program, aimed at getting students into the great outdoors over the summer.

“For me, it’s a good way to see Nova Scotia and to learn about it from a scientific perspective,” said Alberta native Carolyn Inglis.

Under the sea

Ever since she was a preschooler sitting cross-legged in front of the TV watching The Little Mermaid, Lindsay Beazley has been fascinated with what’s under the sea.

For two weeks in July, the Dalhousie master’s student had a front row seat on a deep-sea expedition aboard the Coast Guard ship Hudson. Using a remotely operated vehicle called ROPOS (Remotely Operated Platform for Ocean Science) for deep dives almost three kilometres to the ocean floor, a team of Canadian and Spanish researchers discovered new marine species including a kind of sea pen (so named because they look like old-fashioned writing quills), corals and a carnivorous sponge.

Ms. Beazley is studying coral and how it reproduces. Her research will provide insight into the population dispersion of this deep-sea coral through the ocean.

“Being out there, you feel like an explorer. Like these little egg cases from another animal found on the coral,” she says, pointing out tiny transparent globs clinging to a branch of Acanella arbuscula, one of the samples collected by the submersible robot. “This is the first time I’ve seen this. It may be the first time anyone has seen this.”

Under the sea, the sequel

As the Hudson dropped off one group of scientists, another crew was preparing to board. Among the Dalhousie contingent was oceanography professor Anna Metaxas, MSc student Myriam Lacharite and undergrad Jessie Short.

Dr. Metaxas was eager to see the “larval settlement collectors” dropped four years ago on the ocean bottom in the 424-square-kilometre Coral Conservation Area in the Northeast Channel.

The area, about 100 nautical miles off southwestern Nova Scotia, is home to up to 35 species of deep-water coral, such as bubblegum coral and seacorn coral. Prior to the area being closed, one could find broken corals and scattered skeletons – signs of fishing impacts.
“This area was fished heavily,” explained Dr. Metaxas, on shore briefly while the Hudson was having a crew change. “We were concerned about corals recruiting into the area. Habitat that is suitable for the tree-like deep water corals is rare. Plus, they’re so beautiful – in pink, orange, white, red and yellow. You can’t believe how incredible it is 600, 800 metres below the surface.”

The ROPOS was able to re-locate the larval settlement collectors to within a metre of where they were placed in 2006 and retrieve them. “They were absolutely full of things: baby corals, scallops, brittle stars, anemones,” said an excited Dr. Metaxas. As a benthic ecologist, she’s interested in the factors that regulate populations of marine invertebrates, particularly in their early life stages.

Besides the Northeast Channel, the cruise investigated four other study areas: Jordan Basin, German Bank and Northeast Fan.

**Phytoplankton in decline**

Microscopic marine algae called phytoplankton that produce half the world’s oxygen and support most ocean life have been declining dramatically over the past century, according to a significant study by Dalhousie researchers Daniel Boyce, Marlon Lewis and Boris Worm published in *Nature*.

“Phytoplankton provides food for basically everything in the ecosystem, from fish right up to human beings,” said Mr. Boyce, a PhD student in marine ecology at Dalhousie. “**Phytoplankton is also important in maintaining sustainable fisheries operations and the overall health of the ocean. We need to make sure that the numbers do not continue to decline.**”

The study concludes the decline of phytoplankton is related to ocean warming.

**Hot spots in warming oceans**

Phytoplankton was just one of the species tracked in another Dalhousie-led study published in the science journal *Nature*. The study examined an unprecedented 11,000 marine species ranging from microscopic zooplankton to whales and sharks.

By studying a broad range of species, both big and small, researchers were able to draw conclusions and map certain “hot spots” of diversity. The main goal of this research was to be able to better inform conservation and management of the environment in regards to the ocean and marine life, explained lead author Derek Tittensor.

“Ares that we identified as hot spots had higher numbers of multiple species,” said Dr. Tittensor, postdoctoral fellow with Dalhousie’s Department of Biology.

“Unfortunately, these areas also tend to be more vulnerable to outside influences such as commercial fishing, pollution and other types of habitat interference.”
Return to the red planet

The mystery of methane on Mars will engage a scientific team led by Dalhousie’s James Drummond.

Dr. Drummond, the Canada Research Chair in Remote Sounding of Atmospheres, is leader of the university team in Canada working on the data from the MATMOS (Mars Atmospheric Trace Gas Occultation Spectrometer) instrument. His team has particular responsibility for the instrumentation that measures the distribution of aerosol particles in the atmosphere.

The device will travel to Mars on the ExoMars Trace Gas Orbiter slated for launch in 2016. It’s expected to remain in orbit for a whole Martian year.

“...we actually know very little about the detailed composition of the Martian atmosphere and MATMOS will vastly increase our knowledge,” says Dr. Drummond. “One of the gases we will be looking at is methane because although it has been detected in that atmosphere of Mars, there is a lot of discussion about how much there is and how it is distributed—eveyr around the planet or in patches here and there.”

Methane is a noteworthy gas in need of measurement, because it is possible that it is an indicator of life processes on the planet. “Since MATMOS can measure many gases in the atmosphere we will be able to tell a much bigger story about how that atmosphere got to be the way it is today and why it is so different from the Earth’s atmosphere,” he adds.

Other partners are the University of Toronto, York University and the University of Winnipeg. The principal investigator for the Canadian team is Vicky Hipkin, of the CSA. Other major partners are ABB BOMEM in Quebec City and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena.

Charles Crosby

Exploring religious diversity in Canada

The contours of religious diversity in Canada will be explored during a seven-year $2.5 million study funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

The Religion and Diversity Project based at the University of Ottawa involves 36 researchers from 24 international universities, including Dalhousie’s Chris Helland.

“The goal of the project is to identify Canada’s religious mosaic,” points out Dr. Helland, of Sociology and Social Anthropology. “We’re trying to figure out what is really going on.”

Dr. Helland is co-investigator for the aspect involving media and representation – for instance, looking at how the largest religions are portrayed in the media and how that portrayal influences people’s perceptions of different religions and cultures.

“I don’t think people realize how quickly demographics can change,” suggests Dr. Helland. “The look of our country is changing quickly and significantly and how does that then work in the legal system? How does that work in the school system? How does that work in the street? Just trying to figure out how to make this sort of ‘deep equality’ (not just superficial) in society is a huge challenge in itself.”

Charles Crosby
Ever heard your friends or colleagues advise you: ‘Just back away,’ or ‘let it go’?

This sort of perceptive comment may indicate perfectionistic tendencies, but if you’re like most people, it won’t be seen as a problem. Even if someone is willing to wryly acknowledge being a perfectionist, there’s a widespread – if mistaken – belief that it’s an unambiguously positive trait.

Recent findings indicate the opposite of conventional wisdom.

Assistant Professor Simon Sherry studied 1,258 of his fellow psychology professors from universities across North America, evaluating them on a continuum of perfectionistic traits and correlating this with their research productivity. Perfectionism was found to be negatively related to the number of total publications, the number of first-authored publications, the number of citations and the impact rating of the publishing journal.

“Perfectionism may represent a form of counterproductive over-striving that limits research productivity among psychology professors,” says Dr. Sherry, whose article is in press with the Canadian Journal of Behavioural Science.

Perfectionists need approval and fear evaluation, so critical feedback may prompt self-recrimination and immobilization. “But in order to succeed, you need to take risks, compete for grants and experience setbacks,” he notes.

These new findings will help clinical psychologists during discussions with patients. “Over the past 15 years, new treatments have emerged. Clearly, there’s a long way to go, but increasingly there are promising interventions to help perfectionistic individuals,” says Dr. Sherry. Amanda Pelham

“You need to know when it is adaptive to pursue extremely high goals and when it is okay to just be good enough,” says Dr. Sherry. “Perfectionism is excessive – the person has a compulsive need to be perfect.”

Amanda Pelham

In good company

Dalhousie has been ranked one of the top 200 universities in the world, one of nine Canadian schools to make the grade. Dal ranks 193 in the world and 78 in North America according to Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings.

“International rankings are very important for reflecting and strengthening our reputation as an excellent research intensive university, not only regionally and nationally but also internationally,” says Martha Crago, Dalhousie’s VP Research. “They help to recruit high quality students and attract world class scientists and scholars.”

Climbing up the rankings year after year, Dalhousie is experiencing record enrollments in 2010 and attracting large numbers of new international students. Dalhousie continues to grow as an internationally known destination for prospective students.

“Dalhousie is in a really beautiful place, Halifax. It’s not too busy, it’s not too quiet and it’s student oriented. The international student diversity is really good so it helps us all blend in and fit in better,” says Meelashini Auaduer, an international student from Malaysia.

“This is a wonderful thing for Dalhousie because we know that applicants from around the globe use The Times rankings as a reference to determine which institutions they would like to attend,” says Asa Kachan, Dalhousie’s Assistant Vice-President Enrolment Management and Registrar.

This year’s rankings featured a new methodology. Scores are based on many factors, including papers published, doctoral degrees awarded and research funding. Another factor is “knowledge transfer,” the amount of research used for practical purposes, measured by the amount of research dollars invested by industry. The figures are based on the size of the institution to prevent larger schools from gaining an unfair advantage.

“Our ranking reflects, among other things, the quality of our researchers, their students and the contribution that Dalhousie’s research makes to society by the creation of knowledge,” adds Dr. Crago.

The other Canadian schools ranked were the University of Toronto (17), the University of British Columbia (30), McGill (35), McMaster (93), Alberta (127), Victoria (130), l’Université de Montréal (138), Dalhousie (193) and Simon Fraser (199). Billy Comeau
THE NEW HOME FOR HALIFAX’S FARMERS’ MARKET has been built with the environment in mind. With cool features like windmills, solar tubes, geothermal wells and a 10,000-gallon cistern, it’s not a stretch to say the Seaport Market building is Halifax’s greenest building.

But could it be Halifax’s most people-friendly building too? Haligonians turned out in droves to get their first peek at the recently opened market at Pier 20.

Philip Girard and his wife were among the shoppers on opening day, turning up at 8 a.m. with their reusable shopping bags and grocery list, eager to find their favorite vendors in the new space. His review? “It’s stunning.”

“The design of the building is very striking, since as soon as you enter you can see right through to the waters of the harbour,” says Dr. Girard, professor at the Schulich School of Law at Dalhousie University and a shareholder in the Farmers Market Investment Cooperative.

“In fact it feels as if the whole building is floating on the harbour.”

There’s definitely lots of elbow room, which is important if you ever got one in the nose while checking out the lettuce at the full-to-bursting Brewery Market (where about 70 vendors have chosen to remain). At 4,050 square metres, the new is twice as large as the old. Wide aisles, and a grand staircase to the second level, provide plenty of room for checking out the scene.

“I’VE ALWAYS THOUGHT OF THE MARKET as being a little bit theatrical,” says Keith Tufts, lead designer of the $12-million Halifax Seaport Farmers’ Market and a principal at Lydon Lynch Architects. “Did you notice that people get gussied up for the market? It’s all about seeing and being seen.”
On this day, a few weeks before opening, he’s all dressed up with a hard hat and steel-toed boots as he provides folks from his alma mater – he’s a proud Dalhousie graduate twice over – an extensive tour. Construction workers are everywhere: hammering, drilling, asking for a few minutes of his time.

On the mezzanine level, Mr. Tufts can imagine shoppers chit-chatting and leaning back against the railing. (It’s a thought borne out at the opening, as shoppers, first-coffee-of-the-morning in hand, claimed spots along the railing, a prime people-watching zone.) The mezzanine affords a good view of the floorspace below, and so, the tour takes a pause midway between the worm room, where red wigglers turn compostable garbage into soil, and the huge rooftop garden, which keeps the building cool in the summer and collects rainwater.

Directly below is the open market where the vendors will set up their wares. Along the perimeter, four permanent storefronts will open their doors six days a week, among them the butcher, the baker, the cheese maker. Towards the back is a wide throughway where cruise ship passengers will disembark.

“All those people will go in there and smell the cinnamon buns and will obviously want to buy them,” he notes.

*While the new place will never have the historic brewery’s quaintness and labyrinthine charm, it isn’t lacking in aesthetics.*

Massive floor-to-ceiling windows flood the space with sunlight, virtually eliminating the need to switch on a single light during the daytime. But these ‘lanterns,’ along with a vivid green ‘biowall,’ are also very beautiful, bringing the outdoors inside. Moreover, there’s a surprising amount of wood.

Besides providing a warm counterpoint to the concrete, glass and steel, the neat part about the wood – elm, beech, oak – is that it was all salvaged from trees felled by Hurricane Juan.
...he wanted to learn everything he could about sustainable building methods. Dalhousie gave him the freedom to pursue his interests...

The roof, too, promises to be a nice spot to chill with your apple spice muffin and low-fat latte. Just a few weeks after being planted with 10 different species of drought-tolerant sedums, it’s a lofty sea of flowers, butterflies and bees. And there’s no beating the panoramic view, which shows off the Halifax Harbour to full advantage. Mr. Tufts predicts the green roof will be a popular spot for weddings.

His enthusiasm is boundless. In fact, he’s so thrilled about the project that he’s staying – Lydon Lynch Architects is moving in. “It’s a pretty sweet place to work,” he says with a smile.

The market may be new for most people, but he’s been thinking about every detail for the past five years. As an environmental designer, it’s the culmination of his career to date – a career in architecture that he came to relatively late. After a varied past that included running the late-great live music venue Club Flamingo, managing the art-house band Moxy Fruvous and serving as the regional director of Cyberplex/Webworks, he decided to take some time off to travel and clear his head. He recalls having his epiphany while visiting Frank Lloyd Wright’s winter home in the desert near Phoenix, Arizona.

“I was in his office, leaning on the desk of this great architect, when I actually felt electricity run up my backbone,” says Mr. Tufts, who decided to enroll in architecture at Dalhousie then and there. “Architecture was what I was supposed to be doing.”

From the get-go, he wanted to learn everything he could about sustainable building methods. He says Dalhousie gave him the freedom to pursue his interests and he found amazing mentors in Richard Kroeker and Trevor Butler, architects and teachers of international renown.

“Dal gives you the fundamentals but it’s really up to you to take your education where you want it to,” says Mr. Tufts, who also has a commerce degree from Dalhousie circa 1984.

“For me, I thought, this is my chance to go against the current, to get things done ... we’re in so much trouble in this world. We’re hurtling towards the abyss. We’ve got to change and we’ve got to use our knowledge if we’re going to have any hope of having a good place to leave to our grandchildren.”
In 2008, 60% of the 244,380 students receiving a degree, diploma, or certificate from a Canadian university were female.
Before we begin this story about disengaged boys and their waning interest in university, let me introduce you to Corey Knickle.

Mr. Knickle, 23, is entering his second year of Dalhousie medical school. He swam five seasons with the varsity Tigers, co-captain in his final year. His best event was 200-metre butterfly, and some mornings, while most people were still enjoying their final moments of cherished sleep, he was logging 5.5 kilometres in the Dalplex pool.

“I had been swimming since I was nine so I was used to juggling a lot,” explains Mr. Knickle, who grew up in Cole Harbour. “I think it taught me how to get things done efficiently and how to deal with a high-stress situation such as exams.”

What, you might ask, could possibly be the problem with boys and higher education?

Let’s take a look at Mr. Knickle’s medical school class, a group of academic overachievers, who had, upon admission, a grade point average of 3.8. Nineteen per cent of the 104 future doctors had already earned a graduate degree, such as a PhD or a MSc. Their average age was 24.
And 66 of these future doctors were female, making the class of 2013, it could be argued, the embodiment of what Statistics Canada describes as a “long-term trend” in higher education. Females are outnumbering males in most university programs, and graduating in increasingly higher numbers, mirroring a gender gap that has led to educational reforms in some other countries.

In 2008, 60% of the 244,380 students receiving a degree, diploma, or certificate from a Canadian university were female, according to the federal agency, whose numbers show a pattern that includes Nova Scotia institutions.

What is happening? And should anyone care?

Experts are divided. On one side of the debate are the people who point out that women, regardless of their education, still earn, on average, less than men in the workforce. On the other side are professionals who believe that the shift is the sign of a deeper malaise, a school system that is failing our boys and a society that has left them dangerously disengaged, creating a wave of underachievers hooked on Call of Duty and Halo.

American psychologist Leonard Sax, author of the book Boys Adrift, paints perhaps the most disturbing picture. Dr. Sax has traveled to Nova Scotia to lead workshops for public school teachers, and one those workshops took place in Cole Harbour where Corey Knickle graduated with the Governor General’s Bronze Medal for highest academic average at Auburn High.

“Dr. Sax spoke for the entire morning,” says one teacher. “He really changed my way of thinking when working with four and five-year-old boys.”

In Boys Adrift, Dr. Sax outlines a disquieting pattern. Boys, he says, are not flourishing in school for a myriad of reasons. Many of the young men who do enrol in university drop out after a year or two, drift into low-paying jobs, and eventually move back in with their parents. What Dr. Sax, in his practice as a psychologist, finds most upsetting is the lack of passion he sees in boys who have abandoned “the American dream.”
Dr. Sax would probably be relieved to meet Mr. Knickle, who, early on, made a connection between his education and his future.

“For boys, it’s cool to act up in class,” says the Dalhousie swimmer. “It’s funny if you flunk a test. I never let this peer pressure get to me because of my parents.”

While the 66 females in the Class of 2013 can be expected to earn better than average incomes, female university graduates in the Maritimes are still earning less than men. An article posted on the Maritime Province Higher Education Commission website says that some of that gap – but not all – can be attributed to the field of study or occupations chosen by women.

“The underrepresentation of women in engineering and applied sciences and mathematics and physical sciences, for example, led to their under-representation in some of the highest earning occupations such as computer programmer/analyst and engineer,” the article states.

That is where Dr. Michael Shepherd, dean of Dalhousie’s Computer Science Faculty comes in. Dr. Shepherd is making a concerted effort to recruit females, who are, he says, wanted by the industry and whose presence gives the classroom a more balanced environment.

Dr. Shepherd’s department has 250 undergraduate students and only 25 to 30 are female. Dr. Shepherd has a one-word answer when asked why computer science is attracting males at a time when social scientists are mulling over disengaged boys.

“Jobs,” he says without hesitation. “Our students all get jobs.”

Not only do they get jobs, but they get well-paying jobs quickly, and those jobs allow them to remain in Nova Scotia if they choose, says Dr. Shepherd, who has the figures to back this up.

Statistics Canada shows that women make up three quarters of the graduates in education and a major share of the humanities grads.

Dr. Shepherd does not believe that females are limited in their choices by aptitude, noting the numbers of women in pharmacy.

“If you can do organic chemistry,” he says, “you can do computer science.”

Experts have compiled a list of factors they believe are causing boys to struggle with grade school. At the top are tightly regulated schools and a propensity by teachers to mistake boys’ exuberance for rebellion or attention deficit. Video games, a lack of male teachers, and even environmental factors that cause girls to mature earlier than boys are also mentioned.

Dr. Lynn Taylor, director of Dalhousie’s Centre for Learning and Teaching, says that many boys are already “out of the pool” for university by their teens. In 2006, she said, only 77 per cent of males in Canada graduated from high school compared to 84 per cent of girls.

Dr. Taylor says non-cognitive skills – such as time management, the ability to pay attention, and the willingness to ask for assistance, tend to be weaker in boys than girls. Dr. Taylor says faculty members at Dalhousie work at incorporating skill building into their courses and they are offering diverse learning opportunities to engage more students.

Resources are available to help students with everything from academic skill building to developing a good strategy for test taking, she says. People who do not meet with early success tend to detach their self-esteem from education so it is important that educators increase the value that students place on academics, she says.

Dr. Taylor says that it is imperative that students not be excluded from post-secondary education because 66 per cent of the new jobs in Canada require either a college or university education.

“My parents always taught me that school was extremely important because it can open up future opportunities,” says Mr. Knickle.
Few Speakers in our country’s history have made such an indelible mark.

BY RYAN MCGUETT
A vote has come up in the House of Commons, which is why the Speaker of the House is rushing to tie up his parliamentary dress when I enter his library-like office. He apologizes that he might have to cut our interview short, a prospect which worries me: I have a whole slew of questions to ask Canada’s longest-serving Speaker, not only about his time as a Dalhousie student but about the unique experience of overseeing Parliament through 10 tumultuous years of political history.

My worries vanish as Mr. Milliken takes a seat and starts answering my questions with clinical precision: short, succinct, charmingly utilitarian. The man has efficient conversation honed to a science.

It’s possibly the only way to survive as Speaker. Lest you think that the job begins and ends at question period, Mr. Milliken runs me through his agenda for the day. Even though the House isn’t formally sitting, it’s still chalk-full: four receptions, including one at the National Gallery; plans for both lunch and dinner (the latter an event he’s hosting, no less), several important correspondences to respond to... oh, and the vote in the House that just came up. He doesn't
expect to make it back to his residence until late evening.

“The hours,” he answers without hesitation when asked his least favourite part of the job. “If I’m lucky I’ll get a morning at home in Kingston on the weekend. But usually the weekends are pretty busy as well.”

On one of those weekends, a few weeks after we spoke, he told a hometown crowd of friends, family and supporters that he will not run in the next federal election. So begins the process of ending a vast and distinguished career in Canadian politics. Few Speakers in our country’s history have made such an indelible mark.

In the House of Commons, Procedure Makes the Speaker the centre of attention; he’s the conduit through which every debate and cross-floor exchange takes place. But he’s often invisible to those of us watching at home, edged out by political soundbites.

There are exceptions. Only 11 times in Canadian history has the Speaker of the House had to cast a vote in the case of a tie; he lays claim to six of those votes, most famously on a 2005 budget amendment that constituted a confidence motion. (As is procedure, he voted “yea” because it moved the matter forward.) And some of his decisions, such as his 2007 ruling allowing an opposition bill on the Kyoto Accord, have earned national media attention.

Even by those standards, though, his ruling on April 27 this year was unique. Citing national security concerns, the minority Conservative government was refusing to share sensitive documents on the possible abuse of prisoners in Afghanistan. The opposition had voted to demand their release. Stuck in a stalemate, the House asked the Speaker for a ruling: does parliament have the authority to demand the documents, or does the government have the right to withhold them?

Many saw this as a potentially landmark decision: a ruling on the balance of power between cabinet and Parliament that may have longstanding implications. But the attention took Mr. Milliken by surprise.

“I didn’t think it would be that big a deal for the media at the time, but obviously, given what happened the next day in the newspapers and on TV, I guess they thought it was,” he says with a modest chuckle. “It got a lot of coverage, which was a bit of a surprise because, generally, my rulings...well...don’t.”
Political watchers tuned in as the Speaker delivered a ruling that affirmed parliamentary supremacy while delaying judgment on whether the government was in contempt. Instead, he urged both sides to work toward balancing the competing concerns. A week later, a compromise was reached.

That sense of fairness – a belief in encouraging cooperation in Parliament – is a trait that has followed Mr. Milliken through his time in office. It’s why he, a Liberal, has continued to earn the support of the House even as the government changed hands to the Conservatives. And it helps explain why the cordiality built into his schedule is so important: if he’s going to command the attention of Canada’s parliamentarians, he also needs their respect.

Spending time with fellow MPs is fun as well. “There’s a lot more in there, the House, that’s for show. Most members love to sit down and chat with each other, over dinner or when we go on foreign missions together. They’re really great to work with.”

You’d almost think Mr. Milliken, the eldest of seven children raised in Kingston, was destined to be Speaker; at the very least, a life in politics was an obvious career path. Not only does it run in the family (his cousin is former MP John Matheson), but he was a teenage subscriber to Hansard.

“I think I was in Grade seven, “ he recalls. “I had a class trip up and watched the House and I thought it was fascinating. I don’t know how much more I can explain it than that; it’s just something that gripped my interest right away.”

Like many with political ambitions, Speaker Milliken sought out a career in law, which brought him to Dalhousie in 1970 after two years at Oxford.

“Because I was finishing my degree in a single year, I had to take a first-year course in criminal law, to my recollection, and the rest of them were second- or third-year courses. So I got to meet a lot of the students because I was in these different classes for different years.

“I maintain contact with a lot of those students from when I was there.”

Jumping into political life in 1988, he won the Liberal nomination and defeated a Progressive Conservative cabinet minister. He took an immediate shine to parliamentary procedure; his first major speech in the House was on a point of order. Little wonder that when the Liberals took power in 1993 he made his way through several procedure-heavy roles: parliamentary secretary to the government House leader, chair of the Commons procedure and House affairs committees, and deputy Speaker of the House.

In 2001, Mr. Mililken was elected Speaker of the House; as is custom, he was dragged to the chair by the prime minister while feigning opposition.

“I was very keen to do the job but, of course, I resisted,” he says with a laugh.

In the years that followed, he became renowned not only for his commitment to fairness and good order, but also a dry sense of humour.

He’s modest about his accomplishments, though. Asked what he’d like to be remembered for as Speaker, he returns once again to fairness.

“I guess just the importance of trying to be fair and equitable in the way that you apply the rules of the House to the members when they’re raising issues. I think that’s the basic and most important part. That’s how you keep everyone happy.”

Of all the questions I ask Speaker Miliken, he seems happiest answering one that comes spontaneously from a tangent. His eyes light up about reading things other than parliamentary precedent.

“I don’t get to read that many books, unfortunately. I’ve got a great stack of them – and I mean BIG stack – of unread books, because I just don’t get time to read them. I read a lot of magazines. Policy Options, The Economist, The Walrus, Foreign Affairs. That’s how I try and keep up with the news, but just getting through those is difficult. In the summer I’ll get a book or two read, and usually at Christmas time too. But it’s not easy.”

At the end of our conversation, I asked him whether he’d thought about his future after being Speaker; he told me it was a bridge he hadn’t crossed yet. In hindsight, though, I could almost see his gaze turning away from the stoic halls of power on Parliament Hill and towards that pile of books on his desk at home in Kingston.

A political retirement well-earned, he’s got a lot of reading to do.
For bookworms everywhere, it’s a dream come true: being able to read an entire library.

“It doesn’t matter how good you are, right now no one person can do that in a lifetime,” says Dean Irvine, associate professor of English at Dalhousie.

Now, a revolutionary approach to ‘reading’ texts can put the knowledge of an entire library at the fingertips of humanist scholars. Enter the frontier of the digital humanities, an emerging discipline that is changing almost as quickly as it is expanding.

“A few years ago we could not even have imagined asking – let alone answering – the kinds of questions that are being posed today,” he says. “We can extract, or ‘mine,’ information from a million different texts, whether that means by searching keywords, tracing links, or visually representing content in terms of timelines, maps, charts or graphs.”

To accomplish this, texts first must be ‘marked up’ to encode references to topics like history, geography, race, gender and so forth.

“It enriches the text, creating semantics and a more meaningful web,” he says. “The Internet has a surface, but we can add depth – if we have the tools to extract information at deeper levels of meaning.”

While different approaches have been applied in various countries, until now there has not been a coordinated methodology. “What hasn't happened is a large scale, integrated approach to text analysis, data mining and visual representation.”

Dr. Irvine is marshalling forces to change perceptions of Canadian literature by leading an international, multi-million-dollar research project funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). The $3.8 million SSHRC Strategic Knowledge Cluster / Strategic Network Grant continues until 2014.

While the original intent of his research is to illuminate a previous generation of Canadian authors, a novel research technique will make their radical writing accessible to the next generation of humanities scholars. During this exploration of Canadian fiction from the 1920s to the 1940s, he's reimagining the entire approach to literary research.

Dr. Irvine has entered into a partnership with the Canadian Writing and Research Collaboratory. Principal investigator Susan Brown, at the University of Guelph, holds a Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) Leading Edge Fund grant of $2.9 million.
This large-scale initiative aims to create a collaborative, image-based editing tool: “None of the existing tools can talk to each other – that’s the leap and bound.”

Through this partnership, Dalhousie now has a major stake in a developmental milestone. In little more than a year, Editing Modernism in Canada has grown from 32 associated scholars to more than 80 – and is still growing. By next year, Dr. Irvine expects that a related course will be offered on campus.

This unprecedented collaboration between government, university and industry partners focuses on creating tools for the next generation humanist. Creating such editing tools is the purview of a chimera known as a digital humanist.

Producing such digital humanists requires a different approach to graduate education, including the structure of the traditional relationship between supervisor and student. The intention is to empower the graduate student as an authority by borrowing elements from both the lab- and studio-based learning environments.

Over the past summer, 20 of his affiliated graduate students and new scholars trained at the Digital Humanities Summer Institute at the University of Victoria.

“It’s learn by doing, no question. They need research skills, coding skills and the ability to adapt tools for their own purposes.”

For example, a graduate student will learn to take a digital image – of a painting or a poem – and select and annotate a component. It’s somewhat like a footnote, except the notation appears when a cursor slides over a zone on the image. It becomes possible to read, for instance, a related original excerpt from an eighteenth century newspaper as a result of the image mark up tool.

“The book is not dead, but now there can be ‘born digital’ texts too. In three years time, the whole concept of reading online in terms of portability and resolution could be an entirely different story.”

Despite the as yet unimagined possibilities, Dr. Irvine describes himself as a realistic idealist.

“This is the single most important development in the humanities that I’m likely to see in my entire career,” he says. “We’re doing scholarship unimaginable to a humanist even a decade ago.”
The Keys to the Castle

BY MARILYN SMULDERS
It's a good thing the desks in our classroom faced away from the windows: the view was too diverting.

Let me explain. I took a Dalhousie summer class, Advanced Seminar in Baroque Culture, in a castle in the Czech Republic. Český Krumlov Castle to be exact, a large rambling complex with Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque elements perching on tall rock cliffs overlooking the Vltava River. Since 1302, the castle has been home to three aristocratic families.

From the window, you can see terracotta roofs of houses wrapped cheek-by-jowl around a horseshoe bend of the Vltava, a fast-running river cutting across this beautiful eastern European country. As the weather got warmer, rafters rode the current of the Vltava through Český Krumlov. Like the old town of Lunenburg in Nova Scotia, it's designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. But it's much, much older: the statues of “anti-plague” saints in the town square, for example, were erected in appreciation of the town being spared the brunt of an epidemic in the 1600s.

With the windows open, Dalhousie's troupe of theatre, history and music students could hear the hoots and hollers of rafters over our professors – humanities professor Simon Kow, who lectured on European history and philosophy; and music professor Adrian Hoffman, who introduced us to opera, the predominant musical form of the Baroque era. It's a credit to them that they could hold our attention.

But there is really no better way to learn history than to be immersed in it. Even studying for exams and writing essays wasn't so bad when you could take a break by indulging in “trdelnik,” a sweet, rolled dough pastry served piping hot from a bakery window, or by speculating whether to order schnitzel or goulash for dinner that night. (Living in Český Krumlov, where beer costs about 40 cents, is easy on the student budget.)

For theatre students, of particular interest was the Castle Theatre, a gem of a Baroque theatre dating to 1766. Watching an opera there enabled us to relive the theatre-going experience of the Bohemian aristocracy. The original theatre has been preserved as well as the three-dimensional sets, stage machinery, props, costumes and ornate decorations.
For me, a student in the costume studies program, I was particularly interested in the costumes. Women’s gowns and men’s waistcoats were adorned with silver threads and decorated with tiny mirrors so that they would sparkle and glitter in the candelight onstage. The theatre has about 600 original costumes in its collection, including costumes for the opera and *Commedia dell’arte*, with the oldest dating to the second half of the 17th century.

Our host in Český Krumlov was Peter Perina, a suave, ascot-wearing Dalhousie professor who recently retired after a 35-plus-year career. Since first working as a scenography student at the castle in the 1960s, he’s maintained a strong connection with Český Krumlov Castle. He now serves as the chair of the Baroque Theatre Foundation, founded in 1992 to protect and revitalize the theatre.

As he came to collect us from the classroom to show us yet another aspect of the castle “we really must see,” he carried a ring heavy with intriguing skeleton keys. With those keys, he could take us anywhere: up the tower for a dazzling view of the town and the rolling green countryside beyond; into the portrait gallery of the castle where generations of Rosenbergs, Eggenbergs and Schwarzenbergs met our gaze from their ornate frames; and through a secret door in a stone wall to watch fireworks at midnight.

It seemed like the entire town was in on our course. During the Five Petalled Rose Festival, hundreds of townsfolk got dressed up in Renaissance finery and paraded through the narrow cobblestone streets. We watched knights in armour jousting, folk dancing in the town square and a chess game played with real people on a board 12 metres by 12 metres square. We loved to roam the market where you could buy historic replicas of weapons, test your skill with a crossbow or snack on hunks of cheese. The town was packed with tourists that weekend, but even so, if felt like it was just for us.

We too donned costumes for the festivities, but weren’t nearly as grand. Although there were a few ladies and lords among us, most of us were peasants – the men in puffy shirts, tunics and breeches, the women in chemises, tightly laced bodices and wide skirts.

Somehow, time travel feels more authentic when you’re attired in scratchy wool and unbleached linen.
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For further information, phone Shawna Burgess at 902.494.6051 or 1.800.565.9969
Email: shawna.burgess@dal.ca
Deadline for nominations is March 10, 2011

Dr. Carmen Moir (BSc’50, DEd’51, BEd’53, LLD’92)
Throughout his career in government and education, Carmen Moir has been consistently concerned with social improvement and particularly with the advancement of the disadvantaged.

A teacher by trade (he holds both a BSc and BEd from Dalhousie, as well as an MA in educational administration from Columbia University), his teaching career began in 1951 at Lockeport Regional High School. He subsequently joined the Dalhousie Education Department as an assistant professor, before ultimately leaving for Winnipeg and the position of school superintendent.

Returning to Nova Scotia in 1975, Carmen’s career as a senior public official has seen him champion the development of the public service as a profession. He became president in 1990 of the Institute of Public Administration of Canada, and was awarded the Nova Scotia Lieutenant Governor’s Award for Excellence.

In 1992, he received an honorary degree from Dalhousie University for his many contributions to education, public life and the advancement of the public service.

Alumni Achievement Award
This award recognizes alumni for outstanding accomplishments in career and community service. Recipients demonstrate the true spirit of Dalhousie University and set an inspiring example.

Dr. Catherine Campbell (BPE’75, MSc’77)
On the road to her ultimate career as a successful sports medicine practitioner, Dr. Cathy Campbell has always retained a deep affection for her Halifax home and Dalhousie roots.

The recipient of both a Bachelor of Physical Education and an MSc in exercise physiology from Dalhousie, Cathy was the recipient of several awards during her days at Dal, including an academic scholarship, as well as the O’Keefe Sports Foundation National Coaching Scholarship – a prestigious honour she was granted twice, in 1976 and 1977.

From 1980 to 1986, Cathy attended medical school at McMaster University, and in 1988 she opened a sport medicine/ family medicine practice in Ridgefield and Newton, Connecticut. From Connecticut, Cathy was recruited to Houston, Texas, where she ran a similar practice until 2000 when the love of her roots drew her back to Canada and Nova Scotia. Currently, Cathy is living and practicing in Toronto, but comes home to her cottage in Pictou County every summer.

Christopher J. Coulter
Young Alumnus of the Year Award
This award recognizes recent graduates for innovative accomplishments and notable contributions to society, the community, or Dalhousie.

Benjie Nycum (BEDS’95 (TUNS), MARFP’97)
In a nutshell, Benjie’s career and personal life have been a multi-faceted adventure centering on a passion for...
the termination of human hardships.

For over a decade, Benjie has been a leader in international youth and human rights advocacy. He is alternately described as a leader, publisher, editor, author, photo journalist, researcher, filmmaker, designer and advisor. As CEO of William Nycum & Associates Limited, he is presently focused on the leadership of a 25-person architecture and planning firm. His architecture experience covers a range of highly public environments such as senior living, mental health, community centers, education, and aviation facilities.

Benjie has been professor of professional practice since 2007 (sessional instructor), and guest critic in design since 2005 at Dalhousie University Faculty of Architecture and Planning.

Award for Excellence in Teaching

The Alumni Association Award for Excellence in Teaching recognizes professors who take teaching to an exceptional level. The award honours instructors who, in the eyes of students and teaching colleagues, display superior teaching skills, innovation and enthusiasm for the subject, and show and exemplary attitude toward the needs and concerns of students.

Jean Burnell

It takes just a few minutes for Jean Burnell to stroll from his office in the chemistry building to the Scotiabank Auditorium, one of the big lecture halls in the Marion McCain Building.

And in that short time, he plans what he’s going to talk about in Chem 2402, a rather big introductory class on organic chemistry with 200 or more students. He brings a whiteboard marker with him and nothing else.

“I show up and talk,” he says with a shrug, describing the teaching style that this year has won him the university’s top teaching prize, the DAA Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Students have described his lectures as “amazing,” “clear, organized and understandable,” “interesting and interactive” and complained only about the “ungodly” hour of the class – 8:30 a.m. “His lecture style doesn’t put me to sleep and he explains simple concepts in a simple way,” wrote one student.

“Never let him retire.”

Jean Burnell

Photos, from top:

Bermuda
Kuala Lumpur
Hong Kong

View more pictures online at www.dal.ca/alumni/events/photos

Alumni Events

Spring and summer 2010

Dalhousie alumni and friends around the globe reconnected over the spring and early summer months with lobster dinners, receptions and pub nights in Calgary, Ottawa, Vancouver, Victoria, Kuala Lumpur, Hong Kong and New York. Special thanks to our volunteers who helped make these events possible.

Watch for events this fall in:

• New Brunswick
• Montreal
• Toronto
• Ottawa

For more information about these or other alumni events, visit www.dal.ca/alumni/events or contact us at alumni@dal.ca or 1.800.565.9969. You can also keep keep updated by joining us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/dalumni) and LinkedIn (join the Dalhousie University Alumni group).

Don’t forget: for many of our events, we send electronic invitations and we don’t want you to miss out. Visit www.dal.ca/alumni/update or drop an e-mail to alumni.records@dal.ca to update your contact information.
Would you like to cheer on Dalhousie’s varsity sports teams and make a difference in the lives of student-athletes? The Black & Gold Club offers just this opportunity, and welcomes new members – alumni, family, friends and sports fans alike.

The club was founded in the early 1980s. There are three membership categories: event, family and donor. Event and family memberships include tickets to every varsity event at Dalhousie – including conference championships hosted at the university – plus partial tax receipts. Donor memberships, targeted to individuals who live away or those who’d just like to provide a donation to the club, receive a full tax receipt.

“It’s a group of individuals who realize the importance of varsity athletics in university life and are there to help promote and support the varsity athletes and their programs,” says Black & Gold Club president Judi Rice (BPE’75) who was a varsity player on both the women’s field hockey and women’s basketball teams. “By integrating it with the first-class program that Dalhousie offers through Studying for Success, we’ve been able to produce a much higher than average number of Academic All-Canadians compared with many other schools in the country. We’re very proud of that academic success.”

Last year the club numbered about 115, representing all membership categories. Members share Black & Gold pride, a spirit of camaraderie, designated courtside seating areas and other benefits, amid the satisfaction of knowing they’re supporting Dalhousie’s student-athletes. 

To find out more or to join, contact:
Judi Rice, President, Black & Gold Club
(902) 490-8681 (work)
(902) 423-1530 (home)
(902) 490-3325 (fax)
ricej@halifax.ca

Phot: Nick Pearce
1960s

1960

Ron Gilkie, BSc, BEng (NSTC)’62, MEng (NSTC)’64, was appointed warden and chair of Camp 7 Halifax, the Corporation of the Seven Wardens. Dr. Gilkie had served as secretary of Camp 7 Halifax for 25 years, and is presently an alternate warden of the national Corporation of the Seven Wardens, Inc., serving as a representative for the Maritime provinces. He was also recently appointed a Fellow of Engineers Canada, for services to the profession.

1970s

1974

Gregory Zed, BSc, BEd’75, MSW’77, was recently certified as a forensic suicidologist by the American Association of Suicidology. He is the first in New Brunswick to receive the designation from the association. The certification program was established to set standards to assess and certify professionals claiming expertise in suicide for purposes of offering testimony in legal cases involving suicide. As zone manager of Community Mental Health Services, Greg says the certification will allow him to testify on how effective programs are helping those at risk of suicide, for example. The certification also allows for a distinction between experts and non-experts. In his volunteer life, Greg is president of the Schizophrenia Society of New Brunswick and past president of the Dr. David Stephen Memorial Foundation. He is also involved in numerous agencies in the city in an advisory capacity.

1977

Peter Henry, BEDS (NSTC), BArch’78 (TUNS), along with Faculty of Architecture colleagues Richard Kroeker and Brian Lilley, has been awarded the International Architecture Award for 2010 for the Pictou Landing Health Centre project. The award is given jointly by the Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design and The European Centre for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies. The citation says: “The International Architectural Awards are the highest and most prestigious building awards that honour new and cutting-edge design.” There are a number of winners chosen each year. The 2010 winners will be exhibited at a conference in Madrid, Spain in November, 2010, with a catalogue to be published. The exhibition will then tour around Europe. Designers on the Pictou Landing Health Centre project were Richard Kroeker and Brian Lilley and the local architect of record was Peter Henry.

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What is the most stressful situation you could imagine?

Try this one on for size: the Macondo well has blown out, killing 11 workers and spewing thousands of barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico. Birds, marine mammals and fish are dying. Oil is heading towards sensitive coastline.

Plans A, B and C haven’t worked and BP, the London-based petroleum company, is running out of alphabet. Time to bring in the Canadians.

Three young engineers with Welaptega Marine in Halifax returned home in mid-July after assisting BP in its efforts to repair the ruptured Macondo well. James Kesten (BEng’08) and Tyler de Gier (BEng’08), who studied mechanical engineering at Dalhousie, spent several weeks at the spill site leading up to the successful capping of the well on July 15. A third Welaptega mechanical engineer, 3-D modelling expert Marie MacCormick (BEng’07) worked out of BP’s Houston, Texas office for the duration. She’s also a Dal grad.

“BP is already a client of ours, so for me, it was a matter of reminding them that we were here as a resource,” says Tony Hall, owner of Welaptega Marine, a subsea engineering support firm specializing in marine imaging technologies for the offshore petroleum industry. “I can’t say enough about my people. Here they are in their mid-20s parachuted into an extremely high pressure situation to help solve one of the biggest offshore incidents in history.

“The quality of the people we get from Dalhousie is phenomenal.”

Without going into too much detail – Welaptega is not authorized to divulge the exact nature of the work – the job was to create a 3D model of the blown well, passing on the data to BP in its quest to plug the gushing wellhead. Based on a ship, Mr. Kesten and Mr. de Gier used a minivan-sized remotely operated vehicle sent down from the ship to get the photographs needed, while on shore, Ms. MacCormick, created the accurate 3D models.

“When I first heard what happened, I was thinking that what we do could definitely help,” says Mr. Kesten, 25, who first came to work at Welaptega on a co-op placement and was hired on after graduation in 2008. “When we finally did get the call, we were choppering into the site less than 12 hours later. It looked like a war zone.”

“It was high pressure, definitely,” adds Mr. de Gier, 25. “But at the same time, it was all about safety and doing it right.”

Marilyn Smulders
1980s

1985
Krisanne Crowell, BPE, BEd’93, recently released a CD of her original music in the jazz/blues genre, featuring some of Halifax’s finest musicians. Her music has been receiving play on CBC and she is a regular performer at the Atlantic Jazz Festival. Check out her website at www.krisannecrowell.com for more information, including a review from the Chronicle-Herald.

1986
W. Andy Knight, MA, was honoured with the Harry Jerome Trailblazer Award by the Canadian Black Business and Professional Association. This event was at a gala in Toronto on April 24, with more than 2,000 people in attendance, including Prime Minister Stephen Harper. Andy also has a new book out (with fellow grad Thomas Keating, PhD’92). Titled Global Politics, the book is published by Oxford University Press and was released on April 7, 2010.

1987
Tracey Williams, BA, MD’99, Stephen Henderson, and big brother Robert would like to announce that they were chosen as the “forever family” for their baby girl, Kathleen Beatrice. She was adopted on June 11, 2010. Tracey is a community paediatrician in Truro, NS.

1989
Apollos Okwuchi Nwauwa, MA, PhD’93 is pleased to share the good news that he has been promoted to full professor and appointed director, Africana Studies Program at Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio.

1990s

1992
Mark MacNeill, BScOT, LLB/MBA’02, and Nikki MacNeill, BScOT, MD’00, are living in downtown Toronto with their children, Maddy (two) and Jack (four). Mark is a partner at Brauti Thorning Zibarras, where he and JC Rioux, LLB’99, have a plaintiff personal injury practice. Nikki is a staff pathologist at Lakeridge Health in Oshawa. Nikki was recently accepted to the Physician Leadership Development Program being offered through the Ontario Medical Association, which will start this fall. Nikki and Mark would love to hear from classmates, mmacneill@btzlaw.ca

1993
Richard Neale, LLB/MBA, has been appointed corporate vice-president, research operations with Scripps Health. In this new role, he will focus on the business and administrative functions that are necessary to implement the Scripps strategic vision in research. During his career at Scripps, Richard has served as the chief business
officer of the Scripps Translational Science Institute and Scripps Genomic Medicine. He has been a key member in identifying and negotiating third-party collaborations with a variety of partners, including Life Technologies, Sanofi-Aventis and Medtronic.

1998
Trevor Thimm, BEDS, MARFP’00, and Pauline Thimm, BEDS’00, MARFP’02, are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Elliot Arun, on March 26, 2010.

1999
Julia Rivard, BRec, is achieving great success on both the sporting and business fronts. Since graduating from Dal, she participated as a kayak athlete on the Canadian Olympic team at the 2000 Sydney Olympics. She continued her role with the Canadian Olympic Committee as manager, Team Operations in Beijing (2008) and Vancouver (2010). On the business side, Julia, and her business partner Brandon Kolybaba, built a Google Apps migration and software development business that is seen as one of the best in the world. Their company has been recognized by Google as its Canadian partner in the migration of enterprise-level companies to Google Apps, and is one of only eight such companies that sit on the Google Apps advisory board.

2000
David Brophy, BA, and Meghann Murray, BSc’01, are pleased to announce the arrival of their first child, Aidan Jack, born May 21, weighing seven pounds, 12 ounces, with a full head of hair. David and Meghann are living in Dorchester, MA.

2002
Alain Londes, MBA, accepted a new post as Professor, International Business at the Humber Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning in Toronto. Alain and his family are looking forward to this opportunity.

2004
Alysha Quinlan, BScPT and her husband Scott Simpson, BScPT, are living in beautiful Victoria, B.C. These days, Scott owns two physio clinics and keeps up his impressive running abilities, and is very active in the Victoria running community. His goal is to inspire people to become active and also to help runners (from beginners to up-and-coming Olympians) reach their potential. Alysha believes the wonderful thing about physiotherapy is the ability to mould it into the profession you want, whether that be helping post-op ortho patients regain their function, as she does, or working with competitive athletes, as Scott does.
When Don Hill (MD ’60) says that he likes making tools, you can certainly take him at his word. It’s just that the “tools” in question are a little more complex than the garden-variety gizmos that spring to mind.

A celebrated heart surgeon, researcher, and innovator, Dr. Hill is, in fact, a prime mover in the field of heart pump design, developing life-saving devices that are implanted in patients with advanced heart failure worldwide.

“I’ve always been intrigued by the exploration of cardiac surgery,” he says of his life-long passion. “I am fascinated by the interface between patients and devices. The impact is immediate.”

Indeed, the landscape has shifted considerably since a young Dr. Hill completed his general surgery residency in Halifax in 1964 and then hightailed it to California to pursue a specialty in thoracic surgery at the San Francisco Presbyterian Hospital (now the California Pacific Medical Center). Back then, heart and lung machines had only been around for 10 years and the American artificial heart program under Lyndon Johnson was in its infancy. Circulatory support systems – essentially artificial devices outside the body used to provide blood and oxygen and give the heart a rest – were rudimentary at best and few patients could tolerate the procedure.

Enter Frank Gerbode, internationally renowned open heart surgeon and pioneer in heart valve transplantation, who assembled a San Francisco-based team of researchers and visionaries, including Dr. Hill, to design new life-saving devices such as the membrane oxygenator, which, as its name implies, protects the blood from damage due to its protective membrane. In fact, the world’s first successful procedure using the device, which is used in the treatment of pneumonia and lung disease, was performed at the center in 1971. “It was an explosive time in applied research,” says Dr. Hill, who performed that procedure. “I saved my first life with that one. To succeed in an innovation in such a major way, knowing that my patient was the world’s first to survive that procedure, was like turning science fiction into reality.”

From there, Dr. Hill and his colleagues went on to design a plethora of artificial devices used in heart and lung procedures. In 1976, the same year that he founded medical device company Thoratec, he patented a simple aortic punch that is the industry standard today for by-pass procedures. And then, in 1984, he successfully performed the world’s first temporary artificial heart transplant – a procedure designed for patients waiting for a permanent transplanted heart. That innovation changed the landscape of open heart surgery in a way that resonates to this day.

The thrill of discovery is what continues to drive Dr. Hill today, who at 73 and with a young family is experiencing a second life of sorts. “I always have something to be excited about,” he says, “whether it’s watching my eight-year-old boys play hockey and constantly asking questions, or scouring nanotechnology, biomaterials and other disciplines looking for clues to solve problems in medicine.”

But the foundation of all his success he attributes to his Dalhousie education. “Through my educational experience at Dal I learned curiosity, the ability to recognize a problem, and the drive to aim higher. That’s where it all began for me.”

Joanne Ward-Jerrett
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Tarah

Professor Tarah Wright - College of Sustainability
Discover the Unexpected. DISCOVER.DAL.ca
At first glance, it seems nearly impossible to equate helping manage a university radio station to managing a multi-billion-dollar national laboratory.

But for Thom Mason, one experience helped lead to the other. Need a hint? He didn’t leave his post at a billion-dollar lab to run a small community radio station.

Director of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee since 2007, Dr. Mason (BSc [Hons] Physics ’86) recalls his experience on the board of CKDU during its transition to FM as the foundation of his management experience.

“It was the only management training during my formal education and helped me learn about dealing with people which is a big part of what I do in Oak Ridge,” he says. More importantly, CKDU is where he met his wife.

Dr. Mason joined Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), the United States Department of Energy’s largest science and energy laboratory, in 1998 as scientific director to lead the construction of the US$1.4 billion Spallation Neutron Source (SNS) project – now the most powerful neutron source in the world.

Now internationally recognized as a leader in the application of neutron scattering techniques to study the structure and dynamics of materials, Dr. Mason first moved from Dalhousie to McMaster, earning a PhD in 1990.

Stints as an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow, a senior scientist at Risø National Laboratory in Denmark, and a postdoctoral fellow with Bell Laboratories soon followed. Dr. Mason was a physics professor at the University of Toronto from 1993 to 1998.

“When I became engaged with Oak Ridge, it was an unexpected opportunity,” says Dr. Mason. “I always saw myself being a university professor, but my interest in the SNS project led me in a different direction.”

Today, his work with ORNL gives him a different perspective on research and collaboration.

“There are different components to research enterprises,” he explains. “Universities have people with ideas and access to the funding mechanisms to research those ideas as scientific entrepreneurs. Labs like ours are mission organizations. They can organize large groups of researchers and have the technology and infrastructure to help take the next step.”

At Oak Ridge research covers everything from exploring supernovas to creating new efficient and environment-friendly materials for the transportation industries. Home to the world’s most powerful supercomputers, scientists visit the lab to simulate fusion and perform advanced climate modeling.

Established in 1943 as a part of the secret Manhattan Project, ORNL became an international center for the study of nuclear energy and related research in the physical and life sciences during the 1950s and ’60s. With the creation of DoE in the 1970s, ORNL’s mission broadened to include a variety of energy technologies and strategies.

For more information on ORNL, visit http://www.ornl.gov/.

Billy Comeau
In Memoriam

Edythe Nelson MacCallum, BCom’35, Truro, N.S., on April 19, 2010
Donald Fraser Smith, MD’45, Halifax, N.S., on July 11, 2010
Marjorie Hazel (Martin) Gibbons, BA’47, Dartmouth, N.S., on July 10, 2010
William Robert Pope, BA’48, Hantsport, N.S., on June 14, 2010
John Benjamin Dewolfe, LLB’49, Calgary, Alta., on April 6, 2010
Robert Archibald Robertson, BCom’49, Dartmouth, N.S., on May 5, 2010
Alan Wallace MacIntosh, BA’49, MA’50, DEd’53, BEd’54, Halifax, N.S., on June 8, 2010
Alexander Warren Rae, BEng’49 (NSTC), Roseneath, Ont., on May 9, 2010
William Frederick Knoll, BEng’49 (NSTC), Stellarton, N.S., on June 10, 2010
Charles Denne Burchell, BA’49, LLB’51, Sydney, N.S., on June 17, 2010
John McCurdy Burris, BSc’50, MD’54, Calgary, Alta., on July 10, 2010
Lewis Gabriel Billard, BSc’50, DEd’51, BEd’53, MA’67, Dartmouth, N.S., on April 19, 2010
Cyril George Hemming, BEng’52 (NSTC), Dartmouth, N.S., on June 21, 2010
Archibald Moland MacPherson, MD’50, Edmonton, Alta., on May 18, 2010
Roy Fraser Tanton, BEng’50 (NSTC), Halifax, N.S., on May 21, 2010
Alexander Bernard Chisholm, BEng’50 (NSTC), Truro, N.S., on June 8, 2010
Kathryn Dean (Murray) Latimer, BA’51, Georgetown, Ont., on June 21, 2010
Joseph Daniel Bourque, DDS’51, New Glasgow, N.S., on June 1, 2010
Reginald Thomas Giovannetti, BEng’52 (NSTC), Dartmouth, N.S., on June 15, 2010
Danie Wing Fong, BSc’53, BEng’56 (NSTC), Halifax, N.S., on May 28, 2010
Mary Ann Duff (Lohnes) Lordly, BA’54, Halifax, N.S., on May 19, 2010
George Richard Venning Godd, BEng’57 (NSTC), Moncton, N.B., on July 2, 2010
William Patrick MacIsaac, LLB’57, Regina, Sask., on May 28, 2010
Richard Noel Pereira, BEng’57 (NSTC), Windsor, N.S., on June 3, 2010
John Hedley Macintosh, BCom’59, LLB’62, Brockville, Ont., on June 28, 2010
Frederick Gordon Cuming, MSc’59, Truro, N.S., on June 20, 2010
Gerald Hugh Brennan, BEng’60 (NSTC), Dartmouth, N.S., on June 17, 2010
John Wallace Barteaux, MD’60, Girard, PA, U.S.A., on June 11, 2010
David Lysander Conrad, BEng’60 (NSTC), MEng’65 (NSTC), Halifax, N.S., on April 23, 2010
Stella Loyola (Legge) Murphy, DPH’62, Bedford, N.S., on June 8, 2010
David Carson Creighton, BA’62, Dartmouth, N.S., on April 20, 2010
Robert Gordon Ramsay Cassidy, MA’69, PHD’71, Kingston, Ont., on June 19, 2010
Germaine Michel Gibara, MA’70, Montreal, Que., on April 21, 2010
Judy A. (MacInnis) Myers, BA’72, Dartmouth, N.S., on June 26, 2010
Heather Margaret Pittas, BA’72, MA’94, Halifax, N.S., on April 24, 2010
Lorna Frances Lotvedt, BA’73, BEd’76, Calgary, Alta., on April 24, 2010
Gary Patrick Michael Hannahan, BSc’75, BEd’77, Sydney, N.S., on April 19, 2010
Lorna Theresa Muzzerall, BN’77, Charlottetown, P.E.I, on July 4, 2010
Stephen Charles Andrews, BCom’77, Halifax, N.S., on May 10, 2010
H. Charles Ballem, MSc’77, Halifax, N.S., on June 15, 2010
Sharon Alexandra Urquhart, BA’79, Louisdale, N.S., on June 10, 2010
Gisele Marie Thibault, BA’79, BEd’80, MA’82, PHD’85, Peterborough, Ont., on June 12, 2010
James Donald Anthony, BEd’80, Bridgewater, N.S., on May 18, 2010
George A. MacLennan, BSc’81, MSc’94, Halifax, N.S., on March 9, 2010
Joseph Gerard Olszowiec, BSc’82, BA’85, Halifax, N.S., on February 1, 2010
Christoph J. Cooper, BED’S3 (TUNS), BArch’84 (TUNS), East York, Ont., on June 29, 2010
Marian Pauline Regan, MSc’86, North York, Ont., on April 17, 2010
Gregory William Murphy, BSc’89, Halifax, N.S., on May 21, 2010
Scott Andrew Gillis, LLB’89, Kentville, N.S., on May 2, 2010
Jennifer Lynn McKeen, BSW’91, Halifax, N.S., on April 25, 2010
Jonathan Mark Rohde, MBA’03, Kildeer, IL, U.S.A., on June 10, 2010

For nomination guidelines, contact the Honorary Degree Committee:
senate@dal.ca
494.3715
www.senate.dal.ca
NAME Philip Li
HOME TOWN Halifax, NS
EDUCATION BEng’90 (TUNS)
CURRENT JOB Mechanical Project Leader
CURRENT PROJECT Overseeing $28.7 million KIP-funded Life Sciences Centre retrofit, including electrical, mechanical and ventilation systems
ALTER EGO Instructor at BMW Club Atlantic Driving Schools for 15 years
FIRST CAR OWNED 1990 Volkswagen Golf
CURRENT HIGH PERFORMANCE CAR 1997 BMW M3
DREAM CAR “I love my M3...but a Ferrari 360 Modena would be alright.”
INTERESTING FACT “I only drive my M3 about 1,000 kilometers a year.”

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Jim Wilson (MBA’87) is a successful businessman who never passes up an opportunity to celebrate his Dalhousie roots. For clothes, gifts and souvenirs that showcase his alma mater, Jim shops at the Dalhousie Bookstore – because school spirit never goes out of style.

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