Coping with climate change | 15+ ways Dal has put Canada on the map | Wadih Fares (DipEng’78) on paying it forward
A proud Dalhousian – a meaningful legacy.

Frank Lovely is one of a growing number of our alumni who have a special role in shaping the past, present and future of Dalhousie University. In a very real way, his decision to include a bequest for Dentistry allows him to continue a meaningful, personal legacy.

Whatever your passion – be it funding a scholarship for a deserving student, giving to university outreach programs, or supporting research in a discipline that’s meaningful for you – we can help you realize it.

Planning ahead allows you to direct your gift and support the areas you value.

“Remembering Dentistry in my will is a great way to give back to Dalhousie. For me, it’s an opportunity to leave a legacy to the school that provided the foundation for a rewarding career and to enable future generations to become part of the alumni family.”

– Dr. Frank Lovely, DDS’59

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15+ ways Dal put Canada on the map
Get in the Canada Day spirit with a look at Dalhousie’s contributions to our country’s history, achievements and future
by Matt Semansky

The next chapter
As Dr. Richard Florizone steps into his new role as Dalhousie’s 11th president, he is keenly aware of the university’s story so far – and the challenges and opportunities in shaping it in the years ahead
by Ryan McNutt

It’s getting hotter: What do we do about it?
How Dal researchers are contributing to our understanding of – and planning for – climate change
by Chris Benjamin
(BComm’97)

Paying it forward
Escaping from a civil war in Lebanon to a country whose language he didn’t speak meant Wadid Fares (DipEng’78) had to depend on the kindness of many – something he’s never forgotten
by Mark Campbell

Canada’s banks step up
How the Big Five have contributed to Dal’s Bold Ambitions campaign
by Julia Watt

Legal aid
The Pamela and Andrew Brands Scholarship for first-year law students funds a unique overseas work experience
by Lisa Roberts (BA’95, MDE’03)

The quiet philanthropists
Fred and Elizabeth Fountain donate $10 million to establish a school of performing arts at Dalhousie
by Joanne Ward-Jerrett

Looking forward to the future: Convocation 2013 at the Truro campus
Better by example

For Dalhousie Alumni Association president Barrie Black (BA'71, LLB'71), it was Dr. Andrew MacKay. “He always had time for you and when he spoke, it was well thought out and beneficial in resolving the issue at hand.” (See story, p. 31.) For Mike Savage (BA'80), it was Professor Peter Waite. “He was a really traditional lecturer and used to walk back and forth in front of the class in his flowing academic robes, expounding on the history of Canada. I really appreciated his passion for history and how he was able to convey that to his students.” (See story, p. 7.)

As university graduates, we move into the future with a degree designation (sometimes two or three) attached to our names and noted on our resumes. But what we take away from our university experience is more complex: yes, there is the knowledge required to earn that degree, but more than that, we carry the memories of the professors who inspired us, the fellow students who engaged (and yes, sometimes enraged) us and the insights that came from being challenged, pushed, intrigued and delighted by the passion and perspectives of those we learned from and with. More often than not, it’s not a particular fact that stays with us. It’s the evidence of someone’s character – Dr. MacKay’s patience and respect, Professor Waite’s passion – that impresses itself upon us.

We don’t always see those lessons in the moment, when we’re distracted by the stress of the next exam or the pressures of completing that nearly-due assignment. Often it’s not until we’re looking back on our university experiences, after the years have erased many of the facts we crammed and the details of the texts we plowed through, that we see the real lessons that we learned, the lessons of fairness and respect and passion for knowledge.

There are many who would argue that a university education should make you smarter. But the lucky among us – those who have been fortunate enough to learn from a MacKay or a Waite or any number of other exceptional teachers – come away better. Better for having known them. And, one hopes, better for having integrated those character lessons into our own lives, using them, in some way, to better the world around us.

Who made you better? Share your memories of the Dalhousie professors and fellow students from whom you learned important lessons by emailing editor@dal.ca. We’ll share a selection of your submissions in an upcoming issue.
Guest view

Private sector investment in university research

Universities are the birthplace of innovation. The research efforts of academicians spawn the innovative pharmaceuticals, medical devices, software products and services of tomorrow. However, the route from laboratory bench to commercialization is typically a long, expensive and risky road.

Most investors have one main goal: return on investment, or ROI. Long timelines to an “exit event” – such as the sale of the company or a public equity issuance – increase risk and reduce ROI.

University-based researchers compete for investment capital from the same investor pool as more advanced investment opportunities. They’re up against young companies with management teams, and products nearer to commercialization which, at face value, present more attractive opportunities for investors.

And the competition for investment capital is fierce. Over a 12-year period, one of the world’s largest angel funding organizations reports that only 2% of qualifying applicant companies received funding. That means that 98% of the applicants were declined. With this fierce competition, and an available pool of seemingly attractive, more advanced investment opportunities, why would a company like York Bridge Capital invest in university-based research?

What many investors may see as too risky, too immature and with too many unfilled gaps, we (and other investors like us) see as an attractive investment opportunity. Of course, most of these opportunities are very early stage. But this provides us with the chance to shape the opportunity, to establish the initial management team, to set the business strategy and to be a partner with the researcher in getting it right from the beginning.

Our experience tells us that universities are potentially excellent partners for private sector investors. A university’s technology transfer office acts as an investment screening and due diligence partner, screening and scrubbing investment opportunities and providing the private sector investor with “the best” opportunities. This is a significant advantage over an investment opportunity presented directly to the investor by the entrepreneur.

Many university opportunities also come with a very significant amount of prior invested capital (in the form of funded research grants, etc.). This capital is typically “non-dilutive,” in that it isn’t added into the company’s initial capital base for initial valuation purposes. In simpler terms, this prior invested capital is “free money” and helps offset the risk on the road to market.

Is any of this a guarantee of success? Of course not. The risks are real and not every investment will pay off. But when universities like Dalhousie create environments that foster innovation and partner with investors who, like York Bridge, bring expertise on navigating that road to market, the chances of success are greatly improved. All of the above, in our view, results in university-based research as an excellent investment opportunity for private sector investors.

Our experience tells us that universities are excellent partners

Ken Richards, (BSc’79, BComm’81, MBA’82) is a partner in York Bridge Capital.
Poised for success: Class of 2013

Sarah Maldonado, Computer Science

Sara Maldonado believes that “the degree and title that you graduate with doesn’t necessarily have to define you.” Originally from Quito, Ecuador, Maldonado spent her four years in Dalhousie’s informatics program exploring a variety of paths and projects, developing a range of skills.

Maldonado is responsible for the Dalhousie Faculty of Computer Science Free School initiative, where student volunteers teach classes on non-curriculum computer science subjects. She was also active in the Dalhousie Women in Technology Society (WITS). Maldonado was also a participant in the Faculty of Computer Science App Challenge in 2012 and 2013. Her team’s submission at this year’s challenge was an interactive app that allows users to show their opinions graphically and create an artistic visualization of people’s thoughts and opinions. “You can use technology for capturing people’s reactions and emotions. It’s a way to express things through a different medium,” she says.

Maldonado, who plans to stay in Halifax, says her time at Dalhousie has helped her realize her passions. “I feel I have grown to the point where I am comfortable with where I want to go,” she says. Hilary Stamper

Dorothy Thomas, Medicine

“No one in medical school gets here alone,” says Dorothy Thomas. “There is not one of us who hasn’t received the support of our family, or whose family hasn’t made sacrifices on our behalf.”

Thomas began her career as an engineer but didn’t feel connected to the people she was helping. It was while working on a master’s degree in biomedical engineering in Calgary that the Fredericton, N.B., native began volunteering with the Alex Community Health Bus, a mobile health unit for marginalized populations. “It was very rewarding work. And that’s what really got me thinking that I wanted to go into medicine.”

Leaving a promising career as an engineer wasn’t easy, but the support of her family gave Thomas the push she needed to follow her dreams. Thomas – now Dr. Thomas – is eager to begin residency, the next stage of her medical journey. “I went from climbing refineries to listening to hearts. Sometimes I can’t believe where I am today, but I am happy to be here.” Lena Betker

Jock Smith, Physics

From gas tanks to gas masks, Jock Smith has travelled a long road to completing his PhD in physics.

Smith was a journeyman automotive technician before he made the switch to physics and enrolled at Dalhousie. “It was a good time in my life to try something different,” he explains.

Leaving a promising career in engineering wasn’t easy, but the support having completed his bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees here. During his decade at Dalhousie, Smith has developed two patents for materials used to remove toxins from contaminated air. In collaboration with other members of the Department of Physics and Atmospheric Science, he tested the effects of various chemicals used to impregnate carbon, creating a carbon “sponge” that can naturally absorb harmful gases. Smith’s graduate research can be applied to improving gas masks used by emergency personnel.

As he pursues industry jobs in materials science or research and development, Smith has not forgotten his time in the garage. “I really enjoyed working on cars and still do,” he says. “Ultimately I would love to work in an area where I could combine those skills.” Katherine Wooler

Michael Groenendyk, Library and Information Studies

As a man with tattoos adorning most of his upper body who enjoys body building in his (very limited) free time, Michael Groenendyk does not fit the stereotype of a Master of Library and Information Studies graduate. But Dalhousie’s Faculty of Management allowed the Regina, Sask., native to create a program as unique as he is. “I had the opportunity to
enrol in the library program and take business courses as well,” he says.

Groenendyk credits this flexibility, along with assistance from professors, for his success in taking home top prize at this year’s APEX Business Competition. As the only library and information studies student competing against others from across Canada and around the world, that’s quite a feat.

Of all his accomplishments at Dalhousie, Groenendyk is most proud of his work on a 3-D archive using 3-D printing and scanning technologies to document artifacts and specimens for preservation and educational purposes. Now that he’s graduating, Groenendyk says, “I’m looking for a position where I can do research, so specifically for a position where I can enrol in the library program and take business courses as well,” he says.

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Meet Dalhousie’s 2013 spring honorary degree recipients

They’re leaders in business, government, research, philanthropy, their communities and countless other arenas. And now each has added an honorary degree from Dalhousie to impressive lists of accomplishments. This year’s Dalhousie spring convocation involved 15 ceremonies across eight days, with nine individuals receiving honorary degrees. “Each year I am struck by the quality of people with whom we get to share our convocation,” said President Tom Traves. “This year is no exception. In what will be my final convocation as president it’s particularly satisfying to be able to recognize these exceptional individuals and the contribution each has made to society."

The 2013 Dalhousie spring honorary degree recipients are:

- **The Honourable Sharon Carstairs, P.C., (pictured far left)** the first woman leader of Manitoba’s Liberals and in 1988, the first woman to head the official opposition in the legislative assembly, a first not only for Manitoba but countrywide. She broke new ground in the Senate, becoming the first woman deputy leader of the government in 1997 and government leader in the Senate from 2001–2003. She is a Dalhousie arts graduate.

- **John W. Chisholm, (pictured above)** businessman and philanthropist. Under his leadership, Nova Construction Co. Ltd. expanded and evolved to include undertakings in roadwork, mining, hydroelectric dam construction and more. He is a recipient of honours from the Mining Society of Nova Scotia and the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum, and the Nova Scotia chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

- **Kang Soo Choo**, president and CEO of Korea Gas Corporation, the world’s biggest importer of liquefied natural gas, and a graduate of Dalhousie with a Master of Science degree in geology.

- **Ellen M. Costello, (pictured above)** chief executive officer of BMO Financial Corp. (formerly Harris Financial Corp.) and U.S. country head of BMO Financial Group. She holds an MBA from Dalhousie, and has earned a repeat listing as one of the 25 most powerful women in banking by American Banker.

- **Hans Christian Jost**, a leader in Canadian science, a repeat listing as one of the 25 most powerful women in banking by American Banker.

- **Dr. Frank Tompa** (pictured above) founder of OpenText, a leader in the establishment of Nova Scotia’s wine industry, an avid supporter of rural economic development and an alumnus of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College.

- **Dr. Thomas John (Jock) Murray**, an officer of the Order of Canada, member of the Order of Nova Scotia, and founder and director of the Dalhousie Multiple Sclerosis Research Unit. Dr. Murray earned his medical degree at Dalhousie and returned to become a much-loved professor, dedicated neurologist, highly respected dean and champion for the medical humanities.

- **Seymour Schulich**, executive, entrepreneur, officer of the Order of Canada, inductee in the Canadian Mining Hall of Fame and Canadian Business Hall of Fame and philanthropist. His contributions to Dalhousie, including his transformative $20 million donation to the university’s law school in 2009, have meant new scholarships for students in disciplines from law to computer science.

- **Dr. Frank Tompa** (pictured above) founder of OpenText, a leader in the establishment of Nova Scotia’s wine industry, an avid supporter of rural economic development and an alumnus of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College.

- **Nancy A. White**, an award-winning singer-songwriter and satirist. White earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in English at Dalhousie.
Events honour retiring President Traves

The Dalhousie community honoured the contribution of retiring President Tom Traves in events including a community farewell tribute in April and a staff and faculty event in June. At the tribute, close to 700 guests, ranging from family and friends to members of the Dal and Halifax communities, turned out to celebrate not just Dr. Traves, but Dal’s accomplishments during his time as president: in academic programs, research, the student experience, campus growth, reputation, donations and countless other areas.

“Tom is a builder, one of the greatest in Dal’s history – not just in buildings and endowments, but in people,” said University of King’s College President George Cooper, who spoke at the event.

Jim Spatz, chair of Dal’s Board of Governors, announced the Tom Traves Fund at Dalhousie, a $1-million endowment established by the board, senate and key donors that will let Dr. Traves allocate funds to key Dal projects of his choosing.

Dr. Traves, taking the stage to a standing ovation at night’s end, echoed Dr. Cooper in saying that when he reflects back on his time at Dal, it’s the people that he’s most proud of. “If you judge me by only one measure of success, please make it the quality and performance of the faculty and staff we hired during my era,” he said, “Our faculty and staff represent the beating heart of Dalhousie, and their great work boosts our reputation higher and higher each year.”

Ryan McNutt

Childhood mental health focus of new network

Growing up can be hard at the best of times. And in many situations, it’s far from the best of times.

From the local streets of Halifax, to the urban core of Toronto, to the refugee camps in Africa, children and youth in challenging environments face severe mental health threats. The programs available to them vary in quality and scope, and their successes are not always shared widely.

That’s what Michael Ungar is looking to change. A professor in Dalhousie’s School of Social Work, Dr. Ungar is leading the creation of the Children and Youth in Challenging Contexts (CYCC) Network. He was awarded $1.6 million through the Networks of Centres of Excellence Knowledge Mobilization Initiative to get the network underway.

“There are great programs that help children and youth in Canada. However, there isn’t a culture of sharing these among those who design and operate programs,” says Dr. Ungar. “There seemed to be a need to create a network where best practices could be easily exchanged and a national dialogue started that would bring together our local knowledge and scientific evidence for what works best for children and youth facing the greatest challenges.”

The CYCC Network was founded by uniting three Dalhousie centres:

- The Resilience Research Centre (RRC) looks at how children, youth and families cope with many different kinds of adversity – led by Dr. Ungar.
- The Centre for Research on Family Health (CRFH), focuses on innovative mental health delivery models – led by Dr. Patrick McGrath.
- The Centre for Foreign Policy Studies (CFPS) examines conflict-affected children and youth, including refugee youth living in Canada, in collaboration with the Child Soldiers Initiative (co-founded by Lt. General Romeo Dallaire) – led by David Black.

Together, the three centres unite policy makers, mental health practitioners, NGOs, university researchers and others to share and adapt their knowledge to help children and youth in all kinds of challenging contexts.

“Governments want to know what practices work and are looking for help on deciding what to fund, while community-based programs need the evidence to convince governments to support them,” says Dr. Ungar.

“The CYCC Network is in the middle, helping both groups access the information they need to develop good policy and practice to support our children and youth.”

Alana Milner

Scotiabank backs Ethics in Action program

Dal’s Rowe School of Business prides itself on a values-based education and on training students to manage with integrity. And its ethics programming received a big boost in April with the announcement of a $1.5-million gift from Scotiabank as part of the Bold Ambitions campaign.

Scotiabank president Brian Porter, a Dal alum himself (BComm’80), formally announced the gift at a customer reception as part of Scotiabank’s annual general meeting at the World Trade and Convention Centre in Halifax. The gift, made through the Scotiabank Bright Future philanthropic program and spread over 10 years, supports a new program called the Scotiabank Ethical Leadership Initiative. The program isn’t starting from scratch, though: it builds on the student-organized Dalhousie Business Ethics Case Competition, which has attracted competitors from across North America for the past nine years.

Now, with the support of Scotiabank, the case competition will expand into an annual conference each November called Ethics in Action. The case competition will include MBA students, and the event also adds a national student video and essay contest. Perhaps most significantly, Ethics in Action will present a national award for corporate, non-profit and government leaders: the Scotiabank Ethical Leadership Award, judged by a panel of Canadian business leaders, academic experts and students.
Savage (BA’80) elected Halifax mayor

Halifax’s new mayor is a proud Dalhousie graduate. Former Member of Parliament and business leader Mike Savage was elected mayor of the Halifax Regional Municipality in October, 2012. A 1980 graduate with a degree in history, he says his Dalhousie education shaped both his life and his career.

“Dalhousie provided me not only with a sound academic foundation, but also shaped how I see the world,” he says.

He looks back fondly on his Dalhousie days and the professors who inspired him. One in particular stands out. “Professor Peter Waite was probably the most memorable. He was a really traditional lecturer and used to walk back and forth in front of the class in his flowing academic robes, expounding on the history of Canada,” he chuckles. “I really appreciated his passion for history and how he was able to convey that to his students.”

Today, Savage stays connected to Dalhousie in a variety of ways, from being asked to speak to groups of students, to meeting with researchers, the senior administration and others on matters of shared interest. “As mayor, I look at Dalhousie and I see it as a vital piece of our economic and social infrastructure. Our universities are hugely important in many areas – whether it’s economic development, attracting talent to the area, providing an educated workforce or adding to our vibrant artistic and cultural community,” he says.

School of Dental Hygiene celebrates 50 years

The School of Dental Hygiene marked its golden anniversary in April with a sold-out celebration, welcoming 300 alumni, faculty, staff, supporters and friends for campus tours, continuing education sessions and a celebratory dinner.

Since opening its doors in 1961, the school has provided students with a solid education in oral health care – students like Marlene Arron, a member of its first graduating class. Arron began her venture under the direction of Janet Burnham, the program’s inaugural director and the recipient of an honorary degree from Dalhousie in 1983.

Only four students were a part of the inaugural class, graduating in 1963 – and since Arron’s name began with the letter ‘A’, she was technically the first person to graduate from the program.

Today, the class size has increased nearly tenfold, and more than 1,400 students have graduated from the School of Dental Hygiene in its history. They join a field that the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association has ranked as the sixth largest health profession in Canada.

“It is amazing how this profession has grown over the years,” says Nancy Neish, a 1974 graduate and now director of the program. “It’s exciting that Dalhousie has helped educate many Canadian and international oral hygiene professionals.”

Haley Beaton

“This program is not something just dreamt up by the bank and the Faculty,” said management Dean Peggy Cunningham at the announcement. “It is something that deeply embeds students in the creation of the activities, in the judging of the awards and the leadership of [the program]. It’s not just one ethics class: it becomes part of the fabric of their business education, and hopefully the fabric of their careers.”

Speaking at the reception, Dal President Tom Traves noted the university’s long relationship with Scotiabank: not only does the bank have a history of supporting Dal in its philanthropy, but the bank’s first ever branch office, opened in 1832, was actually located at Dalhousie College.

“The generosity of donors like Scotiabank enables us to make such a tremendous impact, not just in our own backyard but in the world beyond,” said Dr. Traves, celebrating the bank’s “generosity and exceptional desire to make a difference.”

Ryan McNutt

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Photo: Danny Abriel
Photo: Haley Beaton

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Haley Beaton
LOOK UP as you climb the stairs of the Mona Campbell Building and you’ll see a unique and vibrant work of art. Small, glowing lanterns start off blue, but change in minutes to purple, turquoise, green and yellow. Frond-like tubes extend from the lights and sway gently. Named Patch to evoke not only the green roof of the Mona Campbell Building, but also the electronic technique of patching a signal path between circuits and the act of improvising fixes for software, the sculpture is a real-time representation of the building’s human and environmental activity.

LIGHT AND ART, SCULPTURE AND SCIENCE Peaceful and contemplative, Patch blends perfectly with the glass and steel aesthetic of the LEED-certified Mona Campbell Building, located at the corner of Coburg Road and LeMarchant Street.

HOW IT WORKS Patch taps a constant stream of data from the building to create an ever-changing, impressionistic sculpture. Each of its 19 lanterns contain a small computer, working autonomously to gather and reflect data through colour and light. A computer in the ceiling wirelessly communicates information from the building to the lanterns, each of which corresponds to an individual classroom. The fibre optics move according to the amount of carbon dioxide in the classrooms and the colours are dictated by energy use, water consumption, solar activity and steam levels.

THE INSPIRATION The seeds of Patch were planted when director and curator of the Dalhousie Art Gallery Peter Dykhuis attended a presentation on the planned building and thought it was an interesting starting point for an art piece using scientific data. He knew Stephen Kelly would be the perfect choice for the project. Kelly is a computer science PhD candidate and an artist, with research interests in artificial intelligence. “Science and art are both about discovery and exploration, so to me they’re very similar,” says Kelly, who has achieved his goal of creating a work of art that can surprise even himself. The colours of the lanterns deepen or fade depending on light or water; the breath of students in the classrooms make the fibre-optics sway. “I like that I’m not in direct control of it.” Kelly was recently long-listed for the prestigious Sobey Art Award. The shortlist will be announced in late June.

The Canada Council for the Arts funded Patch through the New Media Residencies program.

Dawn Morrison
Dal has put Canada on the map

Get in the Canada Day spirit with a look at Dalhousie’s contributions to our country’s history, achievements and future

BY MATT SEMANSKY

15+ ways

North America’s FIRST NON-DENOMINATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Cultural diversity in early 19th-century Nova Scotia didn’t mean quite the same thing that it means now. Back then, educational institutions were open only to those students who shared the Christian denomination of a school’s founders. **Lord Dalhousie, however, insisted that Dal be open to students regardless of religion.** Since then, fairness and diversity have been in Dal’s DNA, as evidenced – to cite just one example – by the many American Jewish medical students who studied here in the 1930s after experiencing discrimination at home.

Taking it public

In 1936, Dalhousie launched Canada’s first Institute of Public Affairs, the brainchild of Dr. Lothar Richter, a professor of German who had left his homeland when Hitler came to power.

In the 1980s and ‘90s, before climate change dominated the environmental discussion, human-caused ozone depletion was arguably the most talked-about danger. Dalhousie oceanography professor John Cullen made a critical contribution to the cause with research that demonstrated how photosynthetic plankton were harmed by increased ultraviolet radiation. Dr. Cullen’s work furthered global understanding of the ozone issue and helped establish Dal as a scientific leader.

Bertha Wilson reigns Supreme

Bertha Wilson (LLB’58) shattered the legal glass ceiling when she was named the first woman to the Supreme Court of Canada in 1982. Wilson was an important figure in shaping the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and fought for gender equality in her profession.

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Founded in 1868, the Dalhousie Gazette is the oldest student newspaper in Canada. Its 145 years of continuous publishing is also the longest run of any student newspaper in North America. Its writers and editors have given Dal students a powerful presence on campus, a voice that’s echoed through a century and a half of changes.
On October 11, 1984 — six years after completing her PhD in geology at Dal — New Jersey-born astronaut Kathryn Sullivan stepped out of a spacecraft and into history as the first American woman to perform a spacewalk. Demonstrating a satellite refueling system, Sullivan spent the next three hours outside the craft. She has spent the rest of her career as one of NASA’s most decorated astronauts, logging 532 hours in space, helping to deploy the Hubble Space Telescope and earning a place in the Astronaut Hall of Fame.

**CANADA’S FIRST College of Sustainability**

September 2009 marked the first classes in Dal’s Environment, Sustainability and Society program, offered by the brand-new College of Sustainability.

**Boosting MELVILLE**

Archibald MacMechan arrived at Dalhousie in the 1890s as a young, inexperienced English professor and over the next 40 years became one of the towering figures in university history. But his influence was hardly restricted to campus. He wrote frequently about his love of Nova Scotia, representing the province to Canada and the world. And his 1899 essay “The Best Sea Story Ever Written,” an ode to Herman Melville’s *Moby Dick*, boosted that author’s international reputation and inspired widespread interest in Melville’s work.

**PIONEERING northern nursing**

In 1968, Dalhousie’s School of Nursing debuted its Outpost Nursing Program. It was the first post-graduate program in Canada designed to train nurses specifically for work in remote areas. Dal’s program remained the only one of its kind for more than a decade.

**Building bridges**

The Confederation Bridge, opened in 1997, connects New Brunswick to Prince Edward Island and at 12.9 kilometres is the longest bridge in the world that crosses ice-covered water. Civil and Resource Engineering professors and graduate students from Dalhousie helped guide earthquake and material analysis in the design and building stages, and continue to play an important role in monitoring ice abrasion on the structure’s ice shields.
Inspiring Anne

Lucy Maud Montgomery studied at Dal for just one year, 1895-96, but made the most of her time here by penning a witty op-ed for the Dalhousie Gazette and gathering inspiration for her internationally celebrated Anne books. A character in the Green Gables universe, Gilbert Blythe, was reportedly based on Montgomery’s fellow student and future Dal registrar Murray Macneill.

Dal doctors at war

Dalhousie’s medical faculty played a vital role in supporting the Allied effort in the First World War. Its professors, senior students and nurses staffed Stationary Hospital No. 7, a critical treatment stage between the battlefield and the hospital. No. 7 was initially located in England, then moved closer to the front lines in France, treating Canadian soldiers and German prisoners. Colonel John Stewart, part of the No. 7 effort, returned and became Dean of Medicine from 1919-1932.

Going smoke-free

Dalhousie sparked the trend toward smoke-free campuses in 2003 when it became the first Canadian university to ban smoking.

Legal eagles

Lesra Martin (LLB’97) helped to free Rubin “Hurricane” Carter. Michael Leir (LLB’74) led Canada’s legal team in implementing NAFTA. Ronald St. John MacDonald (LLB’52, Dean of Law 1972-79) founded the Canadian Council on International Law. Toss in provincial premiers like Darrell Dexter (LLB’87) and Prime Ministers like R.B. Bennett (LLB 1893), and it’s clear that Dalhousie’s law school has turned out influential graduates.

Celebrating Canadian literature

In 1958, literary critic and future Dalhousie English professor Malcolm Ross founded, along with publisher Jack McClelland, the New Canadian Library. Edited for several years by Ross, the NCL was the first paperback imprint devoted strictly to Canadian literature and over time helped introduce readers to authors like Margaret Atwood and Michael Ondaatje. Ross’s passion for literature influenced Dalhousie students for 14 years and contributed to the development of Canada’s literary identity.
THE NEXT CHAPTER

AS DR. RICHARD FLORIZONE STEPS INTO HIS NEW ROLE AS DALHOUSIE’S 11TH PRESIDENT, HE IS KEENLY AWARE OF THE UNIVERSITY’S STORY SO FAR — AND THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN SHAPING IT IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

BY RYAN MCNUFTT
Binders stacked on binders. Folders begetting more folders. Books, books and more books.

Not unlike a grad seminar, the reading list for a new university president can be a bit daunting. But Richard Florizone, set to become Dalhousie’s 11th president on July 2, is attacking it with his trademark enthusiasm.

“It’s exciting,” says Dr. Florizone. “It’s a busy time – tidying up tasks at my current job, preparing to move the family from Saskatchewan – but I’m really appreciating the chance to read, think, get ready for day one at Dalhousie.”

A favourite book he’s returned to is Leading Minds by Harvard University psychologist Howard Gardner, who argues that leadership is about bringing together two stories: the leader’s personal story as well as the story of those around him. Leaders have to do more than speak to the aspirations of others; the best leaders embody them.

With a diverse background in academia, government and the private sector, Dr. Florizone [pronounced “floor-a-zone”] has a story that speaks, perhaps, to the broadening expectations of both a university and its president in the early 21st century. He’s had the opportunity to travel the world in his career, and now finds himself in decidedly new territory: trading the Prairies horizon for a Maritime view.

On that front, he expects to fit right in. He’s an avid sailor, and his family – wife Mona Holmlund, an art history professor, and daughters Zoë (age 8) and Elinor (age 5) – love camping and the great outdoors. He’s even taken up kiteboarding recently, though he admits, “I’m not very good at it.”

“There’s some common cultural connection between the Prairies and the Maritimes,” he says, noting that the founder of the University of Saskatchewan, his alma mater and previous employer, was a Nova Scotian.

“Maybe it’s the open spaces, or the economies based on natural resources. But I’ve found that Nova Scotians feel very comfortable in Saskatchewan and vice-versa.”

He leapt at the opportunity to become Dalhousie’s president, he says, “Because it was a chance to be part of two centuries of academic excellence in a great, vibrant community by the sea.”

And it’s that story – Dalhousie’s story – that he’s most eager to explore in the early days of his presidency.

“I’ve received so many notes and phone calls welcoming me, from across Dalhousie and across the country, and it’s all very humbling. But I think that says less about me personally than it is a testament to Dalhousie, to the reputation the school has and the work of its faculty, staff and students.”

Indeed, the presidential transition from Tom Traves to Dr. Florizone marks the close of a remarkable chapter in Dalhousie’s history: nearly two decades of growth in enrolment, research funding, programs, campuses, campus development and countless other areas. What was once largely a regional university is now a national and international one, and with the winding down of Bold Ambitions, Dalhousie brings to a close the largest, most successful fundraising campaign in its history.

For all that success, though, there are questions looming, issues knocking at the institute’s gates. The 2008 recession brought with it years of government funding...
cuts that universities across Canada have had to manage. The value of an undergraduate degree, unquestioned by most in the booming ’90s and early 2000s, is now a hot topic of discussion. And the rise of the digital classroom has led some to question the long-term sustainability of the current post-secondary model.

Jim Spatz, chair of Dalhousie’s Board of Governors, believes Dr. Florizone is the ideal person to help Dal build on its success while preparing for the new opportunities and challenges ahead. Dr. Spatz also chaired the presidential search committee, which consisted of six board members, six Senate members and two student representatives; Dr. Florizone was their unanimous choice.

“We were impressed not only by his great accomplishments but the broad diversity of his experiences,” explains Dr. Spatz. “That breadth of experience and skills is important, especially in being the leader of a diverse and complex organization like a university. Layer that on the background of a world that contains both large challenges and large opportunities for universities and that diversity becomes even more important.”

THE BACK STORY

Dr. Florizone brings to the table many of the traits you’d expect from a university president: enthusiasm for knowledge and innovation; a proven track record of success in post-secondary education; a reputation for being a collaborative, consultative leader; and a passion for the university’s mission.

His background, though, is more distinct. You’d be hard pressed to find another MIT-educated nuclear physicist who has been a policy advisor, a business strategist, a fundraising consultant and a university administrator – all by the age of 45. His career has taken him from academia (University of Cambridge, University of Saskatchewan) to the private sector (Bombardier Aerospace, Boston Consulting Group) to government (a secondment to the World Bank).

“I was drawn to physics, initially, by a deep curiosity about the physical world, the interactions between atoms that drive the universe forward,” he explains. “But as I reached the end of my PhD I found I was just as intrigued by the interactions between people: how to bring a team together, how you align the right personalities that allow the pursuit of science and knowledge to happen. And that curiosity drew me into the business world.”

“Curiosity” is a word Dr. Florizone keeps returning to when speaking about his career. In conversation, he’s an eager listener, more than happy to frame his own thoughts in the form of a question if it leads to a better discussion. While he readily offers his opinion if asked, he seems even more engaged when asking others for their point of view.

After completing his PhD at MIT in 1999, he spent the next six years between Bombardier and the Boston Group, but his inquisitiveness brought him back to the university. “When I had the opportunity to spend a sabbatical working at Cambridge in 2002, it was like this light went off in my head. I realized how these skills I’d developed in my career could fit within the university, help it move knowledge, innovation and education forward.”

In 2005, he returned to the University of Saskatchewan, where he had studied as an undergrad and master’s student, to become the school’s vice-president finance and administration. Peter MacKinnon, the university’s president at the time, says Dr. Florizone’s voice at the senior leadership table was invaluable.

“In universities, your capacity to get things done depends on a very great extent on your ability to get others on board and work well with them,” he says. “Richard has a formidable intellect and great skills, but is also very collaborative. He believes in engaging others and working closely with them, and is a very fine communicator.”

A vice-president finance and administration touches
most corners of campus, balancing major priorities to help the university community achieve its goals on a tangible level. Dr. Florizone managed several key projects during his time in the role, from helping develop a national synchrotron research facility (a particle accelerator for fields like materials and earth sciences), to launching an international vaccine centre, to doubling the amount of student housing on campus to meet demand.

“Having an understanding of finance was an asset [in my role], but it’s far from sufficient for any leadership position, particularly in a university,” says Dr. Florizone, who during that time was also a policy fellow in the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, publishing the occasional academic paper when he could.

“What I tried to do as VP finance was not only pay attention to the financial fundamentals, but to use the portfolio to advance the academic mission: helping faculty and deans move projects forward that were important to them and that would improve teaching, research, the student experience.”

When asked about his proudest accomplishments, what leaps to mind first is his work with students. “There’s an energy that comes from working with students,” Dr. Florizone says. “It’s rewarding to work through complex issues with them, finding areas of shared interest and then advancing them together.”

In addition to new residence space and improvements in areas such as counseling and food services, Dr. Florizone worked closely with the University of Saskatchewan Students’ Union (USSU) to help make a new student centre possible. In 2011, the USSU presented him with its Doug Favell Staff Spirit Award, celebrating his contributions to student life.

“I’d say the lens through which Richard often looked was one that focused on students, their services and their success,” says James Pepler, USSU president in 2007-08.

“What stands out to me about his working style is his honesty, frankness and willingness to work on tough items with an almost eager zeal.”

“He really cares about students and the university,” says Josie Steeves, who succeeded Pepler as USSU president. “That’s not to say we didn’t disagree sometimes; there are always going to be situations where the students’ union and the admin simply can’t see eye-to-eye. But he was never an adversary. I always felt that our honest and respectful criticism was welcomed and heard, not discouraged or ignored.

“I think he’ll be a great president,” she adds. “I honestly believe that the U of S has lost one of our greats.”

THE CONTEXT

Dalhousie is also losing one of its greats, and Dr. Florizone is quite aware of the legacy he’s being asked to follow.

“When you look at Dr. Traves’s leadership, you see a real depth and breadth of achievement in all areas of the university’s mission,” he says. “It’s inspiring to me, that progress. It’s a remarkable legacy to build on, to help guide us into Dal’s third century.”

So just how do you build on that legacy? Well, if you’re Richard Florizone, you start with listening and learning. He’s calling the first months of his first term his “100 days of listening,” and plans to devote a good deal of his time to getting to know the Dal community.

“I want to hear their hopes, dreams, worries, concerns – the full story,” he says. “I have my own thoughts, but my guiding questions are likely the same as our students, faculty, staff and alumni, which is why I want to hear from them. Where do we go with the student experience? What are our aspirations for research and innovation? How will we engage with our communities locally, nationally and globally?”
Importantly, those questions are also increasingly being shaped by influences from outside the academy. Ross Paul, who has served as president of both Laurentian University and the University of Windsor, is the author of Leadership Under Fire: The Challenging Role of the University President. He might well have subtitled the book “the changing role,” given how different today’s universities look from their predecessors.

“It wasn’t so long ago that those who were not directly involved in the university didn’t pay much attention to it,” he explains. “It was a mysterious organization, mostly for elites. But today, universities are seen as truly public institutions, and you have a huge rise in public accountability.”

That goes doubly for a university president.

“You see an increase in all these external functions that are expected of a president: government relations, community relations, fundraising, alumni relations, international partnerships, keeping up with new technology. There are so many new roles in the presidency that weren’t there even 20, 30 years previous,” says Dr. Paul.

Dr. Florizone recognizes and places community engagement alongside teaching and research at the core of the university’s mission.

“Nobody uses the term ‘ivory tower’ anymore,” he says. “If we want to maintain our institutional autonomy and the values we hold dear – values like academic freedom – the public is increasingly calling for us, and requiring us, to engage with our community.”

He’s speaking of community engagement in its broadest sense, everything from being a good neighbour, to translating research into tangible public good, to playing a role in economic development. At the same time, though, he says a university has to be about more than just responding to immediate public needs.

“We need programs that serve our region and our country, but universities do more than just serve society; we stimulate it,” Dr. Florizone explains. “A compelling civil society requires doctors, lawyers, engineers and accountants, but also poets, artists, social scientists. We need to be equally as attuned to answering tomorrow’s questions as we are to solving today’s problems.”

Though the demands placed on the modern university have led to many of its key functions becoming more professionalized, its quest for knowledge and understanding remains as important as ever. This helps explain one of Dr. Paul’s observations: that while the job description of a university president looks increasingly like that of a corporate CEO, universities rarely hire actual CEOs as presidents.

Business acumen is part of the package but, as Dr. Florizone himself notes, that alone is insufficient to lead a university. A president has to understand the university at its core, from its quirks (and quarks) to its thrilling ability to generate knowledge and understanding that can quite literally change the world.

In Dr. Florizone’s case, his time outside the institute has only strengthened his appreciation for the value of university research and education. And it’s his experience studying and working within higher ed that drives his steadfast commitment to protecting its mission.

“There’s a lot of second guessing about higher education right now, questions spurred by new technology and financial constraints,” he says. “That’s a good debate and we welcome it. But I think we have a great story to tell.

“Ask any alumni about the most formative experience they had inside a university,” he continues. “I’d be willing to bet it’s from an interaction with other students or an individual faculty member. Facilitating those interactions is not a low-cost budget model, and I don’t doubt that there are some circumstances where students may be very well served through online education, for example. But the heart of higher education is those interactions between people; that’s where real innovation and inspiration happens. And I can’t see that going away.”

THE POSSIBILITIES

Above all else, Dr. Florizone says his enthusiasm for becoming Dal’s next president is shaped by an awareness of how university teaching and research can change lives.

“You know, my grandmother only had a Grade 4 education, and in two generations I was able to get to MIT. That speaks to the effect that university can have not just on individuals, but entire generations. Those students walking across the stage at convocation represent not only their own hopes and dreams, but also those of their family, their extended family and even their community.

“Dalhousie has had that impact on more than 100,000 living alumni. Just thinking about those stories, the contributions each of them has made to society, or the work of Dal’s outstanding researchers over the years… it’s deeply moving and humbling. That I’ll get to play some small part in that, well, that’s what excites me most about this.”

Editor’s note: Dr. Florizone will be installed as Dalhousie University’s 11th president at 2:30 pm on Friday, October 4 at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium.
it’s getting hotter: what do we do about it?

BY CHRIS BENJAMIN (BCOMM’97)
On a cold evening in Nome, Alaska – located just below the Arctic Circle – half the town’s 3,600 people crowd together indoors to meet Dalhousie Earth Sciences researcher Lawrence Plug. It’s a big turn-out for a science lecture, but then Dr. Plug’s topic is of great concern in the north: the thaw of permafrost around lakes resulting from climate change.

Dr. Plug studies terrestrial parts of northern Canada, Alaska and Siberia. “The lakes grow by the thawing of permafrost and rotten material thaws with it, releasing methane, which is a very potent greenhouse gas,” he says.

It’s a nasty equation: the climate change humans have already created is warming and thawing the permafrost, and as the permafrost melts and releases methane, global warming is worsened. Dr. Plug’s research asks, given certain changes in climate, how much faster will lakes grow? How much methane will be released? His frequent research trips yield data that is entered into computer models predicting how the land and lakes might change under various climate scenarios.

The future of northern communities like Nome lies in the balance. Thawing permafrost threatens sewage, bridge, road and crucial runway infrastructure, adding billions of dollars to maintenance and building costs. Increasing storm activity will hit coastal towns like Nome as well. For Dr. Plug, meeting with northern residents is a two-way street. “They know the land and remember significant lake events of the past to within a year or two – like lakes that have drained,” Dr. Plug says. “Oral histories give us specific examples to round out the overall trends we’re observing.”

The oral histories, data and models feed into the global system of understanding climate change, getting a handle on its severity and many impacts, and figuring out what to do about it.

Dr. Plug isn’t the only Dalhousie University professor contributing to our understanding of – and planning for – climate change. From northern permafrost to the world’s oceans, from farmers’ fields to legislators’ offices, Dal researchers are contributing to the knowledge base and policy decisions that will affect how well we cope with our changing environment and mitigate the effects we’ve already set in motion.

FIELD WORK

The research is clear: weather patterns are changing in Canada and globally. In recent years, dozens of countries have experienced some of their worst natural disasters – from extended heat waves and drought to severe flooding. It is impossible to peg any one weather event on climate change, but it is the most likely culprit in their overall increased frequency and severity.

Those who work closest to the land see those changes firsthand. Professor Kate Sherren of the School for Resource and Environmental Studies and the College of Sustainability was doing her post-doc with Australian farmers amidst that country’s 10-year drought when she started seriously working on climate issues. When she started at Dalhousie – not far from her New Brunswick
Two years ago, it was an ecosystem shock. “Here the problem is too much water rather than drought,” she says. For hundreds of years, Maritime farmers have removed wetlands to create more arable farmland. But without those wetlands, rainwater runs off rather than being absorbed and, with more frequent and severe rainstorms, flooding and erosion become bigger problems. Re-establishing the wetlands is part of the solution because a more diverse landscape is a more resilient one in the face of changing weather patterns.

Dr. Sherren has taken a collaborative approach, bringing in funding from the Department of Natural Resources, Ducks Unlimited and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, with the Nature Conservancy acting as advisor. The funding has allowed Master of Environmental Studies student Kate Goodale to survey farmers on their feelings about creating habitat to encourage wildlife – another key factor in climate change resilience. The research will be used to develop educational materials for farmers, including a phone app for habitat planning.

In addition to bolstering the resilience of their farms to climate change, farmers have a significant role to play in preventing the phenomenon. “Agriculture produces 70 per cent of nitrous oxide emissions globally and in Canada,” says David Burton of Dalhousie’s Faculty of Agriculture. Nitrous oxide is one of three greenhouse gases contributing to climate change. Dr. Burton is working closely with federal and provincial departments of agriculture in the region to study methods of applying animal manure and other fertilizers in ways that reduce nitrous oxide emissions.

“More than half of the emissions occur in winter,” he says. “We’re examining whether simply altering the timing of the application of fertilizers will reduce these emissions.”

Suburban residents also need to be aware of how adjacent ecosystems will be affected by climate change. Dr. Sherren’s understanding of resilient landscapes has led her to work with the Halifax Regional Municipality, assessing the future risk of forest fire where the suburbs meet wildlands. “We’re making recommendations for their planning processes and resident education programs,” she says, based on the research of Master of Environmental Studies student Ellen Whitman.

**OUT TO SEA**

Erosion isn’t the only climate change-related concern when it comes to our coasts and ocean. But the world’s oceans make for a challenging research environment. “We have a massive measurement problem because of [the ocean’s] area, depth and inhospitality,” explains Douglas Wallace, Dalhousie’s Canada Excellence Research Chair in Ocean Science and Technology.

Dr. Wallace is working with industry and government, developing and applying new technology to better observe the oceans. One project with researchers at Defence Research and Development Canada aims to convert unmanned surface vehicles used to seek mines into ocean-going environmental measurement vehicles. Fast and cheaper than manned research vehicles, they can...
be outfitted with sophisticated measurement equipment to collect data during experiments or accidents. Working with commercial vessels that sail fixed routes year-round also has its advantages. Dr. Wallace is in discussions with companies that own and operate a vessel that supplies the Deep Panuke natural gas platform near Sable Island. Because of the regularity of the vessel’s trips, there is potential to gather data about that stretch of ocean, and the changes it undergoes over a long period of time.

Within a major project focussed on marine hazards, Dr. Wallace works closely with scientist counterparts in several government agencies, feeding data that will shape policy. Their goal? “[To] gain a better awareness of how climate change will interact with the changes in the ocean, so we can better understand how to anticipate and prepare,” he says.

NEW REALITIES, NEW LAWS

Scientific knowledge is essential to good climate policy, and when it comes to drafting that policy, it helps to have a lawyer with a science background.

Law professor Meinhard Doelle completed his chemistry degree at Dal in 1986. It was another decade before he sunk his teeth into climate change. In 1997, as then-executive director of Clean Nova Scotia, Doelle attended a meeting at Dalhousie about the state of global climate negotiations. The session convinced him to commit the organization to educating Nova Scotians about climate change. Since then, he has provided input on the province’s revolutionary Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act (EGSPA), which committed Nova Scotia to significant investments in renewable energy. And Doelle’s influence extends beyond Canadian borders. He was an NGO member of the Canadian climate change delegation from 2000 to 2006 and still follows as an official observer. Beyond policy, his concern is compliance. His research on the subject led to the 2012 book *Promoting Compliance in an Evolving Climate Regime*, which he co-edited with Jutta Brunée and Lavanya Rajamani. He says that governments need to do better if international agreements are to work. “We seem to be going backwards on the design of compliance systems, because of the influence of countries like Japan, Russia and Canada.”

While international agreements are essential, Doelle, like Dr. Plug, Dr. Sherren and Dr. Burton, sees value in working with local governments and citizens. “If you have citizens in your community that you trust,” he says, “you are less likely to be swayed by outside interests who, out of short-term economic self-interest, may be trying to convince you not to take the necessary action.”

Not every town faces climate change impacts as intensely as Nome – or the outback communities of Australia. Dal researchers like Dr. Plug hope their efforts help keep it that way, giving policymakers the tools they need to minimize catastrophe. “It’s part of the job of the scientific community to assist in making policymakers scientifically literate,” he says. ■
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Escaping from a raging civil war in Lebanon to a strange country and school whose language he didn’t speak meant Wadih Fares (DipEng’78) had to depend on the kindness and compassion of many – something he’s never forgotten.
adih Fares (DipEng’78) always knew his father, Maurice, was a generous man. As a young boy in Diman, Lebanon, he often witnessed the elder Fares, a road contractor, reach into his pocket to give money to someone in need – money he could barely afford to spare. What Fares did not know was the extent of his father’s largesse until he passed away.

“Now, when I give money to my village, they say ‘God bless the soul of your dad. You’re just like him.’” He pauses and smiles. “You cannot run away from this influence.”

Indeed, the president and CEO of WM Fares Group is a man who has never passed up an opportunity to make a difference. Over the years, the Honorary Consul of Lebanon for the Maritime Provinces has been a board member and donor for many charitable organizations and engines of economic development. They include Pier 21, Dalhousie University, QEII Health Sciences Centre, the IWK, the Halifax International Airport Authority, the Waterfront Development Corporation and the Halifax West Community Theatre Project. You have to wonder how this Order of Canada recipient finds the time and energy to juggle so many community commitments while running a successful building design, project management and development business. Fares doesn’t fully know how he manages it, but he can tell you why he does it.

“When I look at my life, I feel I am where I am because I believe in doing good.”

It is also a way for Fares to acknowledge the friends, family and community that helped him escape a civil war in Lebanon at the age of 18. Fares had fought in that civil war briefly because every family was required to send one man to the front lines. But after a particularly heavy night of fighting, his mother urged him to leave. She had brothers in Nova Scotia willing to sponsor him if he could get to Canada. Intense negotiations with the army followed and, soon after, Fares was on his way to Halifax to live with his grandmother and enrol in the engineering program at Dalhousie University.

Excited to be in Canada because it was a bilingual country – he had learned to speak French in school in Lebanon – Fares didn’t know that Halifax was a predominately English-speaking community, or that the Dalhousie program was only offered in English. There was another surprise to come. In a meeting with the dean, where Fares’ cousin served as interpreter, he discovered he would be doing the program in four years, not five.

“I don’t know what he saw in me,” Fares says of the dean. “It was a real vote of confidence because I did complete it in four years.”

Help also came from the city’s Lebanese community. Friends and relatives translated his work from Arabic to English and he studied those translations intently to learn the language. Grateful for the community’s support, he began volunteering with the Diman Association of Canada. It wasn’t long before he became association president, leading the effort to establish a Lebanese school in Halifax. He went on to lead the newly formed Heritage Language Association of Nova Scotia, the Multicultural Association of Nova Scotia and the province’s Advisory Council on Multiculturalism, before being courted by boards, foundations and charitable organizations, including the Pier 21 Society, co-founded by Ruth Goldbloom.

“Many of my ancestors came through Pier 21, including my grandfather. The reason I am here – the Lebanese community is here – is because of Pier 21,” says Fares.

“I believe we need more immigrants in Nova Scotia. I believe they will make us better. A lazy person will not immigrate. People willing to risk their lives trying to reach the shores of Canada are not lazy. They work hard, save money, open businesses and hire people. That’s good for the economy.”

Fares is determined to carry on his father’s legacy of giving, and his children are following his lead, getting involved in boards and charities. Even so, Fares isn’t entirely ready to leave the task of making a difference in the hands of the next generation. If anything, he’s hoping he can continue to do good work in perpetuity through the WM Fares Foundation, and to always be there when someone approaches him for help.

“My hope is that God will give me the energy, health and fortune to keep doing what I am doing for a very long time.”

To read an extended version of this story, visit alumni.dal.ca.
Fred and Elizabeth Fountain donate $10 million to establish school of performing arts at Dalhousie

BY JOANNE WARD-JERRETT (MA’89)

Their names are synonymous with the visual and performing arts. With higher education and medical research. With mental health and youth advocacy. But for Fred and Elizabeth Fountain, their most recent philanthropic endeavor – a $10-million gift to establish a school of performing arts at Dalhousie University – combines elements of all the causes for which they are passionate supporters.

“There is an ongoing push to pump more money into science, technology, engineering and medical research – and we have supported and continue to support most of those areas,” says Mr. Fountain (LLE’74, LLD’00), a dedicated volunteer and community champion, who currently serves as Dalhousie’s chancellor. “However, the arts also play an important role in lending creativity and critical thinking to the more traditional science-based disciplines. It is our belief that the arts don’t get enough attention or support and we want to change that.”

“We all benefit from the arts,” agrees Elizabeth Fountain (DCnL (Kings)’12). “They bring such beauty into our lives. I’ve watched so many people struggle to make it as artists – they don’t go into it for the money, but for the love of the art.” She pauses. “And you have to admire that.”

Growing up in the community of Spryfield,
Mrs. Fountain recalls a childhood filled with music. Her father sang in a barbershop quartet and her oldest brother – a teacher by training – is also a lifelong musician. “I really do have a soft spot for musicians,” she admits. “I understand that desire to perform, the sheer joy that comes with performing.”

The Fountains’ belief in the healing power of the arts is informed, in part, by deep personal tragedy. Their son, Alex, committed suicide in the summer of 2009, just as he was about to enter his fourth year of studies at the University of King’s College. “Alex’s passion was music,” says Mrs. Fountain. “As a student, he was always involved in musical groups and he took his guitar everywhere with him. It was a huge part of his life.”

Her husband picks up the story: “Alex was much involved with the Halifax music scene,” he says. “He played and sang in different bands and worked two full summers for the Halifax Pop Explosion. As a result, we’ve always been keen supporters of the performing arts. And of course, our daughter Katharine [currently studying commerce at McGill University in Montreal] is also a musician in her own right.”

Together, the Fountains have had the courage to turn the tragedy of Alex’s death into positive advocacy in the area of mental health, most recently through a donation of more than $1 million to the Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre Foundation for the Stay Connected project. With direct linkages to area universities, the project supports youth and their families making the transition from pediatric to adult-based mental health care.

This latest gift to Dalhousie University – their largest ever – takes that advocacy to the next level. “The arts are a true determinant for mental health and well-being,” says Mrs. Fountain. “And I support anything that is beneficial to mental health.”

The $10-million gift to establish the school for performing arts will be transformational for arts programming at Dalhousie, according to Robert Summerby-Murray, dean of Dalhousie’s Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. “The new school will transform Dalhousie’s teaching, research and student experience by creating a new platform for the delivery of its excellent theatre, music, costume studies and film studies programs,” Dean Summerby-Murray says. “It will also extend its reach to form new partnerships with Dalhousie Art Gallery and existing music and theatre programs, including University of King’s College, Symphony Nova Scotia and other arts institutions and performing arts organizations.”

“We see the new school of performing arts as being a catalyst for the arts in our region,” says Mr. Fountain. “There will be so many reciprocal and collaborative relationships enabled by this initiative. The different arts constituencies will look to Dal as the core resource to create synergies in the creative economy. This is not just about making a gift to the university – it’s much broader than that.”

With the search for a director for the school now underway, students and the greater arts community can expect to see a number of enhanced activities beginning in the fall of 2013. Programs to be phased in include a high-profile visiting artists program, more robust scholarship offerings and expanded outreach and mentorship programming. The university has also committed to much-needed renovations to the existing Dalhousie Arts Centre, so that the appropriate infrastructure is in place for its planned expansion.

As to the timing of the Fountains’ benefaction, the couple admits that identifying their core philanthropic objectives is an ongoing process. “We have supported Dalhousie for a long time and we have wanted to make a significant gift, but we were not in a hurry to do so,” says Mr. Fountain. “The Bold Ambitions campaign provided that opportunity to do something completely different; something new. The school of performing arts will add a substantial resource to the creative economy, both for the benefit of Dalhousie and for the greater community. In the end it came down to seeing a need that we believe in and having the means to make a difference. That’s what I get out of it personally.”
When Rebecca Critchley (MA ’08) applied for the Pamela and Andrew Brands Scholarship in International Law in 2012, the first-year Dalhousie law student was hoping for a satisfying summer work experience. The scholarship funds a summer abroad, split between the London office of international law firm Herbert Smith Freehills and a non-governmental organization (NGO) of the student’s choice. What Critchley didn’t anticipate was that her career track would be dramatically altered as a result.

Born in South Africa of British parents, Critchley was primed to seek out an opportunity out of Canada. “The whole reason I applied was because I wanted to go and work for the NGO for the summer,” says Critchley, who admits she was much less enthused at the thought of working with the prestigious seventh-largest firm in the world. “I thought ‘I’ll give the firm a try, but I know I don’t want to do corporate stuff.’ And I got put into financial regulation.” Which, it turns out, she loved: her experience included attending a meeting between lawyers and Britain’s Treasury over proposed new regulations of the financial industry. “There was an argument for about an hour and a half over the use of one word in the legislation,” she says. “For me it was just fascinating.”

After her three weeks in London, Critchley went to Togo, in West Africa, and spent five weeks working with a group that defends civil rights. She helped prepare a report to the United Nations on torture and also contributed to an environmental law database that the group will draw on in response to the growing mining industry.

Andrew Brands (LLB’79) could not be happier with the experience of the first recipient of his unique gift to the law school. Born out of a long discussion and, he admits, “probably too much wine” with his wife, Pamela, the scholarship’s intent is to give a student “a mind-changing, career-changing event,” says Brands, a senior vice-president and general counsel for Great West Life.

“We’ve been fortunate and we’ve always thought it...
important to be involved with the community,” Brands says, adding that he and his wife had tired of simply serving on boards and going to gala dinners.

“We want to do something that is going to have some psychic return to us but also is going to benefit the law school and raise its profile internationally.”

Their gift – $12,000 a year for five years – allows a Dalhousie student to join dozens of mostly British students for a “vacation scheme” internship at Herbert Smith Freehills, which Brands hopes will increase Schulich School of Law’s profile internationally. “The NGO was Dean Kim Brooks’ idea, which I think is what makes this program unique because it makes the student an active participant rather than a passive recipient,” says Brands.

Dean Brooks says she enjoyed helping Pamela and Andrew Brands craft the terms of the scholarship, and now has worked with two more donors to also fund experiences for first-year law students.

“The students work really hard in first year, they learn a ton, and then they realize that the jobs that are available are the same jobs that they had the summer before,” says Brooks of her wish to direct more resources towards first-year students. “Lots of them find that hugely disappointing.”

She says a gift like the Pamela and Andrew Brands Scholarship in International Law is “helpful to our students in a different way than something like a scholarship or bursary,” because it funds exposure to a work experience they otherwise wouldn’t have.

And potentially to a career direction they wouldn’t otherwise have contemplated: Critchley has applied and been accepted for a two-year training contract with Herbert Smith Freehills to start immediately after she graduates from law school. “I will end up with English qualifications and will be practising in the London office to begin with,” says Critchley, who says she looks forward to the day when Herbert Smith Freehills may open an office in Africa. “I would really like to be one of the first people that they send.”

All five of Canada’s major banks have taken part in the Bold Ambitions campaign, contributing a total of $6 million. It’s an absolutely terrific story, says Dalhousie’s Floyd Dykeman, vice-president external, adding that what’s really interesting is how the money will be used. “Their divergent support certainly distinguishes this sector’s support to Dalhousie. All five had very different viewpoints about how they wanted to make a difference.”

Scotiabank has developed the Ethical Leadership Initiative within the Faculty of Management, highlighted by an annual student case competition focused on ethical leadership for corporate, non-profit and government leaders. (See story, page 6.)

Sustainability was top of mind for RBC, shown through its support to the RBC Sustainability Leadership Certificate, an engaged-learning program that creates dynamic learning experiences
for students to cultivate their sustainability leadership skills.

TD Bank provided scholarships for African Nova Scotian students to help reduce the financial barriers of pursuing a university education. Particularly unique is that the promissory scholarships are offered to the students while they’re in junior high, helping to keep them on a positive education path.

With its support, BMO Financial Group is a founding partner of Dalhousie University’s Centre for Family Business and Regional Prosperity. The centre will develop educational and training programs for families in business, their non-family employees and the professionals who serve those families.

CIBC has supported graduate scholarships in recognition of the increasingly important role that graduate students play in the country’s ongoing prosperity. Many students either can’t afford to pursue graduate education or they are concerned about adding to their existing debt. CIBC's investment will help alleviate some of that burden.

“All five initiatives are extremely important,” says Dykeman. “We’re certainly grateful for such leadership.”

“Learn with global leaders. Sara Kirk, Canada Research Chair in Health Services Research; Axel Becke, Killam Chair in Computational Science, Department of Chemistry; and Cynthia J. Neville, George Munro Professor of History and Political Economy.

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UPDATE YOUR INFO If you’ve missed event invitations or have moved, update your address at dal.ca/alumni/update or email alumni.records@dal.ca

SHARE YOUR NEWS Tell classmates what you’ve been up to: email classnotes@dal.ca or go to alumni.dal.ca/stay-informed/class-notes

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FIND YOUR CHAPTER Make a local connection with Dal alumni in your area at alumni.dal.ca/get-connected/chapters/

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He believed playing varsity sports was a great way to learn the skills to succeed in life and this fund celebrates that” – Lorraine Facca

DONOR PROFILE

Team Players

Friends and family celebrate Adrian Facca’s life by helping to build tomorrow’s leaders

Adrian Facca (BA’80, BComm’82) was a believer in the power of varsity sports to change your life. During the five years he played for the Dalhousie Tigers, the outstanding winger from Ontario met his wife, Lorraine (BPE’82). He connected with Rick Gaetz, a teammate who started him on a lifelong career in transportation. And he was part of the all-star lineup that claimed the 1978-9 AUS Hockey Championship title.

“Being part of a team shaped the person he was,” says Lorraine of her husband, who died in 2011 from cancer. “It gave him a real appreciation for how to compromise, how to get along and how to achieve goals together.”

Inspired by Adrian and his dedication to the Tigers, Lorraine and several of his former teammates are supporting future varsity athletes at Dalhousie through the Adrian Facca Leadership Fund. Established in 2011 and financed in part through an annual golf tournament, it will provide funds to the men’s hockey and women’s volleyball teams for everything from bonding weekends to skills development. In this way, it will help develop tomorrow’s community and business leaders.

“He believed playing varsity sports was a great way to learn the skills to succeed in life and this fund celebrates that,” says Lorraine.

Adrian’s teammates included volleyball athletes, in part because Lorraine played for the team, but also because his daughter, Louise is carrying on the family’s varsity tradition. As captain of the Tigers Women’s Volleyball team, she led the squad to their first AUS banner in eight years this past spring.

“I’m really proud of my mom and my family coming together to make this happen,” says Louise, “and I’m really happy that his legacy will live on, not just supporting his team, but also mine.”

What would Adrian think of the fund and the tournament? “He would have loved it,” says Lorraine. “It combines his three passions – hockey, golf and volleyball. Our hope is that it will encourage other alumni to join us in supporting the next generation of Dalhousie athletes.” – Mark Campbell

Top: Adrian Facca (BA’80, BComm’82). Middle: Facca’s daughter Louise, captain of the Tigers Women’s Volleyball team. Bottom: Louise Facca is pictured with her parents, Adrian and Lorraine.
“People are far more engaged when they feel that they are an important part of something that is bigger than the individual” – Barrie Black

Basic Black

Incoming Dal Alumni Association president Barrie Black (BA’71, LLB’71) reflects on his connection to the university

MY FAVOURITE MOMENT AT DAL: I was admitted into Dal’s School of Law in September, 1968 and remember sitting in the classroom that first week, looking at my classmates from so many different places and feeling honoured and privileged to be among such an exceptional group of people.

THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSON I LEARNED AT DAL: In the academic, social and athletic areas that I involved myself in I came to understand the importance of a team environment in getting things done. People are far more engaged when they feel that they are an important part of something that is bigger than the individual.

BEST ALUMNI MOMENT: The Alumni Association chose Andy MacKay, Mr. Dalhousie, to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award last year. He was the Dean of Law and my professor when I was a student, and I was on the Board of Governors when he was the president of the university in the mid-’80s. He always had time for you and when he spoke, it was well thought out and beneficial in resolving the issue at hand. Our university was, and is, a much better place because of him.

WHY STAYING CONNECTED TO DAL IS IMPORTANT TO ME: My years at Dalhousie (1965-1971) were the cornerstone of who I became. I am very proud of my school and look forward to doing what I can in the future to contribute to its ongoing growth. Recent studies have shown that a connected alumni is a key part in ensuring the higher ranking of the school will continue – something we all want.

DAA president Barrie Black (BA’71, LLB’71) reflects on his time at Dal, the value of teams and role model Dr. Andrew MacKay.
The first half of 2013 was filled with alumni events across the country and beyond. In Vancouver, the chapter had a laugh at a comedy club event, while alumni in Edmonton mingled at the Art Gallery of Alberta. In Calgary, the chapter held a networking and social event and the Faculty of Engineering hosted its annual lobster dinner. Sexton Campus alumni in the area also enjoyed a ski day in Banff. The alumni chapter in Toronto got together for a few rounds of euchre with great door prizes up for grabs. Then in May, alumni in Toronto from the Faculties of Management and Dentistry met at receptions.

In London, U.K., the chapter toured Highgate Cemetery with drinks following at the Angel Pub. Members of the Women’s Division followed their annual general meeting with a luncheon featuring guest speaker MP Megan Leslie. Alumni also gathered at receptions in Sarasota, Los Angeles, Nassau, and just recently, in New York. And congratulations to the School of Dental Hygiene for its successful 50-year celebrations!

Start planning for Homecoming 2013 and reunions, October 3-5 in Halifax. Visit dal.ca/homecoming.

Save the date: Dr. Florizone will be installed as Dalhousie University’s 11th president at 2:30 pm on Friday, October 4 at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium.

“I really enjoyed tonight’s networking and social event and can’t wait for the next one” – Joanna Clarke, Dal Alumni Chapter (Calgary)
CLASS NOTES

1950s

1952
Hazel Sharpe, BA/BEd, married Reverend Frank Locke of Brookfield, N.S. on Dec. 20, 2011. They had a small but memorable evening wedding in the First Church of the Nazarene in Calgary, Alta. They currently live in Calgary but plan to move to Nova Scotia in July of this year, where they first met back in the summer of 1950.

1960s

1960
Fred Christie, BEng (NSTC), retired for the last time (he thinks!) in December 2012. Christie closed Saamis Technical Management Services, after over 14 years of consulting to aerospace industry and government departments and promoting academic, industry and government technology-based developments. He is happily based in Ottawa, Ont. with summer holidays at Amherst Shore, N.S.

1963
Thomas LeFeuvre, BEng (Mechanical) (NSTC), is enjoying his first 10 years of retirement. LeFeuvre thought the 100 Years of Engineering Education reunion in 2007 was fantastic and encourages his classmates from Tech class of 1963 to reunite at the Dalhousie engineering reunion in October 2013.

1961
Donald Fraser, BEng (NSTC), has decided to “hang up his guns” after completing his last project: a Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) funded study in Malawi for JustUs! Coffee Roasters Cooperative. After a 42-year career in International Development in 76 countries, Fraser has settled in Musquodoboit Harbour, N.S. He enjoys summers in Petpeswick Harbour, N.S. and winters in Texas. As founder and owner of a consulting engineering firm for much of the final 25 years of his career, Fraser received two awards for successful international development projects: one from the government of Nova Scotia and one from the government of Canada.

1963
Thomas LeFeuvre, BEng (Mechanical) (NSTC), is enjoying his first 10 years of retirement. LeFeuvre thought the 100 Years of Engineering Education reunion in 2007 was fantastic and encourages his classmates from Tech class of 1963 to reunite at the Dalhousie engineering reunion in October 2013.

1964
John Lewis, BEng (NSTC), retired in 2010 from Snohomish County Public Utility District as substation engineering manager. He now lives in McMinnville, Ore.

1967
Calvin Payne, BEng (NSTC), received his prior engineering diploma from Memorial University in Newfoundland. He attributes his preparedness for the future to his excellent professors and instructors. Payne met his wife while attending Tech and remembers the strong camaraderie he had with his electrical classmates.

1968
David Bowes, BEng, has continued to use his engineering skills in his hobby of designing unique model engines since his retirement over 10 years ago. His latest creation powers an eight-foot wingspan model of the aircraft the de Havilland Turbo Beaver. More information on his creation can be found at www.EVICengines.com.

Dr. Janice Zatzman Orlansky, BA, is happily retired after 23 years in the American Foreign Service. She is now living in what she calls one of the most beautiful spots on earth, Burlington, Vt. She encourages friends who find themselves in the area to drop by for some “Maritime” hospitality.

Bonnie Reid Berkow, BA, has joined the law firm, Porzio, Bromberg & Newman P.C. as Of Counsel and is based in Porzio’s New York City office. Reid Berkow has experience litigating many types of matters including construction, co-op and condominium, corporate, land use, leasing, commercial real estate, human rights and negligence law. She holds a J.D. from Brooklyn Law School.

1969
Canon Jim Irvine, BA, XBST’71(K), has been appointed honorary assistant at Christ Church (Parish) Church in Fredericton, N.B.

1970s

1972
Martin Roberts, BEng (NSTC), is currently living and working in St. John’s, N.L. with Newfoundland Design Associates as project manager.
1974

Colin McKenzie, BSc’71, MSc, has been appointed general manager of exploration for the Northern Vertex Mining Corporation.

Paul M. Walker, BA’73, BComm, is proud to announce that his daughter, Mary-Eleanor Walker will complete her Corporate Residency MBA degree at Dalhousie this year. This will make her the fourth of five family members who have completed a master’s degree at Dal and the fifth of five family members who are all proud Dalhousie alumni. Mary-Eleanor follows her mother E. M. Faith Walker (MSW’76), sister Rebecca Walker (BComm’03, MBA’04), brother-in-law Paul Bailey (BComm’03, MBA’05) and uncle Dr. Arthur B. McDonald, O.C. (BCS’64, MSc’d5, LL’d97).

1975

Conrad LeLievre, BEng (Mechanical) (NSTC), is currently the corporate safety co-ordinator for CBCL Limited, an engineering and environmental design consulting company in Halifax, NS. He retired in 2005 from Michelin Tire after 28 years. In conjunction with Engineers Nova Scotia, LeLievre has been presenting safety-related lunch-and-learn seminars across Nova Scotia as part of Engineers N.S. mandatory professional development program.

1976

Michel Larade, BEng (NSTC), retired from Nova Scotia Power Inc. (NSPI) in 2009 after 33 years with the company. He currently works part-time as an external consultant to Power Production group at NSPI. He plans to spend winters in Harlingen, Tex., with spouse Adele, in their new mobile home.

1977

Jeannie (Collins) Beaudin, BSc (Pharmacy), sold her pharmacy business in 2009 and has since become a snow bird, spending winters with her husband, Jean-Marie, at their condo in Ponce Inlet, Fla. They enjoy summers at their beach home in Cap-Pelé, N.B. Jeannie continues to do relief work while in Canada, giving other pharmacists vacation time.

Daniel Stevens, BSc’75, BEng (NSTC), retired from Suncor Energy in Fort McMurray, Alta. in 2011 after 13 years in the oil sands. After retirement, he and wife Joan returned to Nova Scotia and are active in their community, joining the volunteer fire department and auxiliary and the recreation association. Daniel looks forward to attending a future Dalhousie engineering reunion and seeing many old classmaters and work associates.

1978

Dr. Batya (Wendy) Ludman, BSc, and Dr. Mark Ludman (Professor, Dalhousie Department of Pediatrics) of Ra’anana, Israel, are thrilled to announce the marriage of their son, Aaron Joshua Ludman to Einat Richman. The two are students in the Emergency Medicine Program at Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

1979

Wilhelms Van Gestel, BEng (NSTC), retired in 2009, after 30 years with the oil and gas company British Petroleum (B.P.), having started with Amoco Corporation in Edmonton, Alta. in 1979. He worked internationally during his time with B.P. in Trinidad, Indonesia, U.S.A., Gabon, Republique du Congo, Norway and Scotland. He and wife Gail returned to Canada in 2009, and settled in Wolfville, N.S. He continues to work part-time as a consultant in the oil and gas industry.

1980s

1980

Edward Gillis, BSc’79, BEng, retired from East Hants in March and he looks forward to more personal time to travel, play golf and snowboard while continuing to work part-time.


1981

Sheilagh Stewart, BComm’78, LLB, was presented with the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal by the chief of the Toronto Police Service, William Blair. Stewart was awarded this honour for her integral role in achievements in road safety. She has worked with both provincial and federal enforcement agencies, justice officials and related groups and charities. She has participated in and led numerous projects and initiatives and has written legal texts and papers at the national and international level. Stewart lectures extensively throughout the police community and has been committed to working with police services and others to save lives on the roads.

1982

Kathryn MacLellan, BPE, founded KAZAN Co-op, a live theatre production company based in Halifax, N.S. in 2011. Kathryn has had success with two shows, Communion and I, Animal. Communion was in co-production with Neptune Theatre and the National Arts Center in Ottawa to audience and critical acclaim. I, Animal premiered at the Supernova Theatre Festival in Halifax and was programmed in the National Series at the SummerWorks Theatre Festival in Toronto. It was named a “top ten” show and “not to be missed” in NOW Magazine.

1984

David McGrath, BEng (Industrial) (TUNS), has retired after 30 years of service with Bell Aliant and its predecessors. He is enjoying retirement while his wife Karen (McGean) McGrath, BEng’85 (Industrial) (TUNS) heads to work each morning. Dave stays busy with the local fire department where he has been a member for 26 years and is currently their deputy chief. He has taken up golf again and plays weekly with his father Jack McGrath during the golfing season. He plans to hit the West Coast this summer on his motor bike and to visit Europe in 2014.

Ajit Kumar Rai, MASc, returned to Dalhousie after 30 years with his wife to visit the old TUNS campus in October 2012. He caught up with former professor Dr. Eldon Gunn, the associate dean and others in the department. Rai thinks of the wonderful foundation he was able to build his career on at TUNS and the great times he had in Halifax. After graduation, he returned to India and started to make automotive control cables (www.supra-jit.com) and he is now listed in the Indian Stock Exchanges.

1985

Barry Friesen, BEng (TUNS), and wife, Marjorie’s son, Justin, recently won two awards at the 2012 Air Canada Enroute Film Festival. Justin picked up Best Documentary and the People’s Choice for his film Let’s Make Lemonade. The film follows the antics of the Lemon Bucket Orkestra, Toronto’s only Balkan-Klezmer-Gypsy-Punk-Super-Party band. More information about Justin can be found at http://www.justinfriesen.com. Kevin Schwenker, MA, was honoured with a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal last November at the CN tower in Toronto. Kevin was one of 38 Canadian volunteers nominated for the medal by the Canadian Youth Business Foundation (CYBF). He was previously recognized by CYBF as the Atlantic and National Mentor of the Year in 2010. He’s been involved with CYBF since 2005.

1986

Susan Burris, BEng (TUNS), has completed a practical nursing program (LPN) and plans to enter the nursing field as her second career. Her first career with General Motors of Canada Limited is still going strong after more than 27 years. She encourages fellow classmates from Dal and TUNS to get in touch with her at burristone@hfx.eastlink.ca.

W. Andy Knight, MA, (Political Science), has been appointed as the new director of the Institute of International Relations at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus in Trinidad and Tobago.

Thomas Power, BEng (Mechanical) (TUNS), says he is leaning to the blue collar realm these days. Tom is glad he has his engineering degree as it comes in handy for such television shows as Mythbusters and Daily Planet.

1987

Barbara Howard, LLB, former lawyer, has been publishing award-winning fiction in Alberta for the past two decades. In 2012, she published a short story collection called Western Taxidermy (NeWest Press) and co-edited the anthology Embedded on
the Home Front: Where Military and Civilian lives Converge (Heritage House). In 2013, Barb will be the writer-in-residence for the Calgary Public Library.

Keith Landra, BEng (TUNS), has been appointed chief safety officer of the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board.

1988

Bernie MacDonald, BEng, has joined Siemens Energy as a principal project manager in Orlando, Fla., with the transportation and logistics group. Beverly Vincent, BSc’83, PhD, published his third book, The Dark Tower Companion in April 2013. The book is a companion to Stephen King’s Dark Tower series. It covers all eight novels, along with other King books that are tied to the series. Vincent’s previous books, The Road To The Dark Tower (NAL, 2004) and The Stephen King Illustrated Companion (Fall River Press, 2008) were both nominated for the Bram Stoker Award and The Road To The Dark Tower was also nominated for an Edgar Award. To find out more about Vincent and his publications, visit www.bevincent.com.

1989

Rob Stairs, BEng, is currently working as a software engineer with Autodesk, a 3-D design, engineering, and entertainment software and services company. He lives in Westwood, Mass., with his wife, Irene, son, Will, and daughter, Hannah.

Vincent Sweeney, BEng’86, MASC, has been heading the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities (GPA) for just over a year now (www.gpa.unep.org). He is based in Nairobi, Kenya in the headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) who he has been with for almost seven years. Sweeney’s programme seeks to reduce impacts from activities on land such as wastewater generation, littering, and over-application of fertilizers and was featured in the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012.

Glen Ward, BA’95, BSc, and Dianne (Winsor) Ward, BSc’96, BScPh’00, are happy to announce the birth of their first child, Emma Claire, born in July 2012. Mom and baby are healthy and all are happy to have this new addition to the family. Emma was named after Glen’s great aunt Emma Ward McKinnon of Springhill, N.S.

1990s

1991

Dr. Alain LeBlanc, BEng’85 (TUNS), MD, is switching gears from a career in engineering to medicine. He would like to let everyone know he has great memories of his experience at TUNS, and that engineering was more difficult than medicine, although medicine is still proving to be a challenge.
He lives in Victoria, B.C., and works in the field of sports and exercise medicine, devoting part of his week to orthopaedic surgery as an operating room assistant, which he finds makes great use of his engineering training. He encourages fellow classmates to reconnect with him on Facebook and to check out ReBalanceMD.com (an innovative way of delivering musculo-skeletal health care).

1993
Timothy Dickinson, BEng (TUNS), is now living in Australia after moving there with his wife. He recently joined the business software company, CA Technologies. After graduation, Dickinson went on to complete a MASc at U. of T. and held a few R&D engineering jobs in Chalk River and Ottawa. In 1998, he moved to the U.K. after joining the Nortel juggernaut until 2009. He plans to stay in Australia and returns to Canada every two years or so to visit. He hopes fellow TUNS classmates are doing well.

Jamie Fraser, BSc’82, MD’86, PGM, was appointed second vice president of the Radiology Society of North America (Nov. 2012 - Nov. 2013). For more information on this large international society, please visit RSNA.org. He is also a board member of the Dalhousie Alumni Association.

Minelle Mahtani, BA, received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for outstanding contributions to the field of ethnic media during the Canadian Ethnic Media Association’s annual gala in December 2012.

1996
Dr. James Marshall, BSc, was appointed president of the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association (ABVMA) last February.

1997
Jason Simpson, BSc’95, BEng, has been appointed chief operating officer of Torex Gold Resources Inc. in Toronto, Ont.

1998
Grenville Phillips, BEng’91 (TUNS), MASMRP (TUNS), was elected a Fellow of the Institution of Structural Engineers and a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Highways and Transportation. Phillips lives in Barbados and works throughout the Caribbean.

1999
Daniel Phillips, BEng (Mechanical), hopes everyone from the mechanical engineering classes of 1998 and 1999 is doing very well. Daniel currently lives in Toronto with his wife and six-month-old baby boy. He is the director of television marketing for Sony of Canada. If anyone is in the Toronto area and wants to catch up, please find him on LinkedIn.

Sean Tibbetts, XBScA’94, MSc, successfully defended his doctoral thesis and received his PhD degree in fish nutrition at Wageningen University of Life Sciences, the Netherlands, in January 2012. He continues to work on applied human and animal nutrition research and micro-algal...
biotechnology with the National Research Council in Halifax. Dr. Tibbetts was appointed adjunct professor at Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture and lives in Timberlea, N.S., with his wife Shannon (BSc (Biology)`93, BSc (Aquaculture)`98) and two sons Eryn, 6 and Liam, 2. He would love to hear from fellow alumni by email at sean.tibbetts@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca.

2000s

2000

(Donald) Ritchie Murray, BEng, is still working for Enbridge Gas Distribution in Toronto, Ont. His latest assignment is manager for Natural Gas for Transportation (NGT) business development. Murray is married to Sherri (Keating) from Guysborough, N.S. They have two kids, daughter Emerson, four years old, and son, Elliott, three months. His latest hobby includes gold panning, extracting gold from a placer deposit using a pan (check him out on YouTube)!

Shawn Tracey, BSc, MBA'13, and Kelly Tracey are pleased to announce the arrival of their second child, a son, Quinn David on February 2, 2012. New again parents, older sister Clare and Quinn are doing great!

2001

Grant Sullivan, BEng`91 (TUNS), MBA`95, MEC, was recognized January 24, 2013, at the Halifax Business Awards ceremony for leading his team to worldwide sales in excess of $50M in IT consulting. Sullivan is vice president of global delivery at CGI Information and Management Systems and has been teaching at Dalhousie MBA Financial Services for close to ten years in information systems and project management.

2003

Jaymi (Cormier) Taiani, BEng, has completed a master’s degree and a PhD in biomedical engineering at the University of Calgary. Her research focused on using stem cells to improve bone fracture healing in osteoporotic bone. Taiani works in the McCaig Institute for Bone and Joint Health at the University of Calgary in a position that she created as a public educator. In partnership with various community groups, including the Arthritis Society, Osteoporosis Canada and Calgary’s Telus Spark Science Centre, her job raises awareness of bone and joint health in the community and promotes the research endeavours currently underway at the University of Calgary in this field.

Matthieu Trudeau, BEng, graduated in May with a doctoral degree in ergonomics from the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston. He has accepted a position as a PostDoc in the Human Performance Lab, Department of Kinesiology at the University of Calgary.

2006

Yaser Chaban Kabakibo, BEng, would like to say how valuable the classes he took with Professor Dr. Peter Gregson (biomedical engineering) were. Kabakibo learned how to understand a vast array of topics to easily shape a solution to a technical problem for a customer. This understanding is important in his position as vice president sales and marketing for an engineering services company, where his challenge is to find the right solution and the best talent to solve engineering problems for his clients.

Brian Brown, BEng (Mechanical), retired from the RCAF as a captain in the aerospace engineering trade in September 2012. Brown is enjoying life in the Annapolis Valley, N.S. on his 52-acre property, spending his time tending to his vineyard and making some great wines.

2007

Kenneth Braedley, BEng’03, DMet, is now working for Environment Canada as an Operational Meteorologist at Canadian Forces Base Gagetown in Oromocto, N.B., after returning to Dal to complete a Diploma in Meteorology.
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2008
Carlos Palacious, BEng, has held several challenging posts since he graduated with his civil engineering degree. Among his most significant work experiences he includes the time he spent as a member of the Miami-based design team that laid out “The World” in Dubai, which consists of 300 human-made islands in the shape of the world map. Prompted by his keen interest in coastal development and restoration, he has also gained a master’s degree in coastal and oceanographic engineering from the University of Florida (2010) and he is currently employed as a coastal and civil engineer at Caribbean Coastal Services, a project management and consulting engineering firm that specializes in marine and structural engineering projects throughout The Bahamas. He is also principal and managing director, Marine Development and Construction Ltd. (MDC), focusing on specialty marine projects such as beach nourishment, wetland restoration and marinas. In his spare time, he enjoys going to the gym, fishing, jet skiing, and travelling.

Farah N. Jaber, BEng (Electrical), moved to Kuwait City and worked as a network and communications engineer and as a design engineer in the electrical and electronic fields for over four years after graduation. She has experience with major networks including Nortel and Cisco and their associated technical documentation and design drawings. She recently started working at Fleetway, an engineering, technical, logistics and management service company, as an electrical engineer.

2010
Peter Young, BEng’94 (TUNS), MES, has spent the last two and a half years living in Kyiv, Ukraine and volunteering with CCX-Ukraine, a non-profit, non-denominational Christian organization that helps students develop their language and leadership skills. Young moved back to Nova Scotia in December 2012 and is currently living near Bridgewater, N.S.

2011
Hannah Rittner, BA, would like to spread the word about her first theatre production, Estate which premiered in January at Halifax’s Neptune Theatre.
IN MEMORIAM

Phyllis May (Gardner) Kennedy, BA’32, Halifax, N.S., on January 28, 2013
Janet Alicia (Mont) Easton, BA’32, Halifax, N.S., on January 29, 2013
David Lloyd MacIntosh, BA’33, BSc’34, MD’39, East York, Ont., on January 12, 2013
James Lionel Metheral Thurlow, BSc’35, MSc’38, Bracebridge, Ont., on January 8, 2013
Elizabeth Alice Hartling, BA’37, Halifax, N.S., on December 30, 2012
Julius Denison Solomon, DEng’40, Halifax, N.S., on January 27, 2013
Douglas Gordon Black, MD’44, Annapolis Royal, N.S., on March 11, 2013
John Drake Misick, BA’46, Halifax, N.S., on December 15, 2012
Douglas Haig MacKenzie, MD’47, Baddeck, N.S., on December 24, 2012
Roderick Alexander MacAulay, BA’48, Pincher Creek, Alta., on January 13, 2013
Wendell Wyn Meldrum, LLB’48, Sackville, N.B., on February 13, 2013
David Ralph Parsons, BEng’50, Hantsport, N.S., on January 4, 2013
Charles Keith Hoyt, BSc’49, MSc’50, Halifax, N.S., on March 8, 2013
Charles Anslcy Seely, BComm’50, Ottawa, Ont., on December 11, 2012
W. Andrew MacKay, BA’50, LLB’53, LLM’54, LLB’03, Halifax, N.S., on January 12, 2013
Dennis William Perry, BEng’52, Chester, N.S., on July 8, 2013
Margaret Louise Collicutt, DTSN’52, BN’62, Halifax, N.S., on January 30, 2013
Ethel Florence (Andrews) Perkins, BSc’53, St. John’s, N.L., on March 20, 2013
Jerome Hunt Spidle, BEng’57, Deep River, Ont., on January 9, 2013
Harold Kitchener Attwood, BEng’55, MBA’72, Halifax, N.S., on December 30, 2012
Alexander Eli Hoffman, DDS’55, Halifax, N.S., on March 24, 2013
George Hubert MacNeill, LLB’57, Amherst, N.S., on December 8, 2012
John David Hill, LLB’57, Wolfville, N.S., on April 6, 2013
John Jay, BEng’59, Halifax, N.S., on February 20, 2013
Tai Young Huh, MSc’60, Halifax, N.S., on December 15, 2012

John Alastair Lisle Murray, BAHC’60, DEd’65, Seabright, N.S., on February 5, 2013
Clive Stanley Macdonald, MD’60, New Waterford, N.S., on February 10, 2013
T. Hugh Ross Byrne, BComm’60, Lunenburg, N.S., on March 2, 2013
Hugh David Logan, LLB’61, Stratford, P.E.I., on January 17, 2013
Sarah (MacGlashen) Drinkwater, MA’65, St. John’s, N.L., on December 18, 2012
Daurene Elaine Lewis, DTSN’65, Halifax, N.S., on January 26, 2013
Shirley (Hodder) DeBow, BA’65, Lethbridge, Alta., on March 25, 2013
Edward Gerard Robinson, BEng’66, St. John’s, N.L., on January 12, 2013
John Dougall MacIsaac, LLB’66, Halifax, N.S., on February 26, 2013
Nelson Gordon Dundie, BEng’67, MEng’69, Edmonton, Alta., on February 23, 2013
Edward George Thomson, PGM’67, PGM’71, Wolfville, N.S., on March 27, 2013
Brendon Lewis Yazer, BA’68, Caribou Marsh, N.S., on January 19, 2013
William Frederick Barrett, BEng’68, Dartmouth, N.S., on March 22, 2013
Ronald Reginald Durling, BSc’69, MD’74, Pleasantville, N.S., on December 17, 2012
Lexine Carolyn (Jewer) Murrant, BA’69, BEd’70, Bedford, N.S., on January 3, 2013
Gordon Charles Huntington, BEng’70, Address Unknown, on January 3, 2013
John David Spencer, BEng’71, Halifax, N.S., on March 11, 2013
John Daniel Mosher, BSc’73, MBA’78, Halifax, N.S., on March 5, 2013
Jean MacAulay, BSc’74, Dartmouth, N.S., on March 11, 2013
John Alfred Stanton, PhD’75, Sackville, N.B., on January 17, 2013
Douglas Charles Walter Wavrock, BSc’76, BEd’76, Calgary, Alta., on January 12, 2013
Robert Norris Gibb, BA’78, Cadotte Lake, Alta., on December 28, 2012
Charles Broderick, LLB’78, Sydney, N.S., on January 19, 2013
Jeannie Marie Simpsons, Ph.D.’80, Sydney, N.S., on November 5, 2013
Diana Margaret Kulyns, BA’79, MLS’84, Halifax, N.S., on December 22, 2012
Helen Sandra Goodwin, BA’80, Southamption, N.S., on January 24, 2013
David Murray Cooper, LLB’81, Suratthani, Thailand, on March 2, 2013

Daniel Tyler Lipsett, BEDS’83, BA’83, BArch’85, St. Maarten, Netherlands Antilles, on December 17, 2012
Joseph Albert Muir, BA’83, Miramichi, N.B., on February 26, 2013
Patti Louise (Heppell) Wilson, BScOT’85, Bedford, N.S., on February 17, 2013
Kevin Gordon Johnston, BSc’85, BEng’88, Dartmouth, N.S., on March 9, 2013
William Panteluk, BA’87, BEd’89, Halifax, N.S., on January 5, 2013
Gillian Elizabeth Wood, MA’88, Halifax, N.S., on January 22, 2013
Alice Doreen Isnor, BW’89, Cambridge Bay, NU, on January 25, 2013
Rufino Achila Orru, BA’93, North York, Ont., on February 3, 2013
Bennett Martin, CAFNC’95, River John, N.S., on February 5, 2013
Jean Marie Hill, MURP’97, Bedford, N.S., on March 24, 2013
Jennifer Angela Giles, BScN’08, Dartmouth, N.S., on January 3, 2013
Robert Earle Bellefontaine, BW’08, Halifax, N.S., on February 25, 2013
Panagiotis Lawson Apostolakos, BCD’09, Fort McMurray, Alta., on March 30, 2013
Alexander Matthew Burke Taylor, BSc’12, Hammonds Plains, N.S., on February 5, 2013

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SUMMER | 2013
NAME: Dr. Michael Cada, professor and researcher in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

BY DAY: Dr. Cada's expertise is in communications, photonics, fibre-optics, optoelectronics and nanotechnology. He is collaborating with European Union colleagues to study the amount of nanoparticles released into the air when cars brake. "The friction caused by brake pads releases ultra-small, invisible particles that may penetrate your skin, even get into individual cells. The objective of our research is to find out how harmful these particles are," he says.

BY NIGHT: Dr. Cada is a classically trained pianist who "turned into a self-trained rocker" and drummer. He says that classical background helped him to learn rock music, pointing out that Mozart invented some of the chord progressions still used in modern rock songs. Since converting to rock and roll, Dr. Cada has kept the beat in many bands including a Beatles tribute band called the Hard Day's Knights and, currently, the blues/rock group the George Carter Jr. Trio, which plays parties, pubs, legions and festivals across Nova Scotia. "Music is a creative activity, while mathematics and engineering are too," he says. "I believe that combining them has provided many creative benefits for me – in math, engineering and music."

MUSICAL BEGINNINGS: As a youngster in Prague, Dr. Cada's family lived above the apartment of a Jewish family whose three members had survived the Holocaust. "As my father would say, they were 'poor as church mice.' One of the sisters was a piano virtuoso – we could hear her playing through the floor of our apartment. My father asked her to teach me, and I took lessons for about seven years.

"On the day she was leaving for Switzerland, she came to our apartment to say goodbye. She told my father that because I was her first student, she was giving us her Petrof concerto grand piano."

From these classical beginnings, a lifetime love of music developed. And while Dr. Cada says his heart is in rock and roll, that doesn't mean he's turned his back on other musical forms. "There is only good music and bad music," he says, not good or bad genres.

by Dawn Morrison
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For former national volleyball team member Karen Moore (BComm ’82), it wasn’t competing in the Canada Games, Pan-Am Games, or even the Olympics that she’s most proud of; it was winning the ’82 national university title for Dalhousie in front of a home crowd. That’s Tiger Pride. And like proud alum everywhere, Karen shops at dal.ca/dalgear for an unbeatable selection of Dal-branded clothing and accessories.

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