

DAL MAGAZINE

FALL 2020

INSIDE:
Award-winning
alumni
**Leading-edge
research**
7 ways to improve
your coping skills



Navigating COVID-19's challenges

How research, teaching & learning have shifted in response to the pandemic

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT
Dr. Ingrid Waldron,
Dr. Scott Halperin,
Dr. Catherine Mah,
Dr. Jeanna Parsons Leigh,
Dr. Robert Huish,
Dr. Alyson Kelvin



Children should not fight wars.

Yet, tens of thousands of children are forced, coerced or born into conflict every day where they end up fighting a war that adults created.

Conflict prevents children access to basic rights and opportunities, such as education and employment, leaving them vulnerable to exploitation. Their use in conflict fuels cycles of violence that can affect generations to come. We cannot achieve global peace without putting children rights up front.

Our **Children's Rights Up Front** approach elevates children to the top of the international peace and security agenda to create points of collaboration and momentum to protect the rights of society's most vulnerable—children—and to seek tangible approaches to ending conflict.

After 10 years at Dalhousie University, the Roméo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative has become the **Dallaire Institute for Children, Peace and Security.**

This global peacebuilding work is being built here at Dalhousie University. Students are engaged in our research, and recent graduates are now employed at the Dallaire Institute, and the opportunities to engage with this work will only grow.

To contribute to the growth of this ground-breaking work, visit:
dallaireinstitute.org/donate



CONTENTS



Family Medicine

For Dalhousie's Dr. Alyson Kelvin and her father Dr. David Kelvin, a passion for understanding, treating and preventing pandemics has put them at the forefront of international research on vaccines and bio-markers. By Ryan McNutt

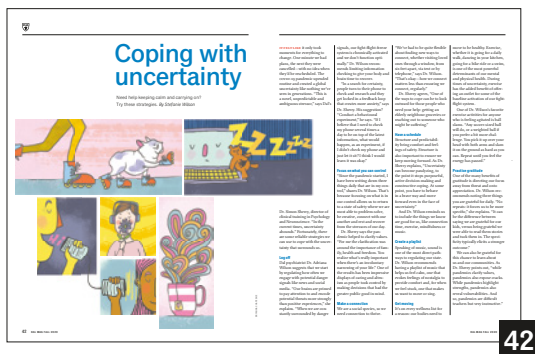
22



Solving Problems

Leaders in science, engineering and business are tackling the world's most complex challenges. From artificial intelligence to sustainable energy, Dalhousie researchers are at the forefront of innovation. By Matt Reeder, with files from Dalhousie Communications team members

29



Coping with uncertainty

Need help keeping calm and carrying on? Try these strategies. By Stefanie Wilson

42

FEATURES

FAMILY MEDICINE For Dalhousie's Dr. Alyson Kelvin and her father Dr. David Kelvin, a passion for understanding, treating and preventing pandemics has put them at the forefront of international research on COVID-19 vaccines and bio-markers. By Ryan McNutt
page 22

NAVIGATING COVID-19'S CHALLENGES

The pandemic has create a "new normal." At Dal, that's meant refocusing research efforts and innovating in teaching and lab work, while drawing on the best of ourselves as leaders, community members and thinkers. By Matt Reeder, with files from Dalhousie Communications team members
page 29

COPING WITH UNCERTAINTY Need help keeping calm and carrying on? Dal researchers give advice on the best strategies for responding in challenging circumstances. By Stefanie Wilson
page 42

WINNING WAYS Meet the 2020 Arium Award winners—a group of Dalhousie alumni recognized for their outstanding successes in innovation, community engagement and leadership. By Mark Campbell
page 44

- 4 Dal News
- 10 Research Roundup
- 12 Events
- 13 Read.Watch.Listen
- 14 Dal Profiles
- 48 Class Notes
- 52 Faculty News
- 56 In Memoriam
- 60 Future Alumni

ON THE COVER

22 & 29 Navigating covid-19's challenges
cover photos by Nick Pearce, David Stobbe

- 44 Award-winning alumni
- 10 Leading-edge research
- 42 7 ways to improve your coping skills



ALUMNI BENEFITS

Exclusive offers

Take advantage of the exclusive services and benefits available to you through our Alumni Benefits program. The program gives you access to preferred rates and perks. Save money on accommodations, dining and retail, insurance, travel and entertainment and much more! Learn more at alumni.dal.ca/benefits

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EDITOR'S LETTER

Reflecting on the pandemic by Kim Pittaway

PANDEMICS DON'T RESPECT plans. This has so far been a year of cancellations—cancelled trips and meetings, cancelled classes and gatherings, cancelled plans of all kinds. It's been a year of loss as well: lost jobs, lost opportunities, and most difficult of all, lost health and lives to COVID's deadly impact.

As we struggled to shape this issue of the magazine, we asked ourselves how we could capture this moment in time, what we could add to the larger conversations, how we should respond in the face of so many unknowns. We knew we could scramble to adjust what's on the issue's pages right up until we go to press—but even then, there's a two- or three-week gap between when the issue leaves our hands and when it ends up in your mailbox. And much can change in a few short weeks: pandemics can twist and turn in ways no-one expects.

So what do we do when faced with uncertainty? We pause, if only for a moment. We make sure that the steps we take forward align with our foundational values. We look for ways to pitch in, to contribute our best efforts and best minds to addressing our most urgent challenges. We connect with each other and our communities, because we're stronger together. These are the steps Dalhousie has taken as a university and as a community, and these are the steps we've tried to reflect on the pages of this issue of *DAL Magazine*: to show you how Dal's community members are channelling their energies to meet COVID-19's challenges, to bring you inside classrooms and labs—virtual and otherwise—where faculty and students continue to teach and to learn, to share stories of how we are coming together while, yes, staying six feet apart.

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SCIOGRAPHIES HOST DAVID BARCLAY

MEET THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE SCIENCE HAPPEN

Sciographies, a podcast and radio show produced by the the Faculty of Science, returns for a third season and explores the lives and research of eight Dalhousie scientists this fall. New episodes are available on most podcast apps.

dal.ca/sciographies

sciographies

people + science

Dr. Joanne Langley to co-lead vaccine task force

In August, the Government of Canada unveiled the members of the COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force, which will advise the government on how best to support vaccine research in Canada and help ensure Canadian leadership in vaccine development, related bio-manufacturing and international partnerships to secure access for Canadians to safe and effective products. Dr. Joanne Langley, professor in the Departments of Pediatrics and Community Health and Epidemiology at Dalhousie University and Head of Infectious Diseases at the IWK Health Centre, has been named co-lead of the task force. Dr. Langley is Dalhousie

University's CIHR-GSK Chair in Pediatric Vaccinology. It is the only chair of its kind in the country.

"It was truly an honour to be asked to serve the national COVID-19 response in this way," says Dr. Langley. "Together, with an amazing team, we have been working since early June to find safe and effective vaccines to protect Canadians. To do that we have been prioritizing potential Canadian COVID-19 vaccine projects, identifying non-Canadian vaccine candidates and working on solutions for domestic manufacturing."

Task Force members have reviewed vaccine and bio-manufacturing applications from domestic candidates for which it has provided advice to the Ministers of Innovation, Science and Industry, and Health on the most promising options aimed at

providing Canadians with safe, effective vaccines as soon as possible, as well as a robust manufacturing sector to increase our secure access to vaccine production.—*Staff*

Faculty of Agriculture represented on national council

Two former students and one current student from the Faculty of Agriculture have been named to the first Canadian Agricultural Youth Council from more than 800 applicants across the country. "Including the voices of young people is essential as we build an even better Canada, now and for the future," said the Honourable Bardish Chagger, Minister of Diversity and Inclusion and Youth. "Members of the first ever Canadian Agricultural Youth Council will be able to share their ideas on how to bridge the generational gap and keep the Canadian agriculture and agri-food industry strong for years to come."

The Canadian Agricultural Youth Council is a group of young Canadians

providing advice, enabling ongoing dialogue on food-related challenges and opportunities, sharing information and best practices, and advising on the strengths and weaknesses of policies and programs affecting the agriculture and agri-food sectors. Along with the Prime Minister's Youth Council, the Canadian Agricultural Youth Council is one more way in which the Government of Canada will hear directly from young people about issues that matter to them.

"Agriculture is our future, it's that simple and it's crucial that our young people are actively involved in shaping the future of this industry across Canada. Our graduates are well-prepared to take active roles as leaders as part of this group," said Dean and Campus Principal David Gray.

Water agreement a first for First Nations in Canada

A framework agreement that creates a path for the transfer of water and wastewater services for 15 First Nations communities in Atlantic Canada from Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to the Atlantic First Nations Water Authority (AFNWA) was signed in June, the



Dr. Joanne Langley is advising government on how best to support vaccine research.

first agreement of its kind in Canada.

Since 2009, Graham Gagnon, Dalhousie's associate vice-president research and the NSERC Industrial Research Chair in Water Quality and Treatment, has been working closely with the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs (APC) to develop a comprehensive water strategy for the Atlantic region. And, 11 years later, a significant milestone has been reached. The framework agreement outlines the negotiation process and the roles and responsibilities for all parties to transfer responsibility for the control and management of water and wastewater services. This agreement advances a new First Nations-led service delivery model and represents a step towards self-determination and greater control for First Nations over service delivery in their communities.

"This is a truly exciting day that many Chiefs, Elders, water operators and community members have worked very hard for over the past decade," says Dr. Gagnon. The AFNWA continues to work towards full autonomous operations by Spring 2022. Once the transfer is complete, they will assume responsibility and liability for water and wastewater

services to over 4,500 households and businesses on reserves, which represents approximately 60% of First Nations people who live on reserves in Atlantic Canada.

—Michele Charlton

Peace through putting children first

Canada's minister of national defence and the president of the Toronto Raptors joined retired Lieutenant-General Roméo Dallaire and others passionate about preventing the recruitment and use of children in violence in a global symposium online at the end of September. Hosted by the Dallaire Institute for Children, Peace and Security at Dalhousie, the second annual Knowledge for Prevention (K4P) symposium fostered dialogue around themes critical to centering children in the global peace agenda.

The conference followed mid-September's International Day of Peace, which the Dallaire Institute marked with a public statement around the urgent need for what it calls a Children's Rights Upfront approach to peace that sees the world through the perspective



Masai Ujiri, Toronto Raptors president and founder of Giants of Africa, was one of the speakers at the Dallaire Institute's K4P symposium.

of children's needs and priorities. "Children's protection from violence and war must be our priority if we are to break cycles of violence and achieve peace and security," reads the statement. "This requires concerted efforts to build collaboration and effective action towards global peace."

Topics explored at the symposium included the role of women in shaping the peace and security agenda and the importance of early warning and its connection to preventing the recruitment of children as soldiers. Launched last year, the symposium centres around the importance of knowledge sharing in building action-oriented solutions to combat child soldiery. "Understanding better how we can work together

to share knowledge and prioritize protection of children is at the core of building a sustainable pathway to peace," says Shelly Whitman, executive director of the Dallaire Institute.

Speakers included the Honourable Harjit Singh Sajjan, Canada's national defence minister, Virginia Gamba, United Nations Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, and Masai Ujiri, the Toronto Raptors Basketball Club president and founder of Giants of Africa, a non-profit that uses basketball as an outreach activity to educate and enrich the lives of youth across Africa.

—Matt Reeder

Computer Science joins global diversity initiative

Dalhousie has been announced as a 2020 affiliate of a world-leading diversity and inclusion initiative. The Faculty of Computer Science will spend the next year collaborating with institutions from across the globe to further its equity, diversity and inclusion agenda, particularly focusing on women in technology, through the BRAID Affiliates program.

The BRAID initiative (Building, Recruiting, And Inclusion for Diversity) is an initiative co-led by AnitaB.org and Harvey Mudd College. Launched in 2014 in partnership with 15 U.S. institutions and funded by Intel, Microsoft, Qualcomm and IBM, BRAID is committed to efforts to increase the participation of students from underrepresented groups—racial/ethnic minorities and women—in their undergraduate Computer Science programs.

“We have been committed to a more inclusive student body in computer science for a long time,” says Andrew Rau-Chaplin, dean of the Faculty of Computer Science. “Our

work to increase the number of female students entering our programs is one example of this but we have a long way to go until we have a truly representative discipline. Through participating in the BRAID Affiliates program, we hope to learn from other institutions who have really moved the needle and identify ways in which we can truly make computing accessible for all.”

—Rebecca Rawcliffe

\$13.4 million for Ocean Tracking Network

The Ocean Tracking Network (OTN) has been awarded a grant of \$13.4 million from the Canada Foundation for Innovation’s (CFI) Major Science Initiatives (MSI) Fund, bringing the total amount awarded to OTN from the Government of Canada to \$27 million. OTN is the only MSI-funded national research facility in Atlantic Canada.

The MSI Fund supports the unique operating and maintenance needs of Canada’s large, complex research facilities so that they can stay on the cutting edge and continue to serve communities of researchers in Canada and around the world. These facilities—whether physical spaces or virtual



networks—serve a critical mass of researchers tackling some of the most important issues facing society.

Since 2008, OTN has been deploying state-of-the-art ocean monitoring equipment and marine autonomous vehicles (gliders) in key ocean locations and inland waters around the world to measure how the environment is changing, and is using electronic tagging systems to track the movements and survival of more than 245 keystone, commercially important and endangered species. Results from OTN researchers are used to inform conservation initiatives, sustainable fisheries management and policy development, to assist with environmental impact assessments, and to help monitor the health of the global ocean.

“This investment from CFI will allow OTN to continue serving its Canadian and international research communities—a network

“Our OpenThinkers represent the excellence of our graduate students,” says Marty Leonard, dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

of 600 researchers and counting—who use OTN’s infrastructure and data systems to track and analyze animal movements in the face of changing marine ecosystems,” says Dr. Sara Iverson, OTN’s scientific director. “These international scale-collaborations are transforming aquatic species research into critical knowledge that is of benefit to Canada, as well as the world.”

—Michele Charlton

Dal’s new OpenThinkers

In a world with a fractured and polarized media landscape, and where anyone with a Twitter handle can broadcast their ideas, Dal’s PhD students have been mobilized to bring a sense

of evidence-based order. Launched by the Faculty of Graduate Studies, the OpenThink Initiative aims to shape the university's next generation of academic advocates.

This year's cohort of 10 OpenThinkers attended seminars taught by instructors from Dal, the University of King's College and NATIONAL Public Relations to equip them to share their research beyond the confines of campus. The students learned how to harness social media, write editorials for news publications, pitch and talk to journalists and create infographics.

They also began contributing to the OpenThink blog, where they share research-based opinions and discoveries on a monthly basis. Their posts delve into issues that make headlines around the world: sustainability, social justice, health policy, sexualized violence, urban planning, racism and resilience in the face of the pandemic.

"Our OpenThinkers represent the excellence of our graduate students across nearly all of the university's academic disciplines," says Marty Leonard, dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies. "They're a new generation of researchers committed to making

an impact in the world by applying what they learn as they learn it. I'm extremely excited to see where they take us."

—Andrew Riley

Commitment and action on anti-Black racism

As people around the world joined together this year to take action in protest of anti-Black racism and police violence, many institutions, including Dalhousie University, looked with fresh eyes at measures to address some of the longstanding issues and disparities at the roots of this historic movement.

"As an institution of higher learning, we cannot remain silent," said President Deep Saini and Vice-Provost Equity and Inclusion Theresa Rajack-Talley in a joint statement published in June. "We have an obligation to provide an education that combats systemic anti-Black racism and all forms of discrimination and intolerance; to engage our students in critical thinking and research on the causes and consequences of racial violence, persistent disparities and social inequalities; to strive for an understanding and appreciation of diversity and inclusivity in

quoted.

Dal experts in the news



CTV NEWS | Hundreds sign letter demanding public inquiry into deaths of Indigenous people in N.B.

"It's about their deaths and the police, but the police operate in a bigger system, that is the New Brunswick justice system. That's why we need to look at all of it."

—Naomi Metallic, Schulich School of Law

NATIONAL POST | Support grows for deliberately exposing vaccine trial subjects to COVID-19, with Oxford team leading the way

"If you can achieve the same benefit—faster route to a safe and effective vaccine—with less risk to research participants, there is an ethical obligation to take (that) path."

—Dr. Francoise Baylis, Dalhousie Medical School

CBC | New study sheds light on why cats can get COVID-19 but dogs can't

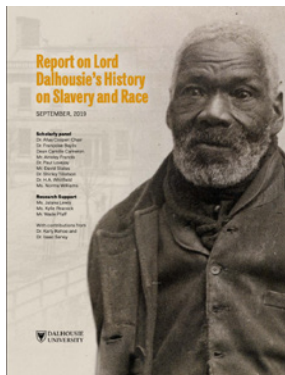
"It turns out that a single amino acid contributes to the susceptibility. That single change, or that single mutation, is what conferred resistance for dogs, for example, but not cats."

—Sabateeshan Mathavarajah, PhD student, Pathology

our campus culture, climate and curriculum.”

Some of the work already underway includes:

- In June, the Dalhousie Senate voted to approve efforts to establish a new academic program—an interdisciplinary major/honors program in Black and African Diaspora Studies—and a new research institute for Black Studies in Canada. The development of such a major was highlighted in the *Lord Dalhousie Report* (covered in our Fall 2019 issue) which provided recommendations on ways Dal could work to address anti-Black racism and the legacy of its founder’s intersections with the legacy of slavery.
- Some of the other work underway to address the findings of the Lord Dalhousie report include a joint academic conference with the University of King’s College on the history of slavery, expanding partnerships with historically Black universities and colleges in the U.S. and Caribbean, and continued work in developing a full African Nova Scotian strategy for the university.
- Dalhousie announced the launch of the world’s first ever international lab focused on restorative justice: the Restorative Research, Innovation &



The development of a new major/honours program in Black and African Diaspora Studies was among the recommendations of the *Lord Dalhousie Report*.

Education Lab, located in the Schulich School of Law.

Dr. Rajack-Talley, who also spoke at the Senate meeting in June with an update on the development of a racialized violence policy at Dal (expected to be available for consultation this fall), says this collective work speaks to the institution’s core values. “As an institution of higher learning, we have an obligation to provide an education and a community that works together to address systemic anti-Black racism and all forms of discrimination and intolerance.”

—Ryan McNutt

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DALHOUSIE ARCHIVES




found.

Archiving Dal's history

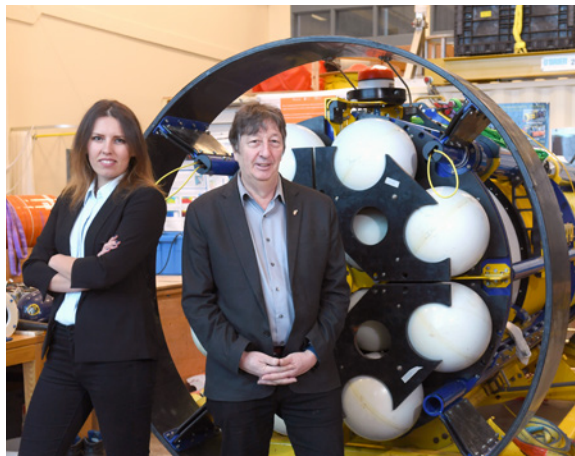
"Blazing a new trail in preventative medicine." In 1926, that's how the *Journal of the American Medical Association* described Dalhousie Medical College's efforts under Dr. W.H. Hattie, director of the recently established Dalhousie University Public Health Clinic. Funded by a grant from the Carnegie and Rockefeller Foundations, the clinic was a bricks-and-mortar testimony to the surge of interest in public health that followed the influenza pandemic of 1918–1920. While built primarily to provide clinical training facilities for Dalhousie medical students, it also offered students significant exposure to the broader aspects of "social medicine," including child welfare, venereal disease, ante-natal and dental clinics. Vaccination clinics helped to immunize the local population against all forms of viruses, including common childhood illnesses such as tuberculosis, measles and polio. If you look closely at this photograph, taken sometime in the late twenties, you can see the wall poster warning: "When you cough or sneeze or sniff / Be quick, my lad, with your handkerchief." Today's advice may have changed direction, as it were, though rhyming with "inner elbow" is a bit more challenging.

–Jennifer Lambert

 Learn more about Dal's University Archives at dal.ca/archives

RESEARCH ROUNDUP

by Alison Auld and Michele Charlton



Research by Dal oceanographers Daria Atamanchuk and Doug Wallace explores the transfer of oxygen from the atmosphere to the ocean's depths.

Oceanography

The ocean's 'trap door'

Much more oxygen than previously thought is being transported into deep layers of the ocean through a 'trap door' off Canada's Atlantic coast that some researchers say could be closing as a result of climate change. Scientists from Dalhousie and the University of California San Diego measured the higher-than-expected transfer of oxygen from the atmosphere to depths as great as two kilometres in the Labrador Sea, attributing it to the injection of air bubbles during winter storms. Understanding how much oxygen is transferred is essential because the deep ocean waters flow out of the Labrador Sea and supply oxygen to a vast area of the ocean worldwide.

RESEARCHERS: Daria Atamanchuk, Oceanography; Doug Wallace, Oceanography.

Health

Reversing aging's cognitive decline

Drugs that reduce inflammation in the brain could slow or even reverse the cognitive decline that comes with age, say new studies by researchers in Canada, Israel and the United States. In two complementary papers in Science Translational Medicine, scientists from Dalhousie, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and the University of California, Berkeley, found that senile mice that were given a drug to reduce inflammation had fewer signs of dysfunctional brain electrical activity. In fact, the mice were more capable of learning new tasks and became almost as adept as mice half their age. The researchers zeroed in on the blood-brain barrier, which protects the brain from potentially damaging toxins. Evidence has shown that as we get older this defence weakens and can lead to brain disease.

RESEARCHERS: Alon Friedman, researcher at Dalhousie's Brain Repair Centre; University of California, Berkeley; Ben-Gurion University of the Negev; University of Bonn Medical Center; University of California, Davis; Canadian Institute for Advanced Research.

Marine Biology

Marine recovery possible by 2050

The abundance, productivity and resilience of the world's marine life could recover substantially by 2050, researchers say in a landmark study in Nature. The paper's two Canadian co-authors, Dal's Boris Worm and Heike Lotze, say this work provides much needed hope and shows that by working together some global problems can be reversed. The authors reviewed hundreds of case studies, including the rebound of fish stocks during the World Wars; the recovery of coral reefs from nuclear tests in the Marshall Islands; and the improved health of the Black and Adriatic seas after fertilizer use was reduced.

RESEARCHERS: Heike Lotze and Boris Worm, Biology; King Abdullah University of Science and Technology; Aarhus University; Colorado State University; Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile; Sorbonne Université; Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations; Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation; Boston University; James Cook University; Smithsonian Institution; University of Queensland; Alfred Wegener Institute; University of York



Crystal Watson's research focuses on the outdoor play experiences of African Nova Scotian children.

Health

Play's power for African Nova Scotian girls

Ask Crystal Watson how play has changed for African Nova Scotian girls over the past 30 years, and the answer is startling. "We don't know," says the PhD in Health candidate, recreation therapist and executive director for Recreation Nova Scotia. "The majority of the literature doesn't talk about childhood through an Afrocentric lens, so we just don't have that research." Watson is working to change that. Her research, advanced by the Harris A. Ritcey Award, focuses on the outdoor play experiences of African Nova Scotian children. "I want to see the places where these girls play. I want to center their gender and their experience as black girls and solidify that full intersectional approach."

RESEARCHER: *Crystal Watson, PhD student in Health*

Computer Science

Social distancing's impact on youth

Researchers from Dal and the iWK Health Centre are using smartphones to monitor the impacts of social distancing and isolation on youth during the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Rita Orji from the Faculty of Computer Science and iWK psychologist Dr. Sandra Meier have developed a mobile sensing app to track user's activities and provide mental health support. The study hopes to monitor around 500 participants aged 15–25, including mental health patients and the general population. The app tracks participants' call, text and app usage, and movement and sleep patterns. Using data from prior to and during isolation, the study hopes to identify patterns that can be used to make positive real-time recommendations.

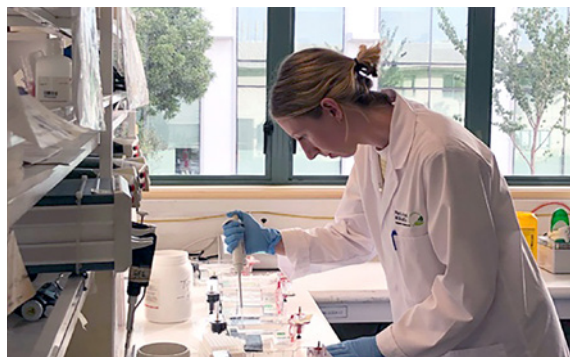
RESEARCHERS: *Sandra Meier, iWK Health Centre, Department of Psychiatry; Rita Orji, Computer Science*

Agriculture

Studying NZ apple genomics

In January 2020, Sophie Watts set off to Auckland, New Zealand on the adventure of a lifetime. A PhD student in Dal's Faculty of Agriculture, Watts was awarded a fellowship from the Natural Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) to learn about apple genomics. She's learning more about a powerful new gene editing tool called CRISPR, and hopes her work will improve apple crops back home. "By working with such a diverse collection of apples, I hope to raise awareness of how important biodiversity is in agriculture and emphasize that we need to use that diversity in order to improve our agricultural crops."

RESEARCHERS: *Sophie Watts, PhD student, Faculty of Agriculture; Dr. Sean Myles, Faculty of Agriculture*



Faculty of Agriculture PhD student Sophie Watts is studying apple genomics in New Zealand.

events.

President's Meet and Greet

In February, Dr. Deep Saini met many Dal alumni, donors and friends at receptions in Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto.



Open Dialogue Live

As the world navigated new and innovative ways to remain connected during the pandemic, the university launched Open Dialogue Live, a virtual event series. The episodes featured Dal researchers, faculty, alumni and students who were contributing to the broader covid-19 effort. See the inside back cover for upcoming Open Dialogue Live events.

AND MORE!

Virtual Barley Party

The 10th anniversary of the Faculty of Agriculture's Barley Ring was celebrated in April during a virtual Barley Party. Dean and Campus Principal Dr. David Gray hosted the annual event and was joined by the newest ring recipients and their families.

Career Development Webinar

In July, Dal's Career Services and Alumni Engagement hosted *Go Further: Strategic Career Advice for Your Toolkit*. The webinar was led by Dal career advisor and alumna Michelle Patrick (BSc'10, MA'14). She was joined by five alumni who shared their insights and advice for job searching and career development.

Want to receive event invitations?

Update your address at alumni.dal.ca/update or email alumni.records@dal.ca

See the latest events listings:

Upcoming alumni events: alumni.dal.ca/events
Dalhousie Arts Centre: dal.ca/artscentre and click on "Upcoming Events"
Fountain School of Performing Arts: dal.ca/performingarts and click on "Our Season"

read.watch.listen.

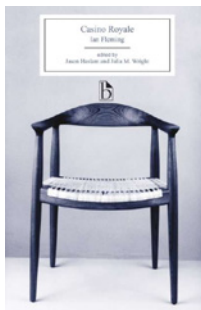
Dal alumni and faculty share their books, television shows, films, webinars and podcasts.



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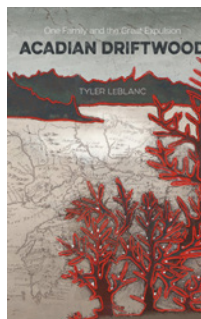
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6

1 PODCAST

Hyacinth

BY CARMEL MIKOL
(BA'19)

Singer-songwriter Carmel Mikol's podcast combines scholarly research and artistic practice to get to the heart of big ideas, and includes interviews with scholars, writers and artists. Hyacinthpodcast.com

2 BOOK

Casino Royale

EDITED BY JASON
HASLAM AND JULIA
WRIGHT

This is the first edition of Ian Fleming's *Casino Royale* (1953) to include explanatory footnotes along with extensive appendices of related materials, including selections from Fleming's other writings and historical materials on the secret service. Drs. Haslam and Wright are faculty members in the department of English. Available from Broadviewpress.com.

3 VIDEO

The Nonhuman Rights Project

DR. LETITIA MEYNELL

Philosophy faculty member Dr. Meynell discusses her work with other philosophers writing a series of amicus curiae briefs to support the efforts of the Nonhuman Rights Project to secure basic rights for some nonhuman animals. Search "Letitia Meynell nonhuman rights" at YouTube.com.

4 BOOK

This Is Not a Hoax

BY HEATHER JESSUP

The first-ever study of contemporary Canadian hoaxes in visual art and literature argues that hoaxes help viewers re-examine habituated racism and sexism in Canada's and encourage radical empathy when imagination is needed most. Dr. Jessup is a faculty member in the English Department. Available from wlu.press.wlu.ca

5 PODCAST

Africana Philosophy

WITH CHIKE JEFFERS


Philosophy Department faculty member Dr. Chike Jeffers co-authors this podcast series on Africana Philosophy as part of the larger series *The History of Philosophy Without Any Gaps*. Available at historyofphilosophy.net.

6 BOOK

Acadian Driftwood

BY TYLER LEBLANC
(MFA'18)

LeBlanc wasn't fully aware of his family's Acadian roots until a chance encounter with an Acadian historian prompted him to delve into his family history. In *Acadian Driftwood*, he follows ancestors Francois and Jeanne LeBlanc and their 12 children through the Great Expulsion and its aftermath.

 Did you know you can order books and more online from the Dalhousie Bookstore? Go to dal.ca/bookstore



WE ARE DAL

Aziz Bojang Staff, Security Services


I was a police officer in my country, Gambia, and I was brought [to Canada in 2004] to understudy policing but also restorative justice. In the restorative justice training I was asked this question: 'What would you like to see happen to you when you are arrested?' The one thing I would really love is to be heard. To be told what I have done, but also to be given the chance.

In 2007, I was deployed to the United Nations mission in Sudan and I served for two years there. When I came back to Gambia I actually lost my job. We had a dictator who did a lot of bad things. If you are not willing to do that you lose your job. They were not much for my orientation to human rights and democratic policing.

When I came to Canada, waiting for my residency, I did all sorts of other jobs including security and I worked with an agency that dealt with kids with mental challenges. Even when this job [at Dal] came up, I was a little bit reluctant to leave because of my attachment [to the kids].

For me, I'm not motivated by money. My greatest motivation is when I know that my actions have impacted someone in a positive way.

"When I completed school and started working, I made it a duty to make sure that all my junior siblings go to school and I pay for them."

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DANNY ABRIEL



PEOPLE

LESLIE SEILER (BA'00) is an actor, improviser, director and writer. As she continues to navigate her career and life during the pandemic, she takes us through a typical day.

24 HOURS

7:00 A.M. I awake to the sound of my husband teaching online improv camps. We aren't quite in our Hollywood Hills home yet, so this one bedroom is cozy! I don't mind this wake up. It reminds me how unpredictable this career path is and the crazy adventure we are on.

8:30 A.M. Get up for real. Then, coffee.

9:00 A.M. Workout on Instagram, with my Toronto Gym, Elle Fitness. On Fridays, eight of my girlfriends and I jump on Zoom and do the class "together." It keeps us fit and sane.

10:00 A.M. Keep working out—sort of. After 20 years, I've decided to finish my Group Fitness Instructor training. Being locked down gives you time to finish decades old projects, so I'm working on choreography. By the end of the hour I am very satisfied with my "Footloose" routine.

11:00 A.M. Shower and maybe lunch.

NOON Check and answer emails. I may have an audition. If it's due ASAP then straight to hair and makeup, setting up lights and shooting it. If it's due any later, I will procrastinate until the last moment. If it's a voice audition, I record it in my sound booth (aka: our storage closet).

2:00 P.M. Study the next chapter in my Group Fitness Instructor Course.

3:00 P.M. Write "24 Hours" piece for Dal Alumni Magazine. Try to make "Lock Downed Life" in L.A. seem really cool and not at all sad.

4:00 P.M. Depending on the day, either: go to grocery store, prepare my lesson plan (I teach Improv and Sketch Writing online) or work on my stand-up sets for Burbank Comedy Festival.

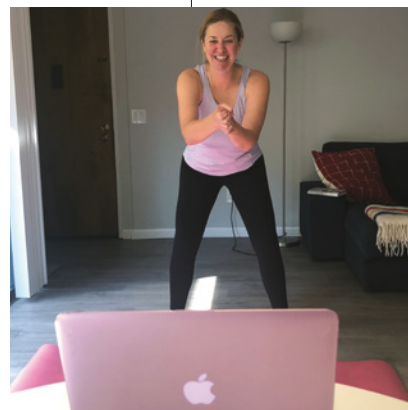
6:00 P.M. Make dinner (if not teaching or doing an online open mic), while watching a Marvel movie I've seen 100 times.

8:00 P.M. Head to a patio to meet friends! JUST KIDDING! We can't go anywhere. Binge on a show or do a Zoom game night with friends or family.

MIDNIGHT Off to bed to see what tomorrow brings. Maybe things will start to reopen and we'll go back to in-person auditions, jobs and live shows! Maybe I'll be "Groundhog Daying" this day until 2021. But locked down or not, the possibility of every day here truly is an adventure.



Seiler's days have been filled with pandemic cooking, Zoom exercise classes and auditions from her home sound booth (aka her storage closet). "Maybe I'll be Groundhog Daying this day until 2021," she says.





SPOTLIGHT

Thought-provoking satire put **CHRIS KELLY'S** production company centre stage for awards in 2020

When Chris Kelly's (BA'04) production company Kelly & Kelly won two big prizes in 2020, he ended up delivering his acceptance speeches from his front lawn. But even if COVID-19 made the occasions less ceremonial, they were still impressive. Kelly&Kelly, based in Vancouver, took home a prominent Webby prize for Best Writing for Video and a Rockie award for Podcast of the Year from the Banff World Media Festival.

Aftershot, which took home the Webby, is a fake advertisement for an app to help American lawmakers decide when it's appropriate to discuss gun control. It was commissioned by *The New York Times* after its op-ed video department heard about another of Kelly&Kelly's satirical videos called *ARGYOU*.

"I don't know how much satire can actually do to make change," Kelly says. "I think you need policy makers and people in government positions to make the change. But obviously satire has a great way of making conversation—of putting it into culture and pointing at things that need to change and pointing

out the ludicrousness especially of the gun situation in the States. When it came out it sparked a conversation."

A former music journalist at CBC, Kelly produced CBC Radio's *This is That* for almost 10 years. It created many spinoff works of satire including a web series called *This is That Video*.

Aftershot took a month to write and was filmed on the day of the Squirrel Hills shooting in Pittsburgh in 2018—making the work all the more relevant. A conversation on set led to a familial connection: while chatting with one of the actors, a fellow Maritimer, Kelly discovered the actor was actually his third cousin.

Kelly reflects on his time at Dal often, but it took him working on *This is That* and with big name actors like Kevin Nealon (*SNL*), Charles Dance (*Game of Thrones*) and Natasha Lyonne (*Orange is the New Black*) to realize just how much he still relies on lessons learned from his time on campus.

"There was a point in my life where I was like 'I'm not using this degree,'" he explains. "Around 2010 we started making *This is That* and that involved working with performers on a daily basis, writing sketches and directing people. After doing that for a couple of months, I realized 'This is it—this is everything I learned.' It was such a benefit to have that education backing that up."—Janet Dyson

"Satire has a great way of making conversation—of putting it into culture and pointing at things that need to change."



INNOVATOR

"I'm committed to social justice and anti-racism in all aspects of our lives, including [formal and informal] education. Claims of cultural and racial neutrality and colour-blindness hamper our ability to fully identify the barriers Black people encounter. This is why I believe sharing information and knowledge is vital."

As the James Robinson Johnston (JRJ) Chair in Black Canadian Studies, **DR. OMISOORE DRYDEN** is fostering community outreach, and working to provide greater representation of Black health within medical education.

INNOVATION: Dr. Dryden's focus as JRJ Chair is to address anti-Black racism, medical education, and health inequities and disparities. Her research explores the importance of collecting disaggregated race-based data and the importance of community informed governance models to manage that data. This would mean that before disaggregated race-based data of Black and African Nova Scotian communities is collected, these communities must first be consulted and involved in the development of data collection protocols, oversight of the data, and decisions with how the data will be used.

FOUNDATION: "Black Studies is the venue in which I do my work. Although

Black Studies is often only associated with the humanities and social sciences, this is just not the case. There is vibrant and important research and interventions within the medical sciences, medical education and health studies," says Dr. Dryden. "I am particularly interested in how the intersecting realities that impact the lives of Black queer and trans people is accounted for. Most recently, I focused on the experiences within the Canadian blood donation system of Black men who have sex with men."

INSPIRATION: "I am inspired by the activism and scholarship of Black queer and trans scholars who have been involved with some of the larger civil rights and activist movements (March on Washington, Black Panthers, BLM) and those whose work is not as well known."

WHY IT MATTERS: According to Dr. Dryden, her work has helped remove some of the barriers that Black gay and bisexual men have faced when donating blood, though there is much more work to be done. "It is my hope that by adding my voice to the discussion on systemic racism embedded in the policy responses to the COVID pandemic, it will help to effectively address and resolve health inequities and disparities." —Jason Bremner



WHY I GIVE

"Thinking about the struggles students faced touched my heart. I knew this pandemic threw off plans and disrupted many lives."

As a member of the Dal community, alumnus **SHASHANK GUPTA** was inspired to support students during the pandemic

Shashank Gupta (MENG'17) can still recall the night he arrived in Halifax in 2015. While it is hard to forget the January snowstorm that greeted him, it was an act of kindness that made his arrival memorable.

"I knew absolutely no one in Halifax; all I had were the phone numbers of some of my classmates," says Gupta, who moved to

Halifax from India to study Engineering. "I took a taxi to downtown [Halifax] and asked a stranger on the street if I could use their phone to call a classmate. The stranger was so kind and helpful. It truly gave me a sense of what I could expect from both the Halifax and Dalhousie community."

And throughout his time at Dal, his expectations were met. So, when Gupta saw an appeal from his alma mater to support students in need during the COVID-19 pandemic, it was that sense of community that inspired him to give back. "In my culture, when you're a member of a community, you try to do what you can to help the people within it. I felt compelled to support Dalhousie students during these trying times," he says.

Gupta, who now lives in Ottawa, is just one of the more than 350 donors who gave to the Student Emergency Relief Fund. The fund was established to meet the needs of students who needed urgent and immediate support due to loss of employment, unexpected travel costs or restrictions, food insecurity and housing concerns as a result of the pandemic.

"Thinking about the struggles students faced touched my heart. I knew this pandemic threw off plans and disrupted many lives," says Gupta, who shared that he and his now wife were unable to go to India for their wedding in April.

As a former international student, he also recognized that those students were likely facing a unique set of circumstances. "I can relate to international students who are far from home and how difficult that can be. You rely on the connections with your classmates, friends and professors to deal with the isolation you sometimes face. But the pandemic took away those connections."

Knowing that, he, collectively with other donors, was able to make a difference to 1,100 students in need is a rewarding feeling, he says, and ultimately, he sees it as a way to show his own gratitude. "I feel very fortunate to be a part of this community. I'm in a position to give back because of my education. Helping students in need is my way of returning to Dal and its people what it gave to me." —Fallon Bourgeois



WHY I DO IT

"I think it's really important that student leadership needs to be a little bit more vulnerable in how we act. At the end of the day, I'm a 20-year-old student—I'm not going to get it right all the time."

MADELEINE STINSON President, Dalhousie Student Union

HER BACKSTORY: Born and raised near London, Ont., Stinson's interest in Dalhousie was piqued when she discovered its strength in sustainability studies—something she continues to pursue now as a fourth-year student in the Faculty of Management majoring in Environment, Sustainability and Society. Stinson's campaign for the DSU presidency earlier this year centred around three key priorities:

executive accountability, organizational sustainability, and a better community. COVID-19 has forced Stinson and her team to rethink how to follow through on some of their promises, but she insists changes in the works now will ensure the DSU works better for students. "We are doing a complete review of all of our policies, which doesn't happen often. We are changing a lot of procedures to make sure that it is accountable, it's transparent, it's ethical"

HIGHLIGHTS: In high school, Stinson was an active member of a non-profit group that offers training for youth interested in building business leadership skills. She eventually moved into the role of president for the group's regional chapter. The experience opened her eyes to her own future ambitions, but not in the way she expected. "I found business to be not compassionate enough for what I wanted to do. There just wasn't enough room for compassion and community and contributing to society in the way I wanted to," she says, helping explain her decision to expand her studies into environmental issues.

WHY I DO IT: "I never thought I would run for president. Despite what my past sounds like, I prefer to do my own thing. I don't really love being the centre of attention. But I came to the point where I saw that the DSU wasn't having a positive impact on all students," she says. "I wasn't in the position to enact the change that I wanted to see, so I said, 'Well, if I can't get into the room now, I'll run and then chair the conversation. I'll be that person.'" —Matt Reeder



FORWARD FOCUSED.

COVID-19 has changed the way we engage with students for now, but we are working hard to deliver a meaningful Dalhousie experience. We remain dedicated to academic excellence, to creating new opportunities for connection and to supporting our community's safety. We hope we'll be welcoming everyone back to campus soon.



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Family Medicine

For Dalhousie's Dr. Alyson Kelvin and her father Dr. David Kelvin, a passion for understanding, treating and preventing pandemics has put them at the forefront of international research on COVID-19 vaccines and bio-markers. *By Ryan McNutt*

ON THE NIGHT of December 30, 2019, Alyson Kelvin was at home in Halifax, on the other side of the world from Wuhan, China. She was just about to put down her book, shut out the light and bring a fulfilling day of Christmas vacation to an end.

Until she checked her email one last time and found an alert from the ProMED infectious disease listserv detailing a mysterious new disease outbreak. "2019-12-30, 23:59:00. Re: Undiagnosed pneumonia—Chine (HU): Request for Information. Some medical institutions in Wuhan have successively appeared patients with pneumonia of unknown cause..." Suddenly, sleep moved far down her priority list.

"I'm not an alarmist, so I didn't jump on it and wave my arms like, 'The next deadly pandemic is coming,'" she says, thinking back to her first read of that email alert. "But I knew we had to be working on this. Pneumonia, something hitting our respiratory track, is very concerning—that's how we breathe, and also how viruses are easily spread," she says.

There was also the high number of patients; the report indicated at least 27 were known at the time. "That suggested either everyone who was being infected had to be hospitalized—so the virus was very severe—or that what we were seeing, more like a flu, is that the hospitalizations really indicate the severe cases, the tip of the iceberg."

In the days ahead, Dr. Kelvin, an assistant professor in Dalhousie's Faculty of Medicine, would be communicating regularly with colleagues at VIDO, a world-leading vaccine centre located in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Less than two months later, she would upend her entire life to travel there and work hands-on with the virus that would eventually be known as COVID-19—the coronavirus that would spark the largest global pandemic in a century.

But that night, Dr. Kelvin's first outreach wasn't to VIDO. It was to a Dal colleague, one who has been there for her as a collaborator and confidant her entire career—and then some.

She called her father, David.

A PANDEMIC SPANS borders. Those researchers tasked with addressing its many challenges must do the same—working across jurisdictions, across disciplines and, in the case of the doctors Kelvin, across generations.

David, a professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, has been a key figure in emerging infectious disease research for decades. His work is international in scope, carrying out studies with home bases in China, Italy and Canada.

"My interest in diseases evolved out of HIV," he says. "HIV is what I'd call a slow pandemic: it wasn't something that spread in a matter of weeks, it took years and it really affected everybody in my generation

who was going through our early 20s at that point. . . . My work evolved out of trying to understand the molecular mechanisms of infectious diseases and, in regard to pandemics and epidemics, why some people got serious illness and other people did not."

You can trace David's career through several major infectious disease outbreaks over the past 30 years, but the 2003 SARS epidemic stands out as a major flashpoint. He was a researcher in Toronto when SARS began moving through the health-care system there. So, too, was Alyson: having just completed her undergraduate degree at Western University, she was doing a summer internship at a local hospital. Her work involved screening health-care workers for symptoms while also working with SARS patient samples.

"I was seeing SARS on two levels: both how to socially contain an emerging virus or a virus now spreading through a community, and also working on the science of what's actually happening in molecular medicine," she says. "I think that was really influential to me in how I viewed public health and research goals."

It was never a given that Alyson would follow her father's path into disease research; for a while she wanted to be a surgeon, or an astrophysicist. But both father and daughter recall vividly that Alyson had an innate childhood curiosity with everything David was doing in the lab, which she would often visit as a toddler. "She was fascinated by infectious disease as far back as I can remember," says David.

"I recall being really interested in all the discussion around HIV at the time as well," says Alyson. "That's what gave me this vision of working in an isolation room with highly pathogenic viruses."

Following a PhD that was more focused on molecular science, Alyson returned to diseases, studying an outbreak in Italy of a mosquito-borne virus called chikungunya that had recently migrated to continental Europe from Africa. Shortly after—and

*"My work evolved out of trying to understand why some people got serious illness and others did not."
—Dr. David Kelvin*

not for the last time in her career—a pandemic intervened: the 2009 H1N1 swine flu pandemic, which immediately became her new research focus. The experience was both professional and personal for Alyson.

“I was four months pregnant, researching viruses with the threat of a new pandemic that had a second wave anticipated to happen right when my daughter was due,” she recalls. “I was very much a vulnerable population. So trying to understand age and developmental processes and how that was a risk factor [for diseases] became not only a research priority, but a piece of my life.”

Alyson and David’s respective careers continued separately, each in their own fields, but always linked through the family connection—sharing notes, ideas and insights whenever they caught up with one another.

Which brings us back to that phone call last December.

“**I THINK I TOLD** her to go back to bed,” David Kelvin recalls with a hearty laugh.

It was the time of day, more so than the news itself, that inspired David’s initial reaction to Alyson’s phone call. He knew the unknown outbreak in China was something to watch but admits he wasn’t sure, at first glance, just how wary he should be.

“It was really over the next two or three days that the cases dramatically increased and [Alyson and I] had several discussions about it,” he says. “It started to have all the hallmarks of human-to-human transmission.”

In the weeks to come, David would begin an international research collaboration trying to identify biomarkers for patients infected with the new coronavirus. A biomarker is any sort of biological “tell” that helps a patient or health-care professional determine how and when to apply a particular therapeutic—for example, how glucose levels help a diabetes patient decide when to apply insulin. With



Dr. David Kelvin has been a key figure in emerging infectious disease research for decades.

COVID-19, the idea is to find biomarkers that can help sort out which patients are at risk of more serious infections and, therefore, more likely to require intensive medical care.

“Many people who go on to have severe illness from COVID-19 don’t have severe symptoms in the early stages—those don’t develop until about the end of the first week of illness. What we’re really trying to do is develop methods to test individuals at the earliest stages and identify which of them would go on to have a severe illness, and where those specific biomarkers would tell us how best to treat them.”

David began by assembling a research team from 15 different countries—even more are involved now—some of which ended up being among the regions most affected by the outbreak’s first wave, including Spain and Italy. Collaborating with local health-care systems, his team gained access to thousands of blood samples and medical files. The aim is to identify two or three simple tests that will help front-line health-care professionals assess which patients are most likely to become serious cases—not only saving lives, but also conserving essential resources for those who need them most.

“If an area sees a large outbreak of

“We all have a vested interest in developing a vaccine that is going to be effective and safe.”
—Dr. Alyson Kelvin

cases—like in Spain, or Italy, or this summer in Texas—we see that ICU beds are in very limited supply just because of the sheer number of people infected with COVID-19. This will help identify people who are likely to develop a severe illness and give those people the highest priority for ICU beds.”

AN EXPLOSION OF cases that leads to ICU beds filled with sick and dying patients is among the worst possible outcomes in a pandemic like COVID-19. The best possible outcome is that a widely available vaccine, or group of vaccines, successfully limits the spread of the virus, allowing people to resume more of their usual way of life.

Alyson Kelvin is one of many researchers around the world working to develop and test COVID-19 vaccines. Her research model uses ferrets to understand how potential vaccines work in different types of patients: in older individuals, in pregnant women, in children and toddlers.

“Vaccination is different in all these age groups,” she explains. “And we know with COVID-19 that there’s a higher mortality rate for people in older age groups. If we can understand why we have those high rates of death, it will be incredibly important to developing specific therapeutics for that age group.”

Through January and February, Alyson began collaborating with colleagues at VIDO in Saskatoon who were working to acquire physical samples of the virus to start conducting studies. Despite running one of the highest-security labs at Dalhousie, Alyson knew VIDO’s clearance

level was higher. Leaving her colleagues and family behind in Halifax wouldn’t be easy—“I knew then that, a month from now, our lives were not going to be the same, and I was going to be out here [in Saskatchewan]”—but it quickly became her best opportunity to acquire and work quickly with the virus. The first COVID-19 samples in Canada, from the country’s first patient in Toronto, arrived just as the paperwork came together.

Being hands-on with the COVID-19 virus in the lab has significant advantages, and not just for Alyson directly. It’s allowed her to support other researchers at Dalhousie, like vaccine work by Dr. Roy Duncan, Dr. Marianne Stanford and Dr. Chris Richardson or anti-virals being developed by Dr. Craig McCormick. And she’s been able to help coordinate the varied and diverse international vaccine research currently underway as part of the advisory group on pre-clinical animal model development and vaccine evaluation for the World Health Organization.

“We all have a vested interest in developing a vaccine that is going to be effective, safe and able to provide protection to a great number of people—but this isn’t going to happen with just one vaccine,” says Alyson. “We need multiple options for several reasons: we have different vulnerable groups, different groups that are going to be more receptive to a vaccine over another, and just capacity for making these vaccines will be so different all around the world.”

AS THE SUMMER heat turns to autumn chill, the fear among epidemiologists is that the coronavirus won’t necessarily cool down—that a second wave of cases may begin moving through regions that have seen lower infection rates through the summer. At the same time, experience in other countries where cases continue to rise suggest that, one way or another, COVID-19 will continue to be



Research across the university

part of our lives in a significant way in the months and, possibly, years to come—even with vaccines.

Alyson is optimistic about the likelihood of a widely available vaccine in 2021, but even a vaccine with strong efficacy rates will leave some populations vulnerable to the disease. Additional supporting measures, like antivirals and other therapeutics, will be necessary, as will continued public health guidelines to protect one another from infection while further effort on vaccine and therapeutic refinement continues.

“We all have to work together,” says David, speaking with concern about countries that have taken a more casual or cavalier attitude towards the virus. “Whether it’s for the next pandemic or just in the coming months, we have to do a better job of convincing the entire public to get on the same page when it comes to following basic public health measures. Because if we’re not, we’ll have a global community where the virus continues to move around.”

That’s one of the many subjects that Alyson and David talk about in their regular check-in conversations. Alyson is used to being the one having to track David down somewhere in the world for these, but this summer the roles were reversed: David was at home in Halifax and Alyson was away in Saskatoon. (She’ll be there for the next year; her family joined her in August.)

For David, part of what’s been particularly inspiring about Alyson’s work through the pandemic’s first months is not just her prominent role with respect to global COVID-19 vaccine development but her public engagement as well.

“She’s not only driving important research forward but she’s out there in the media trying to bring these complex problems to the public and communicate things clearly,” he says. “We need people out there taking that leadership role.”

“We do very different work,” says Alyson, “but at the end of the day it’s great to have somebody like that to bounce ideas off of.”

The challenge of the pandemic has inspired urgent, new research across the Dal community—and not just in vaccines either. With support from the federal government as well as the Nova Scotia COVID-19 Health Research Coalition, projects are underway to understand the impacts of COVID-19 and also provide knowledge and best practices for potential future pandemics.

SENATOR DR. WANDA THOMAS BERNARD and **DR. NANCY ROSS** (Social Work) are assessing how impact of COVID-19 can inform social policy and health care to better respond to gender-based violence in African Nova Scotian communities. **DR. JOHN FRAMPTON** (Biomedical Engineering) is working with NSCAD University Professor **GARY MARKLE** on a prototype textile for locally manufactured personal protective equipment. **DRS. GRAHAM GAGNON** and **AMINA STODDART** (Civil and Resource Engineering) are studying whether uv light can be used as a disinfectant to allow safe re-use of N95 masks. **DR. SCOTT HALPERIN** (Pediatrics/Microbiology and Immunology) is bringing together a global team to understand the effects of public health outbreak control policies and implementation on individuals and communities. **DR. ROBERT HUISH** (International Development Studies) is examining the consequences of cultural stigma from COVID-19 ordinances in Nova Scotia, New Zealand and Australia. **DR. MARGOT LATIMER** (Nursing) is identifying occurrence rates and complicating factors for Mi’kmaq community members in Nova Scotia diagnosed with COVID-19. **DR. JEANNA PARSONS LEIGH** (Health Administration) is working with clinicians, researchers and the public across Canada to gauge people’s perceptions of COVID-19 and combat misinformation, stigma and fear. **DR. CATHERINE MAH** (Health Administration) is leading investigations into the nutritional consequences of how Atlantic Canadians eat during the COVID-19 pandemic. **DR. EMILY MARSHALL** (Family Medicine/Psychiatry) is exploring pandemic-related challenges in access to primary health care. **DRS. SANDRA MEIER** (Psychiatry) and **RITA ORJI** (Computer Science) have teamed up for a study that uses smartphones to monitor the impacts of social distancing and isolation on youth. **DR. RUDOLF UHER** (Psychiatry) is examining the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Canadians living with mental illness, as well as their families. **DR. INGRID WALDRON** (Nursing) is working to develop a culturally specific COVID-19 response strategy to improve access to COVID-19 testing and health services and reduce infections among African Nova Scotians living in the Prestons.



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Navigating COVID-19's challenges

THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC stopped us in our tracks. But inaction wasn't an option. We have to find ways forward and "new normals"—to stop doing some things, change how we do others but ultimately to do our best to address the myriad challenges we face. Every sphere of human activity has been affected. At Dal, our new normal has pushed us to innovate in teaching, lab work and connecting as a community. It's meant refocusing research efforts to solve pandemic-related problems. And it's meant drawing on the best of ourselves as leaders, community members and thinkers. In the pages that follow, we explore the many ways that the Dalhousie community is navigating COVID's ongoing challenges. By Matt Reeder with files from Dalhousie's Communications team

Solving Problems

THE 2020-21 ACADEMIC YEAR will be unlike any in Dalhousie's history. A majority of our courses will be online. Most faculty and staff continue to work remotely, while those who have returned to campus are following new guidelines to ensure the health and safety of our entire community. As we gradually re-open campus spaces and labs, many front-line services and supports will look a bit different, such as our libraries and fitness facilities.

What has not changed through all of this is Dalhousie's commitment to our mission—to supporting student success, to advancing world-leading research, and to improving the way of life in our communities. If anything, the COVID-19 pandemic has illuminated just how successful our university can be when it comes together in new ways to tackle great challenges.

The stories ahead are just a small glimpse into how our Dal community has met extraordinary circumstances with extraordinary efforts over the past several months. Even at a safe social distance, we remain united as One Dal—bringing our diverse talents together to make a real difference when it matters most.

Deep Saini
President and Vice-Chancellor

Lessons in safety: Keeping patients' airways open became an immediate concern in the pandemic, as intubation—the routine procedure for keeping patients oxygenated and threading breathing tubes into their airways—became fraught with danger for clinicians who could be contaminated by the COVID-19 virus during the procedure. Dal experts quickly developed provincial airway management guidelines and began supporting hospital emergency departments in training for and adapting to the new standards. Dalhousie's Human Body Donation Program was able to assist as teams began training on the new procedures by working with cadavers. Said Dr. George Kovacs, a professor in the departments of Emergency Medicine and Medical Neuroscience and a national leader in airway management training, "guidelines were being generated and practice changed in a matter of weeks. We ramped this up fast. It was amazing. The silos went down and people adopted a can-do collaborative attitude; we worked every waking hour."



Retired horticultural professor and Raging Crow Distillery co-owner Kris Pruski shifted his business's focus to produce hand sanitizer.

PHOTO PROVIDED



Ocean School, a free bilingual platform founded by Dal, the National Film Board of Canada and Ingenium, offers immersive film, virtual reality, 360 video, interactive games and augmented reality content related to ocean research.

Distilling a solution: Retired horticultural professor and Raging Crow Distillery co-owner Kris Pruski in Truro shifted his business's focus this spring to produce in excess of 2,000 litres of hand sanitizer, some of which was donated to fire departments, Truro Police Services and the von.

Making it easier to share health-care wishes: Canada's first personal directive app, developed by Dalhousie Schulich School of Law Professor Jocelyn Downie and the Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia (LISNS), garnered increased attention in the pandemic for its ability to help Nova Scotians more easily create and share a personal directive document that sets out key decisions around health care. The website-based app can be accessed at legalinfo.org/forms/personal-directive.

Fast face shields: In just a week, an interdisciplinary team from the Faculty of Engineering, working with colleagues at the Nova Scotia Health Authority, was able to design and prototype a 3D-printed face shield that was simple and easily scalable from 3D manufacturing to injection molding capable of producing thousands of units. "We've been able to go from just an idea to something that actually we could produce hundreds of thousands of if we needed to," said Clifton Johnston, an associate professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering who is leading the project.

Home school resources: Parents looking for resources to help support their children's at-home learning were able to get help from some Dal-affiliated groups.

SuperNOVA, a not-for-profit that promotes science, engineering, technology and mathematics to young people, launched an at-home learning series and used Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube to facilitate quizzes and experiments. Ocean School, a free bilingual platform founded by Dal, the National Film Board of Canada and Ingenium, offered immersive film, virtual reality, 360 video, interactive games and augmented reality content related to ocean research, aimed at students in grades six to nine. Imohotep's Legacy Academy posted videos and hosted virtual meetups for African Nova Scotian youth, and Dal's Sciographies science podcast featured interviews with researchers about science careers.



Dr. Bonnie Henry speaking to reporters in British Columbia.

IN GOOD HANDS

For many Canadians, calm during COVID-19 was aided by confidence in the provincial public health leaders, four of whom are Dal alumni. Dean of the Faculty of Health Dr. Brenda Merritt offers her thoughts on what we can learn from their examples.

I HAVE BEEN THINKING a lot about leadership lately, and what is needed to guide others effectively during a crisis of the magnitude of COVID-19, when lives and livelihoods are at stake.

Leadership is about establishing trust, genuinely listening to the needs of your community and responding in a transparent and proactive way. This is especially tough in a situation that's constantly changing. Acknowledging that you don't know all the answers is OK. Acknowledging that it's hard is OK. As leaders, we are also human.

Watching our public health leaders over the past months—and especially our Dal alumni Dr. Bonnie Henry in B.C., Dr. Jennifer Russell in N.B., Dr. Heather Morrison in P.E.I. and Dr. Janice Fitzgerald in Newfoundland and Labrador—we see that transparency, that trust. Sure, we may have loved Dr. Henry's shoes—but we valued her honesty and empathy more. And while t-shirts portrayed Dr. Morrison as a superhero, it was her grounded, calm clarity that gained Islanders' trust.

They've taught us that it's critical to clearly and openly communicate. If you don't know something, collaborate with others to find a solution or answer. It is unrealistic to set an expectation with yourself and others that you know all of the answers during a global crisis that not one of us have ever encountered. This approach can serve to build trust while pulling together the collective wisdom to move forward together.

What concerns me now is that people are very tired from worry, decision fatigue and balancing family life with the changes in their work. Dr. Fitzgerald reassured us that it's normal to be worried. Dr. Russell reminded us that we need to connect with our loved ones, eat properly, exercise and take deep breaths. We need to take time to rest and take care of ourselves and each other. These leaders—great leaders all—know we have to ensure that mental as well as physical health is protected as we slowly return to our 'new normal.'

DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC public health responses in four of Canada's 10 provinces have been led by Dal alumni whose guidance has helped limit the spread of the virus and save lives. Here's a sampling of how they've led and what they've learned through the experience.



**Dr. Janice Fitzgerald (PGM'96)
Newfoundland and Labrador**

ABOUT A former regional medical officer, Dr. Fitzgerald recently had "interim" dropped from her title as chief medical officer of health and, despite keeping a low profile, the postgraduate medicine alum has won raves for her steady leadership.

ON SEEING RESULTS "This is the paradox of public health," said Dr. Fitzgerald during her May 19 press briefing. "When we are doing things right, it seems as though nothing is happening, and people are getting frustrated wondering why we must still adhere to the measures in place, when in actual fact the reason we are not seeing any new cases is because of these very measures. If they weren't in place, COVID-19 would look very different in our province."



**Dr. Jennifer Russell (BA'92, PGM'01)
New Brunswick**

ABOUT An alumnus of both Dal's Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and the Family Medicine residency program, she's a former medical officer in the Canadian Armed Forces and New Brunswick's chief medical officer of health since 2018.

WHY CREDIBILITY MATTERS "Throughout any pandemic we are often learning new and emerging information in real time. With ever-changing information and emerging data, this can be difficult to communicate to the public and ensure they have the information they need... that is why it is so important to ensure any and all information you are gathering on the situation is from reliable and creditable sources."

ON TEAMWORK "A leader is not a leader without their team. This is something I have always believed to be true but has certainly been more apparent throughout these past few months. The amount of collaboration, support, long hours and dedication that I have seen not only in public health but across all sectors has been incredible."



**Dr. Heather Morrison (MD'99)
Prince Edward Island**

ABOUT P.E.I.'s chief health officer since 2007, Dr. Morrison is a Dalhousie MD graduate and former Rhodes Scholar who continues to practise emergency medicine in Charlottetown.

ON COMMUNICATION "The ongoing challenge is how we communicate in a calm, authentic way about something that's new to everyone, that has evolving evidence and where there's so much underlying fear and anxiety... and will continue to be one as we go through a potential second wave right through to a vaccine."

ON CARE AND COMPASSION "I finish a lot of my press conferences by saying, 'Be safe and look after each other—let us be patient and let us be kind.' When I'm saying them to the public as we go through this journey together, I'm saying them to myself as well... It's about trying to be patient, be safe and be kind to yourself as well as to others."



**Dr. Bonnie Henry (MD'90)
British Columbia**

ABOUT Originally from Charlottetown, P.E.I. she's a Dalhousie Medical School grad who served as operational lead for the 2003 SARS outbreak in Toronto and has been B.C.'s provincial health officer since 2018.

PREPARING THE PUBLIC "Getting everyone in the health sector and then across government and all communities in B.C. to understand what might happen and what we needed to do to prepare and then to respond was the next biggest challenge. But I believe that if we give people the information about what they need to do, why we need them to do it and the means to do it, then most people will do just that."

THE IMPORTANCE OF KINDNESS "I have said, 'We are all in the same storm but we are not all in the same boat'—having compassion and supporting each other is what will get us through. My mantra to be kind, be calm and be safe reflects that. We need to be kind to each other and to ourselves; take a deep breath and be calm as we do not always know the full story of why someone else is doing what they are doing; and be safe by doing the things we know work to protect ourselves, our families and our communities."

Stepping Forward



(TOP) Instructors and students in Dal's Costume Studies program stitched masks for use at the university's health services. (BOTTOM) Tanas Sylliboy, RN and graduating Master of Nursing student, created community education materials and care packages for people self-isolating in his community of Eskasoni.

Caring for his community: Athanasius “Tanas” Sylliboy, RN and graduating Master of Nursing – nurse practitioner student, worked hard in his community of Eskasoni to minimize the impact of COVID-19, including creating community education materials and care packages for people self-isolating, doing wellness checks and check-ins. “I wanted to minimize the impact of COVID-19 through education and resources. It’s not even doing work or volunteering, it’s my responsibility to do what I can to help.”

Dental emergencies: When dental offices across the province were closed down due to the pandemic, Dal’s emergency dental clinic remained open—and took the lead in developing safe practices and protocols for treating patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. These protocols were shared with dental schools and professional dental bodies across the country, and used to train dentists to meet the requirements, allowing five additional emergency dental clinics to open around the province.

Business solutions: For co-op students, the COVID-19 spring lockdown meant an end to many placements. But thanks to outreach from the Government of Nova Scotia, some Dal commerce students had a new opportunity: helping to evaluate the province’s Small Business Impact grant, which offered a up to \$5,000 to small businesses impacted by the pandemic. Students had to apply for the positions

and approximately 20 were hired, mostly from the Commerce program, but also from the MBA program. “I feel really proud of the fact that we were able to get money into the hands of these small businesses in a timely manner,” says Tammy Crowell, a senior instructor in the Rowe School of Business who hired, trained and supervised the students along with senior instructor Laura Cummings and associate professor Louis Beaubien. “I’m sure for some of them it made the difference in continuing to operate.”

Students and alumni step up: From drives to gather personal protective equipment (PPE) and organizing childcare for health-care workers, to developing web apps to match volunteers with those in need, Dalhousie students and alumni stepped up in a big way. PPE has been donated and distributed, almost 100 Dal medical and health students volunteered to provide childcare for health-care professionals, and JeyaBalaji Samuthiravelu (MACS’17) and Srisaichand Singamaneni (MACS’19) created the “care mongering” web app care-mongering.ca to link people in need with those in the community able to volunteer. Instructors and students in Dal’s Costume Studies program stitched masks for use at the university’s health services, Nursing students Sydney Miller and Sarah Keeping volunteered with Nova Scotia’s 811 service, and many other Dalhousie community members donated time and effort for COVID-related programs.

Research Opportunities

Prior to COVID-19, Dr. Jong Sung Kim's toxicology lab in the Tupper Medical Building at Dalhousie was often buzzing with activity at different times throughout the day. Sometimes there'd be as many as 10 students and staff in the space at a time, carrying out a range of complex scientific work from injecting nanoparticles into human cells to analyzing blood samples.

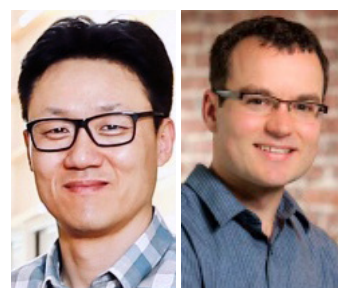
Enter Dr. Kim's facility now, though, and you'll encounter a far quieter environment. This shift in climate doesn't mean there's less work going on, just that it's being done in different ways. Students now work on a rotation, with a maximum of six allowed in the space at any one time. Masks are required when six meters distance can't be maintained. And activities that used to be done in person in the lab, such as equipment training and logging lab results, are now often done virtually through online platforms.

The transformation of Dr. Kim's lab began back in March when the university asked for the shutdown of all in-person research facilities, except for those doing work related to COVID-19. Like other Principal Investigators (PI) and their research teams across the university, Dr. Kim and his students wound down operations. But that didn't last for long, as two

weeks later they were approached by the Nova Scotia Health Authority and Dal to support testing the effectiveness of new types of N95 respirator masks that could help reduce Canada's reliance on foreign suppliers.

Dr. Kim's lab isn't the only one at Dal that's transitioned its focus to COVID-19. Industrial engineering researcher Peter Vanberkel's health-care operations lab also pivoted quickly, tackling high-priority problems such as the distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE) in Nova Scotia, the return of elective surgical capacity in hospitals, and researching alternatives to N95 respirators.

"For students, they are working on really cutting-edge problems and working with teams that are highly motivated to address these problems," says Dr. Vanberkel. "From that perspective, it's



(TOP) In a simulation course, nursing students wear masks and gloves to protect themselves and each other from COVID-19. (BOTTOM LEFT) Dr. Jong Sung Kim (BOTTOM RIGHT) Dr. Peter Vanberkel



LAB COATS AND GOGGLES NOT REQUIRED

THIS FALL, MOST STUDENTS in programs with lab requirements have seen those activities move to a virtual environment. Learning objectives have been modified to suit the new online programming, with resources enabling high-quality and comprehensive learning experiences for all. In first-year Chemistry, for instance, students get the feeling of being immersed in the lab through virtual 360 lab tours, where students learn the safety protocols they will need for future in-person courses. Students also take part in virtual, interactive experiments that enable them to make real-time observations, with an added emphasis on experimental theory, observation and data interpretation—skills transferable to all science and engineering fields.

“Lab modules are custom built, media rich, interactive, and accessible, with consideration given to clarity in colour schemes, font sizes and slide design as well as fully closed-captioned with downloadable audio transcripts,”

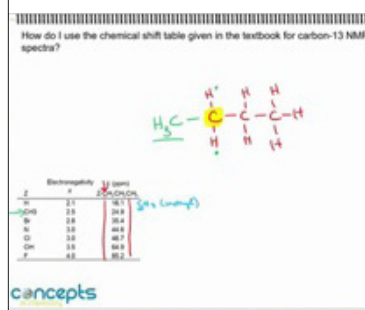
says Jennifer MacDonald, senior instructor and first-year lab coordinator in the department.

Field trips have also gone virtual for some this fall. Mobilizing swiftly this past summer, Michael Young, a senior instructor and undergraduate advisor in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, used drones, cameras and other gear to build 3D models of more than 20 field sites that include kilometre-long stretches of coastal cliff sections, tidal flats and rocky outcrops in hard to reach places. Ultra-high resolution zoomable gigapixel panoramas, videos of course instructors explaining field-site features, and more have created quality online learning experiences with added cool factor. “I want students to be able to interact with high-quality visualizations without the frustrations of low-resolution images or poor quality audio,” says Young.

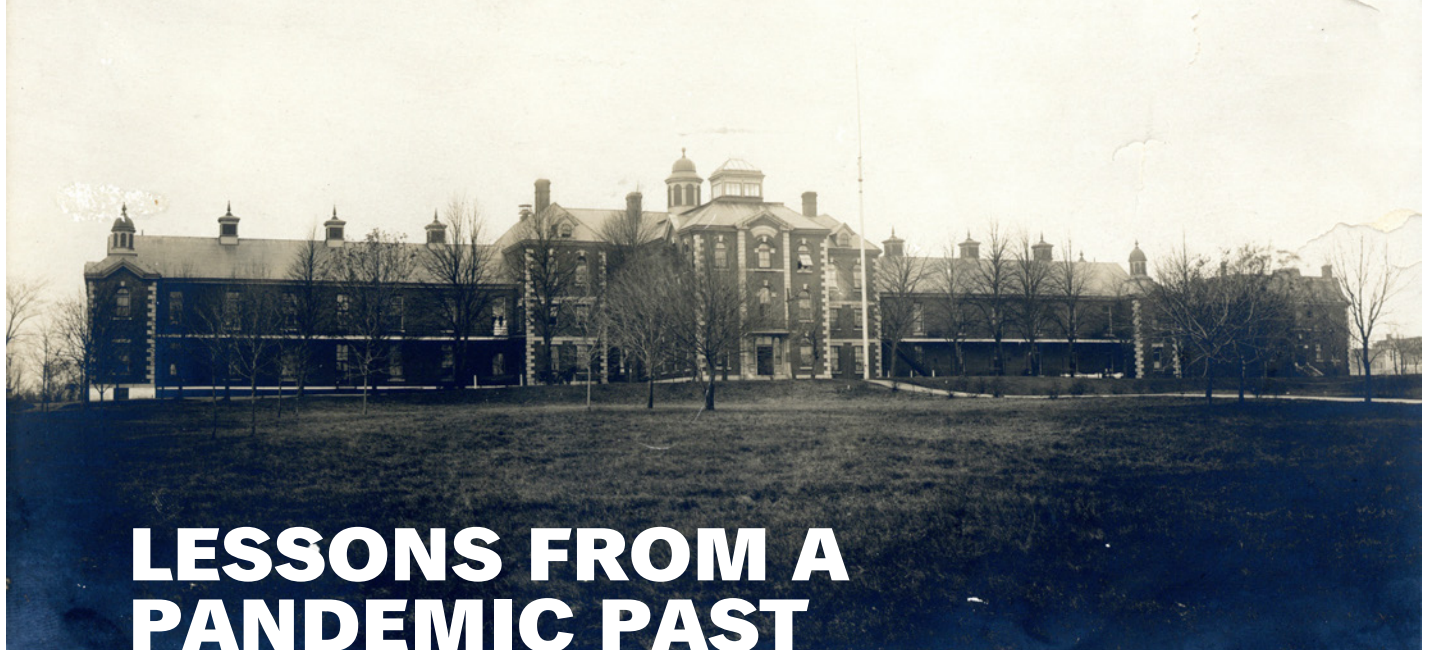
a bit different. Research can have a slow pace, but with the pressures of COVID-19, we don’t have that luxury of a slow pace anymore.”

The primary change for Dr. Vanberkel’s students has been the shift from in-person observational work at hospitals to remote consultation. “Students usually have office time in the hospital a few times a week so they can see and observe and understand how things work. That piece went away. It meant doing business a bit differently. It meant we had to rely a bit more on being told what was happening instead of getting to observe it ourselves.”

Other labs across Dal, while not researching COVID-19 specifically, have had to adapt their protocols and best practices as well, ensuring that students can continue to build their research careers but in a way that’s as safe as possible.



First-year Chemistry students take part in virtual, interactive experiments that enable them to make real-time observations.

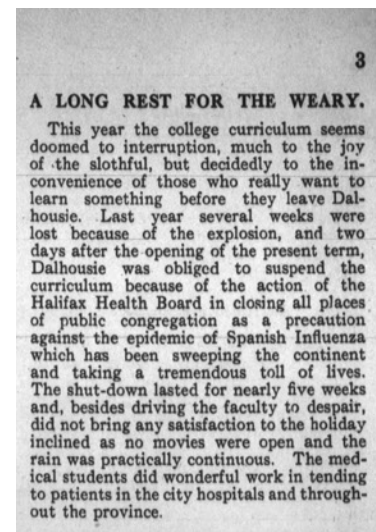


LESSONS FROM A PANDEMIC PAST

This past winter was not the first time Dalhousie has had to halt in-person classes due to a global pandemic—and, more than a century ago, there certainly wasn't any online learning to turn to. By Ryan McNutt

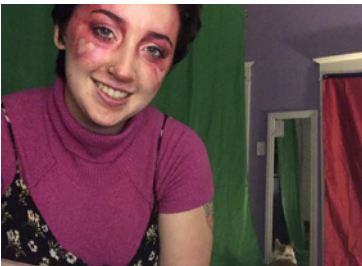
THE SO-CALLED “SPANISH flu” arrived in Nova Scotia in the fall of 1918, carried by soldiers returning from World War I. Dal classes were shut down entirely for five weeks in September on orders of the Halifax Health Board as a measure to contain the spread. It took the province’s fledgling health infrastructure a few weeks to gear up in response to the pandemic, and an estimated 2,200 Nova Scotian lives were tragically lost (more than in the 1917 Halifax explosion), but efforts like isolation orders and shutting down of public spaces made a big difference: Nova Scotia’s death rate from the virus was among the lowest in North America. Credit a health-care system that took smart advice from other jurisdictions (Boston, in particular) and from leadership that included Halifax mayor Arthur C. Hawkins—himself a medical physician.

If you’re wondering what the aftermath of our current pandemic may look like, the 1918 pandemic offers a hopeful precedent. The decade that followed marked a bold new era in the advancement in public health, beginning with the creation of both the federal and Nova Scotia departments of health in 1919 and continuing locally with investments at Dalhousie for a new Infectious Disease Hospital and Tuberculosis Hospital as well as the construction and opening of the Dalhousie Public Health Clinic (now the Clinical Research Centre on University Avenue). And successful public health measures from the time became the foundation on which efforts to address viral outbreaks were built—from H1N1 and SARS through to COVID-19 today.



(TOP) Victoria General Hospital in 1918, at the height of the Spanish Flu pandemic. (BOTTOM) A clipping from *The Dalhousie Gazette* from the same period, commenting on the interruption to studies caused by the pandemic.

Possibilities in Performance



Rather than centering on what can't be done in light of the shift to online learning this fall, Jacqueline Warwick and her colleagues in Dal's Fountain School of Performing Arts are choosing instead to flip the narrative. "We are finding the things that we can do now that we couldn't or wouldn't necessarily do before," says Dr. Warwick, the school's director. "How can we make this really remarkable?"

One way is by reimagining how students train and prepare for live performances, a central aspect of the learning process in the performing arts. In a typical year, the Fountain School produces four plays, an opera, roughly a dozen major concerts and dozens of smaller chamber performances—all featuring student performers. And while that production frequency will be scaled back this year, those performances that do go ahead will offer unique new learning experiences for students.

For instance, for its first theatrical production of the year, the Fountain School will be undertaking a virtual reimagining of *Concord Floral*, a 2016 Canadian play based on an Italian Renaissance classic *The Decameron* about a group of people surviving the plague. Although chosen before the

onset of the current pandemic and originally envisioned for the stage, sound and set design and costume work will now be carried out remotely with students using tablets and phones to interact with each other during the performance. Dr. Warwick says audiences can expect a "meaningful and moving" production, which will now be livestreamed for audiences. "When the mold breaks, it's terrifying. But then we get to make up new ways of being and make new strategies and plans," she says.

Students can also expect exciting new learning opportunities through even more compelling master classes this fall. A regular component of the Fountain School curriculum (thanks to funding from the Fountain family), Dr. Warwick says holding the sessions virtually now expands the school's ability to bring in people from performance hot spots such as Los Angeles and London.

In Dr. Warwick's view, artists will be crucial in the months and years ahead. "This is an opportunity like no other to figure out, 'How are we going to get through this?' And I really do think artists are going to lead the way and our students are going to help us learn how to live in this new world that we suddenly find ourselves in."

LEFT TO RIGHT: Emma James in her at-home rehearsal space; Fountain School of Performing Arts student Aquila Wibisono's rehearsal space; Christian Ludwig Hansen works in his rehearsal space; Dr. Jacqueline Warwick says "Our students are going to help us learn how to live in this new world that we find ourselves in."

Connecting & Celebrating

Ramadan Iftar goes virtual: In May, the Dalhousie community and family and friends around the world joined together for a virtual Ramadan Iftar, the fast-breaking meal after sunset at the end of Ramadan. A joint effort between Dal Connects, Residence, the Muslim Students' Association, Dal Security, Human Rights & Equity Services and the International Centre, the event's organizing committee took great care to make sure Muslim community members—both on and off campus—felt supported and celebrated this year.



Food delivery during Ramadan made possible, safely, thanks to the work of Dal Security, Dal Safe Ambassadors and members of Dal's Residence team.

Celebrating graduates: Virtual celebrations, video messages, platforms to share congratulatory messages and more have all become part of 2020's approach to celebrating graduations. Among Dal's special events: a music video recording of Heave Away, created and performed by Dalhousie alumni, faculty and staff, and a virtual Barley Party for the Agricultural Campus, where students celebrated receiving their Barley Rings, a symbol of graduation from the Faculty of Agriculture.

Pride & perseverance: When Pride arrived in Nova Scotia in July, COVID-19 precautions required a different approach to a time of celebration, with most Dalhousie Pride activities shifted online. "It's really important to remember how Pride started," said Trulee Love, president of the LGBTQ2SIA+ student society DalOUT at the Instagram livestreamed kick-off event on Studley Campus. "It is to commemorate the fight for our rights, the fight that we still have to continue, and the fight for communities that may not be our own." A flag raising event was also held on the Agricultural Campus.

Don't stop the music: Two recent grads from Dal's Fountain School of Performing Arts, Andrew Coll (BM'16) and Neven Prostran (MA'17), helped take the Scotia Festival of Music, a two-week chamber music festival, online under the moniker "Scotial Distancing 2020." Both work for the festival and coordinated the production of the livestreamed performances. When they reviewed archival footage, they quickly realized they could supplement live performances and have enough material for 14 nights of content. The events were so successful that Scotia Festival of Music is working on equipping The Music Room venue with permanent live streaming gear so that they can be a resource in the future for the broader arts community to broadcast performances to the world.



The pandemic has meant a shift to remote teaching and learning for many courses, a shift that could make Dalhousie programs and courses accessible to more students than in the past.

How can we best prime students for life as business professionals? That's the underlying objective in Carolan McLarney's Business in a Global Context course, a large first-year class aimed at undergraduate students interested in business.

While the answer to the question naturally shifts from year to year as the world itself changes, 2020 brought about a more dramatic upheaval than most as the pandemic battered economies and reshaped the way business is done. Remote work became the norm for many businesses and organizations, a trend that seems to have stuck in some cases even after restrictions loosened and a way of working that could become the new normal in the event of future outbreaks.

Dr. McLarney says her course this fall provides an opportunity for students to hone their digital savvy to meet the needs of this new era, given that—like most other courses at Dal—it's being taught entirely online. "If anybody can work anywhere in the world now, then if you are exceptionally good at doing remote work, the possibilities for you as an employee are endless," says Dr. McLarney. "That's what we'll be trying to teach them."

Value in the Virtual

Adapting a course for hundreds of students, including a large contingent of international students positioned in different countries and time zones, was no small feat. Dr. McLarney made a point of incorporating both synchronous (happening at a specific time) and asynchronous (can be accessed anytime) elements into the course to allow students flexibility. She holds two live synchronous lectures each Thursday, which are then made available as recordings. Students are divided into smaller groups for tutorials, which this year are pre-recorded and available each Friday. And rather than office hours, students book individual appointments.

"I think in a way this move to online is going to make us much better for every student," she says. "I speak very quickly, and for students whose first language isn't English, I think it can be a little overwhelming. So, wouldn't it be great if you could just go back a few frames or go forward or pause and make some notes? This

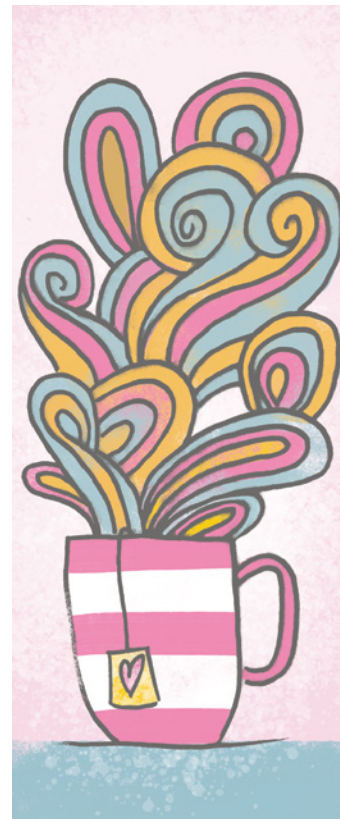
will probably make my course much more accessible."

What won't change are expectations of students. They'll still be required to give presentations, do group work, take part in a business simulation, present themselves professionally, and complete assignments on time—only now, they'll do so virtually. Even an annual networking event that's organized in partnership with Dal's Management Career Services is moving online, with students being offered opportunities to drop into different rooms and meet representatives from various companies.

If this fall is done well across the university, Dr. McLarney says, it could reveal a major opportunity to grow Dal's student population and equalize education. "If we get very good at this, then we can reach parts of the world and portions of the population who don't have access to education," she says. "Wouldn't that be just remarkable?"

Coping with uncertainty

Need help keeping calm and carrying on?
Try these strategies. *By Stefanie Wilson*



IT FELT LIKE it only took moments for everything to change. One minute we had plans, the next they were cancelled—with no idea when they'd be rescheduled. The COVID-19 pandemic upended routine and created a global uncertainty like nothing we've seen in generations. "This is a novel, unpredictable and ambiguous stressor," says Dal's



Dr. Simon Sherry, director of clinical training in Psychology and Neuroscience. "In the current times, uncertainty abounds." Fortunately, there are some reliable strategies we can use to cope with the uncertainty that surrounds us.

Log off

Dal psychiatrist Dr. Adriana Wilson suggests that we start by regulating how often we engage with potential danger signals like news and social media. "Our brains are primed to pay attention to and encode potential threats more strongly than positive experiences," she explains. "When we are constantly surrounded by danger

signals, our fight-flight-freeze system is chronically activated and we don't function optimally." Dr. Wilson recommends limiting information checking to give your body and brain time to recover.

"In a search for certainty, people turn to their phone to check and research and they get locked in a feedback loop that creates more anxiety," says Dr. Sherry. His suggestion? "Conduct a behavioural experiment," he says. "If I believe that I need to check my phone several times a day to be on top of the latest information, what would happen, as an experiment, if I didn't check my phone and just let it sit? I think I would learn it was okay."

Focus on what you can control

"Since the pandemic started, I have been writing down three things daily that are in my control," shares Dr. Wilson. That's because focusing on what is in our control allows us to return to a state of safety where we are most able to problem-solve, be creative, connect with one another and rest and recover from the stressors of our day.

Dr. Sherry says the pandemic helped to clarify values. "For me the clarification was around the importance of family, health and freedom. You realize what's really important when there's an involuntary narrowing of your life." One of the results has been impressive displays of caring and altruism as people took control by making decisions that had the greater public good in mind.

Make a connection

We are a social species, so we need connection to thrive.

"We've had to be quite flexible about finding new ways to connect, whether visiting loved ones through a window, from six feet apart, via text or by telephone," says Dr. Wilson. "That's okay—how we connect matters less than ensuring we connect, regularly."

Dr. Sherry agrees, "One of the ways to cope can be to look outward for those people who need your help: getting an elderly neighbour groceries or reaching out to someone who might be suffering."

Have a schedule

Structure and predictability bring comfort and feelings of safety. Structure is also important to ensure we keep moving forward. As Dr. Sherry explains, "Uncertainty can become paralyzing, to the point it stops purposeful, active decision-making and constructive coping. At some point, you have to behave in a brave way and move forward even in the face of uncertainty."

And Dr. Wilson reminds us to include the things we know are good for us, like connection time, exercise, mindfulness or music.

Create a playlist

Speaking of music, sound is one of the most direct pathways to regulating our state. Dr. Wilson recommends having a playlist of music that helps us feel calm, one that evokes feelings of nostalgia to provide comfort and, for when we feel stuck, one that makes us want to move or sing.

Get moving

It's on every wellness list for a reason: our bodies need to

move to be healthy. Exercise, whether it is going for a daily walk, dancing in your kitchen, going for a bike ride or a swim, is one of the most powerful determinants of our mental and physical health. During times of uncertainty, exercise has the added benefit of offering an outlet for some of the baseline activation of our fight-flight system.

One of Dr. Wilson's favorite exercise activities for anyone who is feeling agitated is ball slams. "Any soccer-sized ball will do, or a weighted ball if you prefer a bit more challenge. You pick it up over your head with both arms and slam it on the ground as hard as you can. Repeat until you feel the energy has passed."

Practice gratitude

One of the many benefits of gratitude is directing our focus away from threat and onto appreciation. Dr. Wilson recommends noting three things you are grateful for daily. "No repeats: it forces us to be more specific," she explains. "It can be the difference between saying we are grateful for our kids, versus being grateful we were able to read them stories and tuck them in. The specificity typically elicits a stronger outcome."

We can also be grateful for this chance to learn about us and our communities. As Dr. Sherry points out, "while pandemics clarify values, pandemics also expose cracks. While pandemics highlight strengths, pandemics also reveal vulnerabilities. And so, pandemics are difficult teachers but very instructive."



WINNING WAYS

Meet the 2020 Aurum Award winners—a group of Dalhousie alumni recognized for their outstanding successes in innovation, community engagement and leadership. *By Mark Campbell*



Denise Pothier (BENG'93) has distinguished herself through her advocacy for inclusion and diversity. For 20 years, she has been advancing inclusivity in the engineering field, motivated as much by her own experiences in a male-dominated profession as by her Acadian and Mi'kmaq heritage. Currently she is the vice-president of practice services and Indigenous relations at Stantec.

Advancing inclusion

WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

"By appealing to their hearts and minds. It could be something they are impacted by, or something they imagine coming true, but when you touch hearts and minds, that's where it all begins."

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE YOU FACE IN WHAT YOU DO?

"Balancing the Eurocentric or western way of knowing and learning with the traditional Indigenous ways of knowing, or 'two-eyed seeing,' a term Mi'kmaq elder Albert Marshall came up with 15 years ago."

WHAT IS THE BEST PART OF WHAT YOU DO FOR A LIVING?

"It's the ability to connect with the global community. Stantec has operations around the world and that has exposed me to invaluable perspectives and knowledge that I can draw on."



For 20 years, neurologist and chemist Sultan Darvesh (MD'88) has searched for a key to unlocking the mystery of Alzheimer's disease, leading a team of researchers at Dalhousie in groundbreaking work that could be a gamechanger for millions of people living with the disease.

Probing Alzheimer's mysteries

HOW DO YOU KNOW IF AN IDEA IS WORTH PURSUING?

"I first thought butyrylcholinesterase [an enzyme] had potential as a therapeutic target for Alzheimer's disease about 25 years ago. But it took ten years of background work just to determine that it was worth pursuing. So, reflection and research are how I know."

WHAT IS THE FIRST THING YOU DO EVERY DAY?

"I plan out my day, writing it down when I get to my lab. When I go home, I check to see how well I did. If I accomplished six things out of a list of 10, I feel pretty good."

WHAT IS THE BEST PART OF WHAT YOU DO FOR A LIVING?

"I particularly enjoy the clinical teaching and research. To see that spark in the eyes of the graduate students and young people I work with is worth everything to me. Sometimes it's also the ways that they inspire me."

As the chair and CEO of Triangle Strategies, Robert Zed (MHSA'86) has helped connect companies that specialize in innovative health-care technologies with health industry decision-makers. As a community leader, he's a passionate advocate for mental health and a mentor to students in Dalhousie's Faculty of Health.

Corporate connector

WHAT IS THE ONE PIECE OF ADVICE YOU LIKE TO PASS ALONG TO OTHERS? "You have two ears, two eyes and one mouth, so watch and listen closely before you make a decision or offer your opinion on something."

HOW DO IDEAS COME TO YOU? "Usually it's eureka moments, but those moments are based on watching trends and having a gut reaction, or just thinking about what a better future could look like."

WHAT IS THE FIRST THING YOU DO EVERY DAY? THE LAST? "The first thing I do is say good morning to my wife, or text her good morning because I travel a lot. As for the last thing, I am now in the habit of being mindful, so I put my devices away and think about what I am grateful for from my day."



For more than 35 years, Doug Reid (BCOMM'82) has been helping entrepreneurs future-proof their businesses. That experience has made him a vital ally in community building, not just raising funds for health care and culture, but also developing the next generation of leaders.

Mentoring entrepreneurs

WHAT ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS TO ENCOURAGE IN A COMMUNITY? "Caring, a love for one another and equality. I also like to see an ambition to be better, or an intent to enrich everyone's life and well-being. Those are top of mind for me."

WHAT'S THE BEST ADVICE YOU EVER RECEIVED? "My dad used to say, 'Always wear really good shoes and always have really good tires on your car.' Bad footwear leads to bad posture, leg and back issues, among other health problems. Bad tires will land you in a ditch or an accident. It was his way of saying stay connected, and well grounded. My daughter is driving now, so those words come to mind."

WHAT IS THE BEST PART OF WHAT YOU DO FOR A LIVING? "Helping others. It's not just the work I do as a public accountant; it's also the fact that I get to mentor and develop talent as a partner in the firm. It's one of the most rewarding things I do."

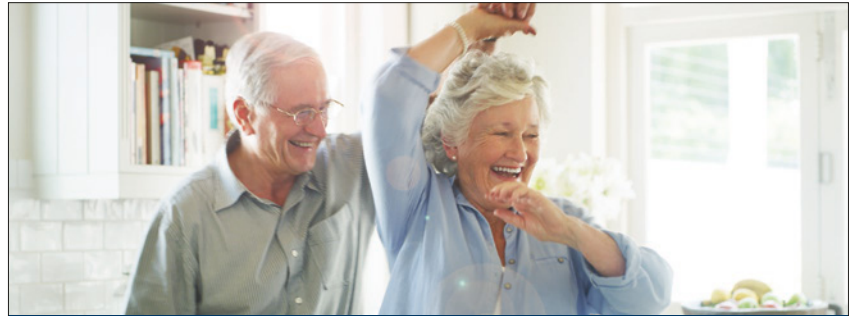
Showcasing alumni achievement

It would not be possible to celebrate our Aurum Award winners if not for the generous nominations that we receive each year. Last year, we had a record number of submissions. Thank you to everyone who contributed. As a global community of more than 150,000 individuals, we are inspired to learn the many ways our alumni are helping to build a better world.

"We celebrate our alumni not only because we are incredibly proud of their accomplishments, but it is also important to share their stories and highlight the impact they are making. Through the development of new ideas, knowledge sharing and their commitment to giving back, they are truly impacting our world," says Sheila Blair-Reid (BCOMM'86), assistant vice-president, Alumni and External Engagement.

We are now seeking nominations for the 2021 Aurum Awards. Please see page 50 for more details on how to nominate yourself or a classmate today.
—Fallon Bourgeois

The 2020 Aurum Award recognition event didn't take place this spring due to the pandemic. We look forward to a time in the future when we can gather to celebrate our winners. Visit alumni.dal.ca/Aurum2020 to learn more about the inspiring work of our 2020 winners.



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CLASS NOTES

Tell classmates what you've been up to: Email classnotes@dal.ca or go to alumni.dal.ca/class-notes

1960s

'68

Dennis Taylor, BSC, has published his fourth genealogy book, this one for his

maternal grandfather's family line: *A Genealogy of Nova Scotia's South Shore GELDERTs and their descendants across the United States and*

Canada. The book lists ten generations, from Richard Leonard Geldert of England, who arrived in New York in 1774, though to his descendants now residing throughout Canada and the United States. From New York, the early generations disbursed via Liverpool, the town known for its privateers on the south shore of Nova Scotia, to Lunenburg, Windsor, Halifax, Truro, Pictou, and elsewhere in Nova Scotia. From Nova Scotia they spread back into and across the United States and across Canada. Not only are the standard genealogical facts such as birth, marriage, and death dates provided, but stories of many of his 720 direct Geldert relatives are included, as well as several other Dal grads.

as well and applies to disputes with any country that exports shellfish to the EU. The method is already the official testing method of the World Health Organization and the Food and Agricultural Organization of the UN. On an artistic note, Jim was honoured and privileged to have participated with master sculptor, R. Breault-Landry in the creation of a relief sculpture honouring Nichola Goddard, the first Canadian female soldier to be killed in active combat. The piece will be displayed in the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa.

1970s

'78

Vic Perry, BENG, MASC'83, was appointed President/COO of ceEntek North America, effective January 1, 2020. In his new role he will oversee the ceEntek activities in the United States and Canada. He has been instrumental in building the UHPC market over the past 20 years globally and in North America as Head of Ductal (Lafarge) North America.

'69

Jim Lawrence, BSC, PHD'72, had his method for testing shellfish for certain paralytic toxins pass into law in the European Union. Member countries must use the method for resolving trade disputes involving shellfish. It has a worldwide impact



Students protest education funding cuts in 1999. Can you identify any of the students in the photo? If so, email us at editor@dal.ca.

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"We wanted to give a gift that—even if modest—would grow over time and live in perpetuity."

— MICHAEL MOOSBERGER



1980s

'85

Andrew Ager, BMUS, had the Ottawa premiere of his opera "Frankenstein" in an acclaimed production last fall. The opera was directed by his wife Suzanne Bassett. On Nov 13-14, 2020, his company, Ager Productions Inc., will produce the world premiere of his opera "Dracula" at the Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre in Ottawa. Planned future productions include Puccini's

"Gianni Schicchi" and Ager's own opera "Montreal," set in the underworld of that city in the 1970s.

'87

Robert A. Balcom, LLB/MBA, graduated from Faculty of Law, University of Toronto at the 2019 Fall Convocation with a Master of Laws specializing in international business law. He is the General Counsel of Wittington Investments, Limited, a holding company of the Weston family. Prior to his current

role, Rob held senior legal positions with George Weston and Loblaw Companies. Rob lives in Toronto with his wife, Shari, and their children, Leah (BSCR'18), Brett and Carlie.

'87

Denise Trim, BENG, MENG'99, became Director General for Real Property Management at RCMP in June 2019. After six years working in a broader context at RCMP it was time to move back to real property. It's a

challenging job, great place to work and lots to do!

1990s

'96

Wendy Stewart, BSC, DDH'01, was announced as president-elect for the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association and will take up her new role in October 2020. Wendy is a part-time faculty member in the Faculty of Dentistry.

2000s

'02

Brenda Hogan, MBA, has been appointed the Chief Investment Officer of the Ontario Capital Growth Corporation.

'02

Leigh Lampert, LLB/MBA, recently establish his own business law practice, Lampert LawGiC in Toronto. This comes after working for many years in politics and then as in-house counsel to various companies.

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'03

Dillan Theckedath, MBA, is finishing his term as Visiting Research Director at the Canadian Audit & Accountability

Foundation where he was responsible for developing a best practices guide entitled *How Researchers Assigned to Public Accounts Committees Can Strengthen Oversight*, for use across Canadian and foreign jurisdictions.

'07

Alex MacLellan, MPA, has been accepted to Carleton University's PhD in Public Policy.



Thank you to all who wrote in to help us identify the people in this photo. They are Transition Year Program students in the early 1970s. Back: Kerry Best, Sandra (nee Oliver) Miller, Allister Coward, Lynn Jones, Ronnie Sparks. Middle: Beverley (nee Johnson) McFadden, Norma Williams. Front: Herbie Desmond, Keith Marshal, Danny Williams, Lex Bizzeth. Absent: Roxanne Barton

The Fountain School of Performing Arts Fall 2020 Theatre productions

CONCORD FLORAL by Jordan Tannahill
Directed by Ann-Marie Kerr, October 13-17

"The intense suspense of the story of Concord Floral aligns beautifully with a virtual production as the characters - from the privacy of their bedrooms - tell the story of 10 teenagers who grapple with the plague of their guilty conscience, reveal their secrets, and together come to the truth of a past violent event."

MACHINAL by Sophie Treadwell
Directed by Jure Gantar, December 1-5

Though its plot is based on a real-life crime, Sophie Treadwell's Machinal is so much more than a documentary account of a sensationalist story. It is a play about loneliness and belonging, identity and anonymity, modernity and tradition. In a world where we are all struggling with feeling isolated and helpless, one young woman's quest to find happiness seems strangely familiar.

Fall theatre productions will be presented online.
Please visit our website for links dal.ca/FSPAseason



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Fountain School of
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The Faculty of Computer Science is collaborating with institutions from across the globe to further its equity, diversity and inclusion agenda, particularly focusing on women in technology.

Appointments & Retirements

Dr. David Gray, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, will serve on the Steering Committee of the North American Agricultural Advisory Network. This network links existing agricultural extension communities with one another and with stakeholders in Canada, Mexico and the United States.

Dr. Binod Sundararajan has agreed to serve as interim director of the Rowe School of Business from June 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Dr. Sundararajan is widely recognized for his teaching excellence, has extensive online teaching experience and has been an active participant in articulating the future structure of the School.

The Dal-led Ocean Frontier Institute (OFI) has appointed **Catherine Blewett** as its first chief strategic engagement officer. Blewett comes to the OFI after a long and distinguished career in provincial and federal public service, most recently as Deputy Clerk of the Privy Council and Associate Secretary to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's cabinet.

Awards & Honours

Dr. Hélène Deacon (Faculty of Science) and **Dr. Rita Orji** (Faculty of Computer Science) have been named as new members of the RSC College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists.

Dr. Sarah Burm (Continuing Professional Development and Medical Education)

has received an Insight Development Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) for her research exploring the complex realities of medical student selection.

Congratulations to **Dr. Amy Bombay** (Department of Psychiatry and School of Nursing), for being named the 2020 recipient of the Dalhousie University Faculty Award for Excellence in Education for Diversity.

Schulich Law **Professor Joanna Erdman** received a 2020 Presidents Research Impact Award. Her research focuses on sexual and reproductive health law in a transnational context.

Schulich Law **Professor Adelina Iftene** received a 2020 Presidents Research Excellence Award for Emerging Investigator. Her research and writing focuses on vulnerable prison populations, prison policies, criminal law, and health.

Congratulations to five of Dal's world-class researchers who have been recognized by the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) for their outstanding scholarly, scientific and artistic achievements. **Dr. Leonard Diepeveen** (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences), **Jennifer Llewellyn** (Schulich School of Law) and **Dr. Douglas Wallace** (Faculty of Science) have been name Fellows of the RSC.

Dr. Lois Jackson (Faculty of Health) has been awarded the prestigious designation of University Research Professor, a designation that is an acknowledgement of a faculty member's research



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productivity and impact. Dr. Jackson has devoted her career to the improvement of health among marginalized populations including women involved in the sex industry, people who use substances, and youth (particularly young women) living in rural places.

Dr. Erin Johnson (Faculty of Science) has received the 2020 Rutherford Memorial Medal in Chemistry, awarded for outstanding research during the formative stage of a career in any branch of chemistry. Dr. Johnson is recognized internationally as a rapidly rising star in theoretical chemistry, where computational tools are used to model chemistry at the atomic level.

Community & Connections

The **Faculty of Agriculture** has created a keepsake cookbook, *Better Together*, compiled of favourite recipes and prepared with basic ingredients and pantry staples. This book will be a constant reminder to appreciate the simple things in life—together.

A Promise Scholars program launched by the **Faculty of Management** will provide much-needed support to Black and Indigenous students. The program will provide financial aid, paid work experience and personalized academic and career mentoring to Black and Indigenous students, with a preference for African Nova Scotian and Mi'kmaq students


and additional priority given to first generation students from low-income backgrounds.

At **ShiftKey Lab's** latest hackathon, students and professionals came together remotely to find solutions to challenges brought by COVID-19 such as combating loneliness, making COVID-19 screening easier for remote communities and mitigating fake news.

The **Faculty of Computer Science** will spend the next year collaborating with institutions from across the globe to further its equity, diversity and inclusion agenda, particularly focusing on women in technology, through the world-leading BRAID Affiliates program.

Dr. Garth Coffin, Class of '60 and former principal **NSAC** has published the book *A Boy from Cherry Hill*, a story of a lad who grew up on a small farm in Prince Edward Island, and recounts his experiences and highlights his good fortune while attending university in both Canada and the U.S.

CDL-Atlantic, housed at the Rowe School of Business, is doubling its size by launching a second specialty stream focused on Oceans for the 2020-21 cohort year. A wide range of international experts have committed to mentor ocean startups for the nine-month, objectives-based program.

 **Social events, lectures and more—find out what your faculty alumni team offers at alumni.dal.ca/faculties**

Dr. Sarah Burm (NEAR RIGHT) has received funding for research exploring the complex realities of medical student selection. Dr. Amy Bombay (FAR RIGHT) is the recipient of a Dal Faculty Award for Excellence in Education for Diversity.



NICK PEARCE, DANIEL ABRIEL



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IN MEMORIAM

**We remember
with fondness and
sorrow the following
Dalhousie alumni
(based on information
received between
February and August
2020).**

1940s

Mary MacNeil Sellers,
BA'43

Clara M. Galway, DDIP'44

Jean Rankin Dexter,
DPHRM'45

Katherine Willah
Messervy, LCMUS'46

Thomas I. M.
MacNaughton, DDIP'46

Mary Josephine
Eisenhauer, BSC'46

George Wilson
Anderson, MSC'47

John Alwyn Simms,
BA'48

Robert Peter Harrison,
BENG'48

Gerald W. Friars, DDIP'48

Charles Ervin McCurdy,
BCOMM'49

1950s

Beryl Beverley Biefer,
BA'50

James Angus MacKay,
BCOMM'50

Kenneth Allan Morrison,
BA'50

Patrick Noel Kyte,
BENG'50

Walter Frank Cook,
DDS'50

Lloyd Roscoe Gesner,
BA'51

Isabel Jane Henderson,
LCMUS'52

William Murdoch
Adamson, BSC'52

Charles Robert
Johnston, BA'52

Hazel Ruth Locke, BA'52

John Gordon Bowes,
BCOMM'52

Marion Laura Taylor,
BSC'53

William Laurence Jones,
BCOMM'53

Morris Aulden Barss,
BA'54

Alan Ordway Garcelon,
BCOMM'54

Irving Herschel Koven,
MD'54

Thomas Norman Hall,
BCOMM'55

John Patrick Nowlan,
LLB'55

Victor F. Burstall, LLB'55

John E. MacNintch,
DDIP'56

Gordon Keith Dimock,
MD'56

Hughie Lum Yee,
BENG'56

D. Keith Robinson,
MSC'56

Albert D. Smith, DDIP'57

Albert Thomas Isaacs,
BENG'57

Rodney Montague
Bergh, MD'57

James Wesley Carson,
DDS'57

Douglas MacLean
Fraser, MSC'57

Daniel Merlin Nunn,
LLB'57

Robert King Greenlaw,
MD'58

Clifford Joel Smith,
BENG'58

Donald Gordon Laing,
BENG'58

Winifred Scott Simons,
BA'58

Joseph Adrien Jean
Forget, LLB'59

Cyrus Joseph MacLellan,
BENG'59

John Emmett Berrigan,
BENG'59

Raymond John Wong,
BENG'59

1960s

Allan Lawson Pace,
BCOMM'60

George A. Mauger,
FRC'60

Frank William Marshall,
BCOMM'60

Phillip A. Harrison,
DDIP'60

William Austin
MACDOUGALL, BSC'60

John MacDonald
JOHNSTON, LLB'61

Gerald Wilbur Brinton
Warren, MD'61

Joyce Eileen Mullins,
DTSN'62

Alan Bruce Ward, MD'62

Roland Arthur Langille,
MD'63

David Joseph Parker,
BENG'63

Brenda Eve MacDougall
Fong, DTSN'63

Leslie Harold Caslake,
DDS'63

Moise Cleophas
Cormier, MA'64

Linda Sharon Fox Nevin,
BED'64

Marion Elizabeth Boyer,
BA'64

Fraser Harvey Farmer,
BENG'64

Necia Joyce Amys, BA'66

Judith Ann MacNeil,
MSW'66

Joseph Lloyd Phillips,
BENG'66

Kim Edward Hong,
MD'66

Ian Hart Palmer, DDS'67

Peter Wallace Cornu,
DED'68

Harris Stuart Dunn,
BA'68

Linda Annie Murphy,
DPT'69

Jackson Banford Robert
McAllister, BED'69

Thomas Sai-Tao Chui,
PGM'69

1970s

Joan Elizabeth Legge,
DNSA'70

Marion Ruth David,
MA'70

Elizabeth Estella Grzesik,
BED'70

Dale Patrick McMahon,
MD'70

Carl William Trider,
BSCPH'71

Allister Watson Carter,
MD'71

Michael Gordon Grieves,
BA'71

John David Matheson,
BA'72

Gerald Lester Hartling,
MA'72

Janet Louise Mary Boyle,
BED'72

Margaret Ann Ferguson,
MLS'72

John Edward
Cruickshank, BSCPH'72

Charles Eugene Poulain,
BSCPH'73

Margaret Mary (Latimer)
Power, BA'73

Mary Assumpta
Matthews, BSCPH'73

Garry Harding Gregory,
BCOMM'73

William Gordon Lea,
LLB'73

Thomas James Maher,
BSCPH'73

Mary Burbidge
Helleiner, LLB'74

Andrew Lyle Smith,
BED'74

James W. Rodger,
BENG'74

Mark Walter Miller,
MD'75

Gregory D. Demings,
BENG'75

Sharon Elaine
Pieniaszek, BA'75

Michael William Gillett,
BA'76

Leila Ann Hebb, MSW'76

Aleem Hosein Ibrahim,
BSC'76

Lynne Beverley Currie,
BN'76

Darrell James
MacGregor, BPE'76

Gregory Earle Oxner,
BA'76

Hugh Alexander
Corston, BED'76

Corinne Winnifred
Harland, BA'77

Sandra Joy Oliver, BA'77

Bertha Joyce Dougall,
DPH'77

Joyce Diana Conrad,
MA'78

Gordon Frank
Proudfoot, LLB'78

Elizabeth May Coupar,
BSC'79



No surprise, most of us won't celebrate this many.

It might surprise you to learn that in 2016, there were over 8,000 centenarians in Canada*. As Canadians, we're fortunate to enjoy a high life expectancy, yet no one ever really knows what the future will bring.

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* Source: The Star, 100-Year Old Canadians Fastest-Growing Age Group In The Country, 2017.

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David Clarence Reid,
BPE'79

Gerard Alexander
MacDonald, TECH'79

Glen Maureen
Flemming, MBA'79

Helen Isabelle Russell,
BN'79

1980s

Conrad James Enman,
LLB'80

Irene Kathleen
Dempster, MED'80

Marion Anne Glasgow,
BED'81

Gage Bruce Edward
Montgomery, MD'81

Donald Kenneth Archer,
BCOMM'81

Douglas Burt Fulmore,
BSC'81

Linda Jean Cleyle,
MPA'83

George Gary Evans,
BA'83

Harold Edward Pearse,
PHD'84

Jack Sandy Tse, LLB'84

Herve Paul-Marie Le
Pierres, LLB'85

Barbara Ann Maas,
MBA'85

Alison Anne Lilian
Chipman, MLS'85

Nils Edward Kuusisto,
MLS'85

Elizabeth Jeanne
Goucher, BN'86

Lincoln Lowell MacLeod,
MES'87

Linda Sharon McDowell,
MSC'87

Walter C Termeer,
BSCA'89

Gina Marie Beaton,
BA'89

Mona Rae Tinkham,
MED'89

1990s

C. Ann Smith, MLIS'90

Sarah Johnson, CCH'90

Gerritje Hendrika
Feenstra, BN'91

Esther Morris Delta
Boyd, MED'92

Sandra Marie McKenzie,
CCS'92

Carmel Michelle
MacDonald, BA'93

Hugh John Murphy,
MBA'95

K. Anne Ward, MN'96

Keith Michael
MacSween, BENG'97

Mark Steven Lowther,
BENG'97

Jennifer Ann
MacKinnon, BCOMM'99

Willem H. McRobie,
BA'99

2000s

Charles Garnet Wheeler,
BA'00

Nancy Lynn Yeats,
MPA'00

James Richard Burke,
MBA'02

Kelly Susan Michelle
Currie, MN'03

Shane D. Beattie, PHD'04

David Bruce Fraser,
PGM'06

Jennifer Rose Casey,
BA'07

2010s

Michael Alexander Brott,
BA'10

Sylvia L. Gillard, MN'16

Luke Edward Hattie,
MSC'20

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8062-0220

Conversation starter

Keilidh Corkill was excited when she learned she was selected for the TD Community Leadership Scholarship, but she wasn't surprised. "I had confidence in myself and I knew I'd done something that was really important by bringing attention to this issue," she explains. Her journey to this accomplishment started when Keilidh decided to organize a day at J.L. Ilsley High School in Halifax to honour, remember and demand justice for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. The day included hanging red dresses around the school, asking students to wear red and screening a documentary during lunch. Though her Mi'kmaq roots made the topic personal, she believes it should be everyone's concern. "It's not over just because there was an inquiry, it will continue to be an issue until it's resolved," she says. This year, as she begins studying Science at Dalhousie, she's looking forward to spreading the message even further. "I hope to work with the Indigenous Student Centre to help get the word out." But her ambitions go beyond creating awareness. "It's important to honour and remember these women but it's also really important to discuss the solutions," she says. "This is a whole-society issue. We need to make sure there are adequate social supports that are accessible to Indigenous women. Regardless of what language, colour of hair or skin we have, we're all human. There's no reason someone should face violence or not have a meal on the table at the end of the day. It's unacceptable. Especially in Canada. And especially when it's happening to the people who have lived on this land longer than anyone else."

— Stefanie Wilson

"I believe the youth are the ones who have to take a stand on this—we are the next generation."



As we find new and innovative ways to stay connected with our Dalhousie community, we are offering more virtual experiences like **Open Dialogue Live**. The events are streamed on Facebook and provide an opportunity for viewers to engage during a Q&A portion following the discussion. To learn more, visit alumni.dal.ca/opendialogue.

**November
2020**

How has 2020 impacted STEM careers?

Women across Canada are still underrepresented in a range of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) related fields. What has the pandemic meant for their careers?

Relmagine Nova Scotia

Reimagining the future of Nova Scotia is important to all of us. Through research, conversations, and lessons learned, let's discover how we, as individuals and communities, can help the province move forward.

**December
2020**

The future of farming

What is the future of farming in Atlantic Canada — will we have robots in the fields? What role will farmers play, if any? How far will the technology go and how will the traditional roles change?

**January
2021**

Healthy at home

Working from home, studying from home, exercising from home — all can present challenges to our mental well-being. Health experts will discuss how to keep you and your family Healthy at Home while thriving in our new environment.

Co-learning with AI: Working side-by-side with intelligent machines

Artificial intelligence and machine-learning systems are already offering “informed” choices in many domains. When algorithms can interrogate vast data sets and come back with answers beyond human search abilities, how can we learn to ask better questions?

**February
2021**

Design and our health-care system

Learn about how Canadian and United States health-care designers are impacting how health centres function and how this has impacted health-care delivery before, during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Climate change adaptation and loss and damage: A look at climate litigation for future generations

Climate change is happening now. While careful planning for adaptation to climate change can reduce harm, there are increasing examples of climate loss and damage to people and planet both in Canada and around the globe. How can climate law and human rights approaches to litigation help to reduce and remedy climate harms for present and future generations?



Create enchanted memories at **Shirreff Hall.**

Available between **May and August** and only steps from the picturesque Northwest Arm, **Shirreff Hall** offers a one-of-a-kind, **all-inclusive** wedding package.

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