

DAL MAGAZINE

SPRING 2018



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into knowledge**

**Dr. Nicole Ward,
1997 Killam Scholar**



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BUILDING BLOCKS While every one of Dal's 200 years has contained memorable moments, valuable donations and important decisions, a few stand out as foundational. We look at four. By Stefanie Wilson
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DALMAGAZINE

MASTHEAD

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ADVERTISING MANAGER
Patty Baxter, Metro Guide Publishing

ART DIRECTOR
Paul Williams

PUBLICATION DESIGN
Watkins Communication and Design

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
Jane Lombard

.....
CLASS NOTES classnotes@dal.ca

IN MEMORIAM alumni.records@dal.ca

ADDRESS CHANGES
Tel: (902) 494-6855; 1 (800) 565-9969
Email: alumni.records@dal.ca
Alumni Records, Office of Advancement,
Dalhousie University, PO Box 15000,
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 4R2

PUBLISHED AND PRODUCED BY
Dalhousie University Communications
and Marketing

.....
CANADA POST PUBLICATIONS: MAIL PM41901013
RETURN UNDELIVERABLE ITEMS TO:
ALUMNI OFFICE, DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY, PO BOX 15000,
HALIFAX, NS B3H 4R2

CONTRIBUTORS

NIKKI BEAUCHAMP is the communications advisor with the Dalhousie-based Ocean Tracking Network. A graduate of Dalhousie and NSCC, Nikki is combining her science and communication skills to bring awareness to ocean research.

FALLON BOURGEOIS is a communications officer with Dalhousie's Office of Advancement. With a background in English and public relations, Fallon spent her early career working with several local non-profit organizations before joining the Advancement team in 2015.

JESSICA FEADER is the manager, advancement marketing with Dalhousie's Office of Advancement. A native of Toronto, Jessica spent four years as a fundraising and marketing consultant for global non-profits after completing her MA in Arts Administration and Policy at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

LINDSAY SAVELLE is a communications officer for Dalhousie's Communications and Marketing team. Prior to joining the team, she spent over five years working as a communications and policy manager in the non-profit sector.

EDITORIAL

BUILDING CONFIDENCE

It's always a surprise when we find out that the people we think have it all together sometimes worry that they don't, since we tend to associate a lack of confidence with a lack of skill. Ironically, it turns out that correlation isn't always true. In psychology, the Dunning-Kruger effect explains that people of low skill often believe they are more competent than they are. Why? Because they lack the self-awareness to evaluate their competency. On the flipside, people who are competent often underestimate their relative skill level because they tend to overestimate the skills of others.

And so sometimes incredibly competent people can need a little confidence boost. Perhaps then it shouldn't be a surprise that the refrain "It gave me confidence" popped up more than once in *Brain Trust* (p. 14), our feature on Dal's Killam scholars. Even our best and brightest have moments of doubt, and value the confidence-boost of a prize like the Killam—the financial support of which has resulted in significant advances across a wide range of fields. It is a remarkable legacy for funders Dorothy and Izaak Killam.

But support doesn't have to be Killam-sized to have an impact. Sometimes simply alleviating a bit of financial pressure can help a student continue on the path to academic success. That's the thinking behind Dal's new micro-bursaries (p. 44). Because whether it's a confidence-builder or a stress remover, a financial boost at just the right moment can make a world of difference.



CORRECTION: In our Winter 2018 issue, we misspelled two names. We apologize to Jeremy Stroud and to Dr. Ronald Stewart for the errors, which have been corrected in the online versions of the magazine.

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EQUALITY IN THE DIGITAL WORLD?

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The Faculty of Computer Science is working to double the number of women entering our undergraduate programs for 2018. But we can't do it alone. From funds for scholarships to meaningful internship opportunities to volunteering as a mentor, this is your opportunity to support the future you'd like to see. Contact adrienne.power@dal.ca to get involved.



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FUTURE ALUMNI

Raising voices

Newly-elected Dal Student Union president Aaron Prosper wants to ensure that Indigenous voices are heard on the issues that affect them. "In my community, you are taught that you are Mi'kmaq first. When you leave the community, you have a responsibility to your people to ensure that they are represented and have a voice," says the fourth-year Neuroscience student and member of Eskasoni First Nation. "Much of my work has been dedicated to figuring out how to best accomplish this." Prosper spends his spare time providing cultural and educational workshops to members of the Dalhousie and greater community. An active member of the Eastern Eagle Drumming group, he says the drum instills a sense of hope for him and his people that others are listening to the beliefs and needs of his community. "Drumming brings me a sense of peace as it represents the heartbeat of my nation," says Aaron. Through his upcoming role of DSU president, Prosper hopes to create a safe space on campus where all student voices can be heard and represented. Following graduation, Prosper plans to pursue a medical degree. "Health-care services and employment opportunities are not easily accessible to members of my community," he says. "Often times they are not overseen by members of Indigenous communities. I want to address these issues through developing direct partnerships between the government and Indigenous communities and build systems, policies and programs from the ground up."

—Lindsay Savelle



DAL NEWS

Three minutes of “trash talk” about the Bahamas helped Kristal Ambrose (right) win over the audience and the judges at the Three-Minute Thesis (3MT) finals at Dalhousie in March. The Masters of Marine Management student, whose research looks at how plastic waste impacts her home country of the Bahamas, won first place in the judged competition, netting a \$2,000 scholarship. She also took home a \$500 scholarship for winning the people's choice award, as voted on by a capacity crowd of 260 people at the Student Union Building's McInnes Room. —Jonathan Briggs



#

BY THE NUMBERS

Ocean economy boost

Canada took its next big step to becoming a global leader in the knowledge-based ocean economy when the federal government announced its support for a new industry-led collaboration in February. The Ocean Supercluster was one of five successful initiatives across the country to attract substantial federal funding to match private-sector investment in a proposed new approach to fostering innovation and economic growth. The result will see hundreds of millions of new dollars invested in ocean-related research and development and commercialization. Dalhousie is one of the supercluster's founding post-secondary partners. Visit oceansupercluster.ca for more information.

—Matt Reeder

THE LIST

Student leaders

Each year, Dalhousie's Board of Governors' Awards celebrate students who have made exceptional contribution or leadership in the extracurricular realm. The recipients are nominated by their peers and chosen by a committee consisting of the president, three Board members and the vice-provost student affairs. This year's winners were:

- **YASER ALKAYALE**, Computer Science, who launched the Syrian Student Society in 2015, as well as participating in a range of other volunteer activities.
- **LEAH CARRIER**, Nursing, an Indigenous person and member of the LGBTQ2S+ community who became the first VP of inclusion and equity

for the Dalhousie Nursing Society, and an advocate for mental health initiatives.

- **JEREMY STROUD**, International Food Business, a student leader at the Agricultural Campus who has held multiple student government positions as well as taking part in entrepreneurship and other activities.
- **MARTHA PAYNTER**, Nursing (PhD), a feminist and advocate focusing on the needs of criminalized perinatal women and other marginalized women.
- **JAD SINNO**, Psychiatry Research (Master's), whose research and volunteer work has focused on the mental health impacts of immigration and transcultural psychiatry.

70+

Number of organizations that have made cash and in-kind investments as part of the supercluster proposal

\$200 million+

Amount committed by partner organizations

2030

The year by which the OECD projects that the ocean economy will more than double in size

WHY I DO IT

WHALE WATCHER

NAME: Kim Davies

POSITION: Research Associate, Department of Oceanography

HER BACKSTORY: Kim Davies (PhD'12) began her doctoral studies in the Department of Oceanography on right whale habitat around southern Nova Scotia. "In 2010, surveys started to indicate a decline of right whales in their known and protected habitats that indicated a change in their food resource, but we had no idea where to look for them," explains Dr. Davies. After graduating, she created the Whales, Habitat and Listening Experiment (The WHaLE Project), a project that uses underwater robots called gliders to search for baleen whale habitats by concurrently listening for whale calls and monitoring the ocean environment in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Scotian Shelf.

HIGHLIGHTS: The goal of the WHaLE project is finding and defining whale habitat on Canada's east and west coasts, though most pressingly North Atlantic right whales. Though she describes the work as "looking for a needle in a haystack," the program has so far been instrumental in helping discover previously unknown right whale habitat in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, a critical step in protecting the some-450 right whales left in the world.

WHY SHE DOES IT: Right whales are fascinating animals to learn about, and at the same time they are at serious risk of extinction because of ship strikes and fishing gear entanglements. "I do this (glider-based monitoring) because I can learn more about them while also contributing to efforts to reduce harm to them," says Dr. Davies. —Nikki Beauchamp



It's like "looking for a needle in a haystack," says Dr. Davies, but the program is a critical step in protecting the right whales left in the world.

DAL NEWS

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



Moose meat minestrone soup and traditional Bannock bread were on the menu at the Indigenous Student Centre's Friday Feast, a chance for students to connect in a safe space.

Indigenous feasts

Delicious food that gives Indigenous students a bit of a feeling of home: that's what's on offer at Dalhousie's Indigenous Student Centre (ISC) at the monthly Friday Feast. It's a time to come together, unwind and share a home-cooked meal inspired by traditional Indigenous cuisine, such as moose meat minestrone soup and traditional Bannock bread. "It's hard to cook and you can't get it anywhere else," says Angel Moore, an Indigenous student at King's College and writing tutor at the ISC. She hadn't had Bannock since coming back to school last year as a mature student.

Michele Graveline, the Indigenous student advisor, says the Friday Feasts are generally reserved for Indigenous students, stressing the importance of them having a safe space to

gather. "Dalhousie is working to make more safe spaces for Indigenous persons, but we're still living in a colonialized time and Dalhousie is a colonial institution, so the Friday Feasts can be an important element for Indigenous students' well-being," she says.

Indigenous food was also an important part of an event organized at the Agricultural Campus in February. The Apuknagit Mi'kmaq February Feast aimed to nourish bodies, minds and hearts of participants. It involved a traditional smudging, a Blanket Exercise, talking circles and a feast. The event was the brainchild of Aiden Mesher, a first-year Animal Science and pre-vet student and a Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nations Band member and non-status Metis from Labrador. —files from Nari Williams and Rebekah Bailey



RESEARCH

DENTISTRY SLEEP

RESEARCH A Faculty of Dentistry team's 18 years of work on snoring and sleep apnea has been recognized with the Daniel M. Laskin Award, marking the year's most outstanding article in the *Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery*. The winning team was comprised of oral maxillofacial surgeon Dr. Reg Goodday (DDS '79, MSc '88), who teaches in the Faculty of Dentistry; Dr. Susan Bourque (DDS '07, MSc '13), an oral and maxillofacial sciences resident at the time of the research; and Dr. Pember Edwards (DDS '16), a dentistry student during the research. They studied hundreds of patient records and analyzed data relating to snoring, extremely high levels of obstructive sleep apnea and the effectiveness of surgery in treating the condition, and focused on those who had undergone maxillomandibular advancement (MMA) surgery using the Delaire method. It was the first study to demonstrate the effectiveness of the surgery in treating extremely severe obstructive sleep apnea syndrome.

—Cheryl Bell



INNOVATOR

ELAINE CRAIG

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW

INNOVATION: No other book in Canada has done what Professor Elaine Craig's ground-breaking new book, *Putting Trials on Trial: Sexual Assault and the Failure of the Legal Profession*, has—it documents what actually occurs in sexual assault trials in Canada today. Craig used interviews with senior lawyers and trial transcripts to provide empirical evidence to rebut the claim that women are no longer brutalized on the stand during sexual assault trials. She also gives recommendations for how lawyers and judges could improve the trial process for complainants without compromising the rights of the accused.

FOUNDATION: Sexual assault survivors often distrust and fear the criminal justice process, and for good reason. The legal profession unnecessarily—and sometimes unlawfully—contributes to the traumatization and re-victimization experienced by those who testify as sexual assault complainants. These women are regularly subjected to abusive, humiliating and discriminatory treatment when they turn to the law to respond to sexual violations.

INSPIRATION: The reality of the gap between Canada's very progressive laws protecting sexual assault complainants and the lived reality of women who go through this process inspired Craig's work.

IN HER WORDS: "This book is a hard read; it's graphic and traumatic. I tried to write it in plain language to make it accessible—it isn't only for academics and lawyers. Even if I can't convince the legal profession that it needs to change, my hope is that it'll be affirming for the women who go through this process."

WHY IT MATTERS: Over 90 per cent of sexual assaults in Canada go unreported, and one of the main reasons many women don't report is the fear of being re-victimized by the legal system. "Their fears are well founded," says Craig. "If we want to have a just legal system, we have to improve where we can." —Jane Doucet



"There are things we as a profession can do to improve this experience that will treat sexual assault survivors more humanely."

DAL NEWS

NOTES

Bicentennial Commons design

The sky is the limit when it comes to planning for Dalhousie's newest common outdoor space: the Bicentennial Commons. The proposed space will be an extension of the Studley Quad, at the end of University Avenue where the Killam Loop is currently.

Nathan Rogers, assistant director of planning with Facilities Management, says that the goal is to create an inspirational public space that is meaningful locally and globally, for people of all cultures. Some aspects of diversity that will be considered during the engagement and implementation processes include: symbols, agriculture, infrastructure, accessibility, Indigenous and settler history, as well as ways to reflect the 125 countries that are represented at Dalhousie University.

Input was gathered through in-person sessions held on campus in the spring as well as through an online survey. That information will be collated and shared with a landscape designer who will begin putting



Community input is helping Dalhousie realize its goal of ensuring the new Bicentennial Commons is an inspirational public space that is meaningful for people of all cultures.

an official plan together that will come back to the community and then go to the Board of Governors for approval.

—Mary Jane Webber

FCC supports Ag Campus

Canada's leading agricultural lender, Farm Credit Canada (FCC), recently gifted \$100,000 to the Faculty of Agriculture to support the new Student Learning Commons (SLC) currently under construction on the Agricultural Campus. This facility will provide students with a social gathering place at the heart of campus, spaces for collaboration and meetings, video-conferencing capabilities, individual study rooms, access to meditation and multi-cultural space and facilities for student-led events.

In addition FCC has committed to provide FCC software for student use in the classroom, valued at \$37,500, and \$15,000 per year to support student-focused campus activities such as student orientation, workshops and events. The total value of their gift over the next three years is \$182,500. FCC has generously supported student achievement, spaces and experiences on the Agricultural Campus for many years.

"University agriculture programs are innovation hubs that serve and support Canadian Agriculture," said Faith Matchett, VP operations for FCC. "We are very proud to have such a strong partnership with Dalhousie University's Faculty of Agriculture. Dalhousie alumni, students, faculty and staff are foundational to the continued growth, innovation and success

of agriculture in Atlantic Canada."

—Stephanie Rogers

Building inclusion

Tereigh Ewert-Bauer joined Dal's Centre for Learning and Teaching (CLT) in January as its first senior educational developer for diversity and inclusion, tasked with helping faculty better integrate inclusive perspectives and methods into curricula and pedagogy. "The university is focusing on how the campus environment is enriched when diverse voices are heard," says Ewert-Bauer, who spent 17 years working on inclusive pedagogies and Indigenization at the University of Saskatchewan before joining Dal.

Ewert-Bauer's role at CLT ranges from awareness-building and

dispelling misconceptions, to promoting inclusive teaching strategies, assessment, inclusive curricula, programmatic outcomes and intergroup relationships. She endeavours to address issues of inclusion in the Dal community at every level and to collaborate with faculty as they continue to develop an awareness of their students' diversity and intersectionality. Dal is among only a handful of institutions in Canada to create a dedicated position to support faculty in this area—a testament to the commitment of the university in creating a more diverse and inclusive campus. "We have a long way to go, but engaging in this work will help move us towards an inclusive and equitable campus where everyone can achieve their potential," says Ewert-Bauer. —Molly Marcott

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**DAL'S THIRD
CENTURY**

IGNITE IS A FORAY INTO DAL'S NEXT CENTURY.

THE FIRST 200 YEARS OF DALHOUSIE'S HISTORY is written. Now we look forward. **Ignite: Dal's Third Century** is where we will begin our journey. An evening of unparalleled celebration and discovery, Ignite is a chance to explore even greater horizons of opportunity and global impact leading us into the next century.

A PASSION FOR DISCOVERY

Through engaging and immersive storytelling, Dalhousie researchers will take the stage to share their perspectives and solutions to some of the world's greatest challenges, challenges not contained to individual communities and countries, but shared by all humanity. At Dal, research and innovation is given a place to develop into ideas that can change the world. Our passion for the discovery of new knowledge has been a constant throughout our history and will continue to guide us.

So what are the global challenges that will define the next 100 years? And what's being done? What is your role?

POWERING THE POPULATION

Arguably one of the greatest issues facing our planet and species is finding sustainable and storable sources of renewable energy. It's the only way we can limit the impacts of global climate change and power a growing population. Mita Dasog, an assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry, will share her work built around discovering and developing cheaper, safer and more efficient materials and technologies for harvesting and storing solar energy.

FEEDING THE FUTURE

By 2050, the global population is expected to reach 9.7 billion people, meaning 2.3 billion more people to feed. Innovative approaches like the one happening at Dal's Faculty of Agriculture through a partnership with Ethiopia is better equipping that

country—where 80-85 per cent of the population is employed in agriculture yet still struggle with food insecurity—for the future. As part of the Agricultural Transformation through Stronger Vocational Education project, Dal experts are helping the country reshape agricultural education to move the country beyond its subsistence-based foundation towards a system that improves production, strengthens communities and supports a stronger economy that benefits the entire country.

PROBING OUR DNA

When it comes to DNA, surprisingly zebrafish and humans aren't all that different. Ultimately the likeness means there's huge potential in zebrafish models to identify the genes that underlie human diseases. And it's at the Zebrafish Core Facility where researchers like Jason Berman in the Faculty of Medicine evaluate genetic modifications and therapeutic responses to transplanted human cells in zebrafish in real time. The research is providing insights into diseases like breast cancer, cardiac development, neurological disease, memory and other phenomena.

A HOMECOMING HIGHLIGHT

Ignite (September 28, Halifax Convention Centre) is the opening event of Homecoming Weekend 2018 and a highlight of Dal's bicentennial year. Come back to campus. Catch up with classmates, visit familiar places on campus and the city, and see how the university has grown. Celebrate the role you've played in Dal's first 200 years. More on Homecoming Weekend 2018 can be found on pages 36-37.—Fallon Bourgeois

For Ignite ticket information visit:
alumni.dal.ca/ignite



Dorothy Killam's gift
helped transform
Canada's university
research landscape.



brain

Fifty years ago, Dorothy Killam decided she wanted to help halt Canada's brain drain.

In the half century since, the Killam Trusts have funded Canada's top scholars, including almost 1,800 Dalhousie researchers.

Matt Reeder looks at the impact of a gift that continues to benefit scholars—and society.

With files from Mark Campbell

trust



Dr. Ryan D'Arcy (MSc'98, PhD'02)

There's a segment in the documentary film *Peace Warrior* when former Canadian soldier Trevor Greene resolves to walk again one day. It's a remarkable decision for many reasons, not the least of which is that just a few years prior doctors predicted Greene might be stuck in a coma for life after suffering a massive brain injury from a brutal axe attack to the head while on duty in Afghanistan.

The story of Captain Greene's survival in the surprise 2006 Taliban attack and subsequent recovery brims with dramatic twists and turns, hingeing on the heroic, split-second decisions of a number of individuals and, later, Greene's own determination to rebuild his life. But it was a scene in the film where Greene meets with an orthopaedic specialist years after the incident that elicited the biggest reaction from neuroscientist Ryan D'Arcy (MSc'98, PhD'02).

"This orthopaedic specialist basically tells him, 'Do I think you're going to walk again? No,'" recalls Dr. D'Arcy, who had tuned into an airing of the film on TV one evening during some downtime on a holiday break in 2009. "At that point, I was yelling at the TV because it wasn't an orthopaedic problem, it was a problem with his brain."

Dr. D'Arcy felt so moved by Greene's story that he reached out to him with an offer to help in his quest to walk again. As founder and head of the National Research Council's Institute for Biodiagnostics in Halifax at the time (now BIOTIC), the Dal alum was already a leading light in the field of neuroscience and medical technologies in Canada.

Thankfully, Greene and his wife, Debbie, were receptive to Dr. D'Arcy's unconventional idea of using advanced brain imaging over the long term to monitor changes in his brain during the rehabilitation process. Initial results of the study—on which the Greens are co-investigators—shattered the conventional view that people who suffer traumatic brain injury don't heal much beyond the first sixth months. It also illustrated how mentally visualizing

physical activity (competitive rowing, in Greene's case) can contribute to the rewiring of the brain during healing.

"We could show a linear change in recovery of his brain activity that matched these amazing milestones of his ability to regain walking function, which was very profound," says Dr. D'Arcy, now a professor at Simon Fraser University and head of health sciences and innovation at Surrey Memorial Hospital in B.C.


"The Killam encouraged me to be innovative in my work"

"Now, we are seeing a massive uptake in the switch to using advanced brain imaging to monitor the effects of different treatments over time."

Dr. D'Arcy's groundbreaking work with Greene, currently in a second, even more ambitious phase dubbed Project Iron Soldier, and on other innovative projects has catapulted him to the forefront of the diagnosis and treatment of brain injury in Canada. It's a journey he links back to his time as a Dalhousie University Killam scholar.

"It gave me confidence I was launching a career where I could make a difference," Dr. D'Arcy says of the award. "Recognition as a Killam Scholar encouraged me to always strive for the best and to be innovative in my work."

Dr. D'Arcy is one of the many exceptional individ-

A black and white portrait of Dr. Nicole Ward. She is a woman with long, dark, wavy hair, wearing glasses and a white lab coat. She is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a simple, light-colored wall with a vertical shadow on the right side.

Dr. Nicole Ward,
1997 Killam Scholar

uals to have gotten his start as a scholar with the support of the Killam Trusts. The Trusts, which marked their 50th anniversary last fall, have provided funding of more than \$85 million for almost 1,800 Dal graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, enabling them to create new knowledge and make a difference in fields as varied as immigration policy, climate change and cancer research. And it's work that is continuing, as a new generation of Killam scholars are funded each year.

Helping build Canada's future through advanced study in this way was central to the vision of Dorothy J. Killam. Her generous gifts before and after her death in 1965 of more than \$100 million helped transform the university research landscape in Canada.

The bequests placed Dalhousie among an elite group of universities. It is one of five institutions in Canada to award Killam Scholarships, alongside the University of Calgary, the University of Alberta and the University of British Columbia, as well as the Montreal Neurological Institute, a McGill University-based world leader in brain research and care. The Canada Council for the Arts was also established as part of the Killam gifts and awards a separate research fellowship as well as five Killam Prizes, worth \$100,000 each, given annually in the fields of health sciences, natural sciences, engineering, social sciences and humanities.

Dorothy Killam's gift was built on the fortune her late Yarmouth-born husband, Izaak Walton Killam, earned as a financier. Izaak got his start in business as a paperboy and at the time of his death in 1955 was one of Canada's wealthiest individuals.

Initial reaction to the Killam endowments was one of "unalloyed glee" and "unparalleled enthusiasm," says George Cooper, the former lawyer, politician and University of King's College president who spent 25 years as managing trustee of the Killam Trusts.

"Canada was losing well-educated scholars and researchers to England and the United States as many would stay after their graduate or post-graduate training, and Dorothy's idea was, 'I want to do what I can to reverse the brain drain,'" explains Dr. Cooper, who studied at Dal in the 1960s alongside Killam Fellowship (1998) and Prize (2010) winner

Art McDonald, now also a Nobel Laureate in physics.

By giving Dal the largest piece of the gift (a nod to her late husband's Nova Scotian roots), Dorothy Killam was instrumental in supporting the university's transformation from a "little college by the sea" into a national university with a robust research agenda. Additional funds for research chairs, faculty salaries and general-purpose projects on top of the scholar-

"That recognition was a stepping stone"

ships and fellowships ensured Dal was able to attract and retain top-level professors and researchers.

While the university sector was already on the cusp of a boom heading into the 1970s, Dr. Cooper says the Killam gift was special in that its primary purpose was to support students and the academic mission, rather than as a means for building legacy infrastructure projects.

"There have been a lot of people who have given a lot of money to Canadian universities for buildings," says Dr. Cooper. "But the Killams wanted a non-stop, perpetual trust to support students and university research."

Literary historian Annette Hayward, a recipient of one of the inaugural Killam Scholarships in 1967, recalls just how important the award was in setting her up for success. "It encouraged me to pursue my interest at a time when academic and career opportunities were opening up for women," says Dr. Hayward, who continues to write books on Quebec literary history nearly a decade after she retired from

a French professorship at Queen's University. "The scholarship made it possible for me to earn my master's in just a year and go on directly to do my PhD, so it helped to steer me toward an academic career."

The history of the Killam Trusts at Dalhousie is filled with stories of personal and professional empowerment. For Jing Kong, winning a Killam Scholarship in 1994 gave him the motivation and freedom to focus on theoretical chemistry studies and primed him to be a leader in the area of computational chemistry, where he and colleagues harness the power of technology to make drug development more efficient. But it also gave the Chinese-born scholar something invaluable. "As much as it helped me academically, the Dalhousie Killam Scholarship was important to me personally because I was able to bring my family over from China," explains Dr. Kong, now an associate professor in the department of chemistry at Middle Tennessee State University.

Unlike many government-funded scholarships in Canada, most of the Killam awards are open to international students and scholars. And as some of the most competitive awards programs in the country, they carry a particular prestige that can be extremely valuable to young scholars.

"Receiving it was like being told 'You have that it factor, you're going to do something spectacular and we want to make sure you have everything possible to be successful,'" says Nicole Ward, a 1997 awardee who is now a tenured professor in the dermatology department at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. "That recognition was a stepping stone for every award or grant I've been given since, because I had already been vetted by something as prestigious as the Killam Trust."

Dr. Ward, whose PhD research at Dal focused on how the brain changes during development and aging, has since gained international notice for her leading-edge work demonstrating how treating chronic, organ-contained skin inflammation (psoriasis) has the capacity to reduce the risk for cardiovascular disease.

And that legacy continues today with current Dal students such as Lin Ma, who is working in collaboration with energy storage company Tesla in Jeff

Dahn's lab. The PhD student says he was excited and a bit shocked when he first found out he'd received a Killam scholarship last year. "I never expected to get this," says Ma, who first came to Dal as a master's student in 2012 and now focuses his research on increasing energy density in lithium-ion batteries. "It's a big honour for me, so I want to take this honour to heart and work hard and focus on the research and get more results."

Ma first got involved in lithium-ion research back in his home country of China as an undergraduate. Realizing the impact fossil fuels were having on global warming, he decided he could use his research skills to work on technologies supporting more sustainable forms of energy production and storage.

On the cusp of publishing four research papers (co-authored with Dr. Dahn) and on track to defend his doctoral thesis this summer—well ahead of previous plans—it's safe to say Ma has already made good on his promise of producing bigger results. "It's been a lot of help and given me a lot of encouragement."

While certain federal and provincial governments over the past half-century—including the current Trudeau Liberals in Ottawa—also deserve credit for investing in impactful post-secondary research, government funding can prove a fickle beast. "The next government may decide that's not where they want to put their money and that may fade away, but this Killam money is here to stay and to do good well into the future," says Marty Leonard, Dal's current dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

Dr. Leonard's team works with scholarship committees composed of faculty from across Dalhousie University, overseeing and organizing the candidate-review process for the Killam awards each year. Unlike some scholarships and fellowships that are targeted towards scholars in relatively narrow areas, the Killam awards are open to nearly all disciplines across the university. It's the kind of broad-based approach Dorothy Killam described in her will when she spoke of "developing and expanding the work of Canadian universities."

"All I can think is that Mrs. Killam would be very pleased to know how it all worked out," says Dr. Leonard.



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For us, real estate is about more than buildings; it's about people and homes.



A lot goes into establishing and sustaining a university over centuries. While every one of Dal's 200 years has contained memorable moments, valuable donations and important decisions, a few stand out as foundational.

As the founding capital for the university, the Castine Fund is quite literally where it all began. Years later, George Munro's continued support ensured the university didn't fall into ruin. The Indigenous Blacks & Mi'kmaq Initiative gave the university a framework for addressing systemic racism that is still in place today. And the Ocean Frontier Institute has the potential to expand our ocean research expertise for years to come.

Each of these significant building blocks provide a reflection of where the university has been and what it aspires to become as Dalhousie moves into its third century.

By Stefanie Wilson

BUILDING BLOCKS



Above, the first building that housed Dalhousie College. Below, Studley Campus looking towards the Henry Hicks Building.



First funds

Under the cover of dark, during the first hours of September 1, 1814, eight warships and 11 transports led by Sir John Coape Sherbrooke carried British troops into the harbor of Castine, Maine. They encountered little opposition from the Americans. In fact, many citizens swore allegiance to Britain so they could trade with British ports around the world. It wasn't long before Castine became a steady customs port of entry.

Though the Treaty of Ghent restored Maine to the Americans after about six months, British troops collected over £10,000 in duties from imports and exports through the port. The funds returned to Halifax with Sherbrooke, then Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, when the troops withdrew from Maine.

This bounty, known as the Castine Fund, was designated for general improvements in Nova Scotia. When Sherbrooke was promoted soon after his return, spending the fund was left to the next Lieutenant-Governor, George Ramsay, the ninth Earl of Dalhousie.

After consulting with his council and much deliberation, Dalhousie decided the fund should be used to offer “encouragement to the industrious part of society.” He wanted to educate the population. He proposed £1,000 for a library and the rest would go to support a new college that would be “open to all occupations and to all sects of religion.”

On February 6, 1818, Lord Bathurst, the colonial secretary, replied that, “His Royal Highness has been pleased to express his entire approbation of the funds in question being applied in the foundation of a Seminary in Halifax for the higher Classes of Learning, and toward the establishment of a Garrison Library.” That approval founded the university.

DID YOU KNOW? British troops didn't have to fire a single shot while claiming the Port of Castine.

Dream saver

In the late 19th century, the university was in desperate need of capital. Its income from invested sources yielded only \$3,000 a year, and income from its rented property brought in only \$600 annually. Its \$3,000 grant from the government was soon due to expire. The total combined income of \$6,600 was insufficient to continue to run the university.

Then, during the summer of 1879, perhaps while enjoying a sunny day with family, board member John Forrest mentioned the miserable situation to his brother-in-law George Munro. When Munro heard the university needed money to create a new chair in Physics, he simply replied, “If you will find the man...I will find the money.”

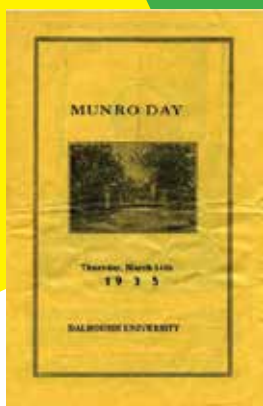
Munro funded the chair with a \$2,000 per year gift — an astounding amount for the time. As the university’s Board of Governors exclaimed: “Mr. Munro’s liberality is on a scale that is without parallel in the educational history not of Nova Scotia alone but of the Dominion of Canada.”

Not bad for an unassuming former teacher from West River, Pictou County, Nova Scotia who made his fortune after working his way up to become owner of a New York publishing company best known for songbooks, handbooks and the first dime novels.

His generosity would go on to endow chairs in History, English Literature, Rhetoric, Law and Philosophy. He also donated a total of \$83,000 in bursaries, some of which went to support several of Dal’s first female graduates. All told, Munro donated about \$330,000 to the university, equivalent to about \$10 million today.

By stepping in to help support the university, Munro built a legacy that still holds up today.

DID YOU KNOW? A special university holiday was set aside in 1885 to commemorate George Munro and he is still honored on “Munro Day” each year on the first Friday in February.



This program marked Munro Day celebrations in 1935, the 50th anniversary of the holiday commemorating George Munro's gifts to Dalhousie.

Barrier breaker

“These are the inescapable, and inescapably distressing, conclusions.” The Royal Commission on the Donald Marshall Jr. prosecution didn’t mince words — the provincial criminal justice system was unfair to African Nova Scotians and Indigenous people.

With their longstanding demands for access finally acknowledged, African Nova Scotian and Mi’kmaq communities came together to turn these words into action. Racism in the justice system needed to be addressed from within. To get inside the system, more African Nova Scotian and Mi’kmaq people needed to graduate from law school.

This groundswell was supported at the university by *Breaking Barriers: Report of the Task Force on Access for Black and Native People*, an internal task force which identified issues related to access to education. The result was the Indigenous Blacks & Mi’kmaq (IB&M) Initiative at Dal’s Schulich School of Law.

Established in 1989, the IB&M Initiative involves community outreach and recruiting, student financial support, research, curriculum development and promoting the hiring and retention of graduates.

Professor Michelle Williams, director of the initiative, says it is addressing systemic issues. “The IB&M Initiative, through its students, alumni and supporters—and Mi’kmaq and African Nova Scotian communities of origin—has contributed to a more equitable, inclusive and just province, thereby helping to address the harmful legacy of colonialism, enslavement and segregation in this territory of Mi’kma’ki.”

Today, the IB&M Initiative is a model for access to legal education and the legal profession across Canada and the United States. And it continues to produce results. As Prof. Williams is pleased to point out, “In this the 200th anniversary year at Dalhousie, we will celebrate the 200th graduate who was admitted to Dalhousie’s law school through the IB&M Initiative.”

DID YOU KNOW? Activist and alumnus Burnley Allan “Rocky” Jones (BA’74, LLB’92) not only instigated and helped create the IB&M Initiative, but became one of its first students.



Wave of the future

Rapid change in the North Atlantic is a challenge. As the world's most highly productive marine ecosystem and one of its largest carbon sinks, changes in this region can have a critical impact on global climate and food supply. That's why, by focusing on this region, Ocean Frontier Institute (OFI) is positioned to become one of the world's most significant ocean science collaborations.

"In terms of its absolute area, the Northwest Atlantic is really rather small," explains Dr. Marlon Lewis, interim scientific director of OFI. "But it has unique characteristics that make it inordinately important for a whole wide range of physical, chemical and biological problems."

Established in 2016, OFI is a partnership led by Dalhousie, Memorial University of Newfoundland and the University of Prince Edward Island that brings together industry, government and research partners from both sides of the North Atlantic to explore the ocean's vast potential.

"Thanks to Dalhousie University's leadership, OFI's design took a collaborative approach, one that went further than just identifying what it would mean for Atlantic Canada and its academic institutions," says Dal alumna Dr. Wendy Watson-Wright, CEO of OFI. "Expanding the scope helped ensure OFI would generate benefits for science, policy development, our economy and the environment—benefits that have worldwide impact."

With \$227 million in funding, it's the largest ocean research undertaking of its kind that Canada has ever seen. OFI projects range from examining shifting microbial communities to identifying respectful approaches to safe navigation. But OFI isn't just about big, multi-year projects—it's also supporting smaller, ocean-related research through the OFI Seed Fund.

As Dr. Paul Snelgrove, Memorial professor and OFI's associate scientific director explains, "OFI provides an opportunity to wrap these pieces together in a much more effective way, so the sum is more effective than the individual parts."

DID YOU KNOW? OFI earned the largest research grant in Dal's 200-year history—\$94 million from the Government of Canada through its Canada First Research Excellence Fund.

TELLING THE DALHOUSIE STORY

DAL'S PEOPLE

P.B. Waite chose to call his two-volume history of Dalhousie University *The Lives of Dalhousie* for a reason. "A university is a place where human beings meet and work," wrote Dr. Waite in the preface of the first volume, published in 1994, "where professors teach students, and students even teach professors, and their lives and thoughts are worth trying to recover."

PICTURING THE PAST

Dr. Mona Holmlund was inspired to visually capture the multiple memories of Dalhousie for the 200th anniversary in *Dalhousie University: A 200th Anniversary Portrait*, to be published this spring. "No one person has seen all that Dal has been. Through poetry and pictures we've created an impressionistic portrait that, I hope, can help the community celebrate, commemorate and imagine the next century." The book features George Elliott Clarke's epic poem *The Story of Dalhousie; Or, The University as Insurgency*, commissioned to commemorate the university's anniversary.

HEALTHY HISTORY

Noble Goals, Dedicated Doctors, published in December 2017, is the result of Dr. Jock Murray's exploration into the evolution of Dal Medical School. "It's important that we know how we got to be where we are now, to understand how things have changed. The advances adopted and taught at the medical school played a key role in the rise of medical professionalism."

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

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



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PHILANTHROPY

Classroom Heroes

Donors choose to support Dalhousie for many reasons, but some of the most meaningful gifts come from students who want to honour their great teachers.
By Alison DeLory

Good teachers deliver a curriculum. Great teachers inspire. They care about their students as learners and people, and go to great lengths to help them grasp a difficult concept, apply a theory or launch their careers. Great teachers are unforgettable. And throughout Dalhousie's 200 years, there have been many.

BELOVED LAW PROFESSORS

It was the influence of beloved professors that encouraged the law class of 1974 to establish a bursary. This group of go-getters grew the Class of 1974 Schulich Law School Bursary from \$7,400 to an endowment exceeding \$165,000. Established in 2009, it provides up to six bursaries annually to students in need at the Schulich School of Law. Each bursary is named for one of the class's beloved professors: Bill Charles (LLB'58, LL.D'01), Innis Christie (BA '58, LLB '62), Hugh Kindred, John Yogis (LLB'64, LL.M'67), Murray Fraser and Peter Darby (LLB'58). "Members of our class went on to achieve great success [in private and public law, business or as judges, professors, deans and parliamentarians] and a great deal of it came because of these six professors," says class organizer Mary Clancy (LLB '74).

EARLY INFLUENCER

Extraordinary teachers have been influencing students since Dal's early days. When beloved Dalhousie mathematics professor Charlie Macdonald died suddenly in 1901, the Dal community was devastated. The Dalhousie Gazette wrote, "Every graduating class has been impressed and influenced by him, so that he seemed to be an essential part of the university. 'Faithful until death' he has passed away, possessing the deepest love and respect of the students."

Macdonald, who came from Aberdeen, Scotland, was a gifted teacher who taught until five days before his death. In his will, Macdonald left Dalhousie \$2,000 to buy books, chiefly in English literature, to strengthen the university library. The earliest alumni movement at

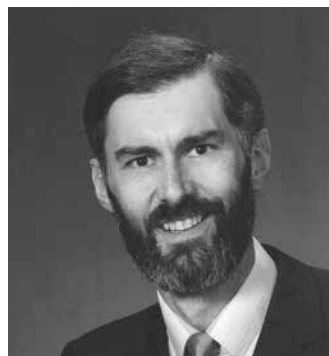
Dalhousie coalesced around Macdonald's gift, fuelled by students who wanted to build a library in his honour. By 1909, substantial money had amassed and, finally, in spring of 1914, the cornerstone of the Macdonald Memorial Library was laid. The Macdonald was Dalhousie's main library until the 1970s. The building still stands today, a legacy to a revered Dalhousian.

REMEMBERING A MENTOR

Ajith Rai (MASC'84) moved back to his native India after graduating from Dalhousie, but never forgot professor Eldon Gunn. Rai now owns

Charles Macdonald:
reproduction of an Arthur
Lismer (1885-1969)
illustration commissioned
for Dalhousie
College Centennial
Commemoration 1818





a company that produces automotive cables, but in the 1980s he studied at Dal and was Dr. Gunn's first master's student. When Rai heard that Dr. Gunn had died, in 2016, he contacted the university to suggest setting up an endowment fund in Dr. Gunn's memory.

"The grounding I got from him as my guide and teacher in those two years has stood the test of time in my entrepreneurial and personal journey, for which I will be eternally grateful," Rai says. He donated \$100,000 USD to start the Eldon Gunn Memorial Scholarship. It's awarded to engineering students who have completed their first year and demonstrate potential to become outstanding industrial engineers.

"It was important to recognize Dalhousie for all it has given me, but I also wanted to honour Eldon and what he did for so many students like myself," Rai says.

ABOVE The reading room in the Macdonald Library, Dalhousie's main library until the 1970s
ABOVE RIGHT (L to R, from top) Professors honoured by the Class of 1974 Schulich Law School Bursary: Bill Charles, Innis Christie, Hugh Kindred, John Yogis, Murray Fraser, Peter Darby
RIGHT Industrial engineering professor Eldon Gunn

“I want to give back to the place that got me to where I am today.”

DONOR PROFILE

Paying it forward

Dentist Sura Hadad (BSc'98, DDS'03) invests time and money in her community and the Faculty of Dentistry.

Sura Hadad's (BSc'98, DDS'03) fondest memory of her time at the Faculty of Dentistry was the moment she walked across the stage at graduation with her daughter by her side. She'd met the demands of the rigorous academic program along with the added challenges of becoming a new mom during her third year. "It wasn't easy," recalls Dr. Hadad. "I loved the Dentistry program. It was challenging work, but it provided me with an exceptional education."

"I believe in paying it forward," says Dr. Hadad—and she does so in many ways. In addition to running her dental practice, Lozowski & Hadad Family Dental Centre, she provides support to young refugees who are applying to dental school in Canada. She is involved with the Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia (ISANS), offering free dental services to Syrian refugees. "I want to help them, as they are starting a new life in a new country." She sponsors a family in her home country of Iraq. And when Dr. Tom Boran, past dean of the Faculty and proponent for the Dental Clinic Renewal project, asked Dr. Hadad to be a part of the campaign, she didn't hesitate and made a pledge of \$25,000.

"I want to give back to the place that got me to where I am today," says Dr. Hadad, who joined the Faculty of Dentistry in 2009 as a part-time instructor. "It's inspiring when you go into a new space. The simulation lab is amazing. I want students to experience this environment, as they will be motivated to learn." The undergraduate clinic in the new Dental Clinic is slated to open in September 2018 and will be set up like a private practice, where students can gain experience in a real world setting prior to graduation. The new spaces will also support more patients in need of oral health care in the community.

In addition to Dr. Hadad's gift to the Dental Clinic Renewal project, she has generously given \$25,000 to set up a scholarship fund to support second-year students in the DDS Qualifying Program. This program is for dentists from overseas who want to move to Canada and practise. Some candidates may have already worked in dentistry abroad, but need to gain the required prerequisites to practise here.



As a member of the admission committee, Dr. Hadad sees how expensive it can be for these students, often combined with the added financial pressures of supporting their families while in school. "I want to bring them some joy, as they are investing a lot to come to the program," says Dr. Hadad.— Jessica Feader

“The new program provides our alumni with exciting offers from a variety of vendors.”

PROGRAMS

A refreshed alumni benefits card

Preferred rates and expanded offerings mark new program

In recognition of our bicentennial anniversary, we want to thank our alumni community who have shaped the university’s history over the past two centuries. As a special thank you, we have launched our new alumni benefits program.

“The new program provides our alumni with exciting offers from a wide variety of partners,” says Sheila Blair-Reid (BComm’86), executive director, alumni engagement.

“We have established new partnerships with local and international providers to offer our entire alumni community additional discounts and preferred rates.”

The refreshed program includes more than 25 businesses, everything from entertainment to travel to financial and more. Benefits have been expanded to provide alumni with discounts at the international, national and local level.

Some of these partners include:

INTERNATIONAL: Contiki and Choice Hotels

NATIONAL: Broadway Across Canada, Park ‘N Fly and SoftMoc

LOCAL: CarShare Atlantic, Alt Hotel Halifax Airport, Rodd Hotels and Resorts, and the CAT high-speed ferry

“As we celebrate Dal’s 200th, we felt that it was important to expand our benefits program to alumni across the globe,” says Blair-Reid.

Alumni will continue to gain discounts on campus, including Dal Continuing Education, Dalplex and the Dal Bookstore. Thanks to our long-standing affinity partners, alumni can still access special rates with MBNA, TD Insurance Meloche Monnex and Manulife Financial.

The updated design of the card was created in honour of Dal’s 200th. This special edition card will be offered for a limited time. It’s simple to register and free for all Dal alumni. For more information about participating providers and to register online, visit alumni.dal.ca/benefits.

—Jessica Feader



DID YOU KNOW?

Each year from May through August, Dalhousie opens its various residence buildings to the public. Dal alumni enjoy a 10% discount on regular rates when they return to stay on campus.

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The Brown family tree is well-populated with Dal alumni.

SPOTLIGHT

Keeping Dal in the family

Four generations of the Brown family have made Dalhousie their educational home

To say the Brown family history is intertwined with Dalhousie University would be an understatement.

Exhibit A: Doug Brown (BSc'52, MD'57). The United Church minister's son arrived at the university in 1949 after Sydney Academy Principal G.G. Campbell, worried about the youngster's future after his dad had died, sent Brown off to the Halifax school with a \$100 scholarship to help cover tuition. (Campbell would later do the same for Doug's brother John.) Dr. Brown's mother Isabel (who has a scholarship in her name at the school), sister Jean and uncle John also attended Dalhousie.

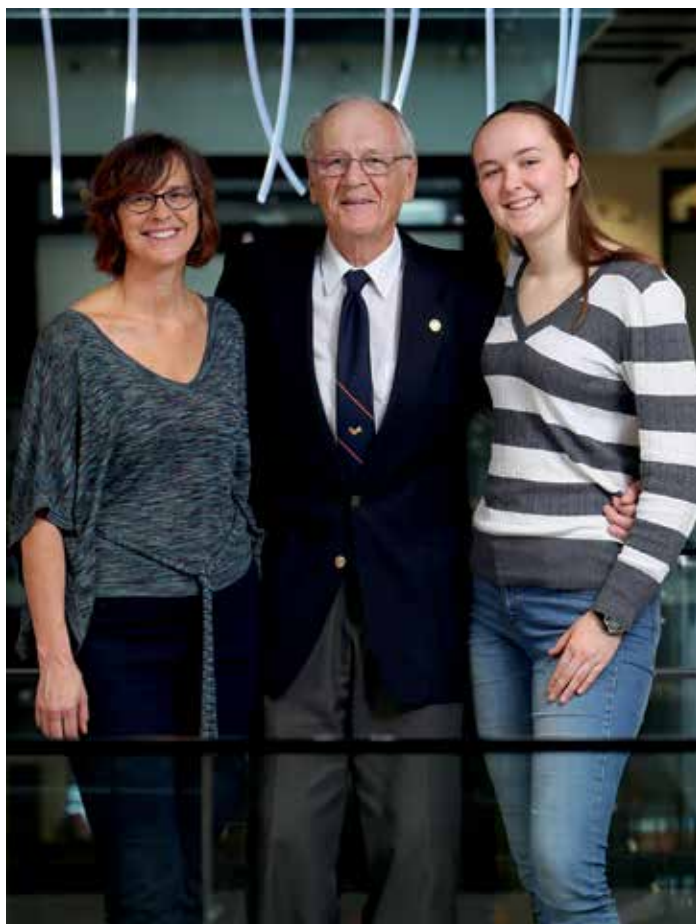
Exhibit B: Marion Brown (BA'88, BSW'90, MSW'97), daughter of Dr. Brown and sexual health pioneer Dr. Pamela Brown, received her undergraduate degree and master's in social work at Dalhousie after deciding she leaned more toward her mother's social activism than the blood and guts of her surgeon father's career. She played varsity basketball and has been teaching at the Dalhousie School of Social Work since 2002. (She did stray off campus, though, to get her PhD at Memorial University in St. John's.) Marion's sister Helen, who is a nurse, also attended Dalhousie, as did cousins Heather and Katherine Brown.

Exhibit C: Hannah Cameron, daughter of Marion and granddaughter of Doug, embodies the family's commitment to medicine and social justice as she is a trained medic from her time in the army reserves and currently a student in the school's Bachelor of Social Work program after taking two years of medical science at the university. She is one of five grandchildren to have attended Dalhousie.

Apples. Trees. You get the picture.

Doug Brown, who attended a 60th reunion of Dalhousie Medical School graduates in 2017, says his decision to become a doctor came from renowned family physician Dr. John C. Wickwire, who treated him when his family lived in Liverpool. "I credit him," Doug says. "He was a very classy doc down there who was well known up and down the coast."

Doug also graduated from medical school with John's son Jim Wick-



Marion Brown, Doug Brown and Hannah Cameron

wire. After graduation, Doug "goofed around for awhile" in the U.K., taking further training before returning to Halifax with a British bride and starting his long career as a pioneering orthopedic surgeon at the IWK Health Centre.

Daughter Marion, who with Hannah shares a set of flats with her parents just a stone's throw away from the university, says the path to Dalhousie came through her father and her chosen profession from the influence of her physician mother, who founded the Family Planning Association of Nova Scotia (later the Halifax Sexual Health Centre). "Through my mum, the social justice thread is strong," she says, noting that as a kid she marched in the first Halifax Pride Parade.

Granddaughter Hannah is keeping the Brown-Dalhousie torch lit as well as she works toward her degree in social work with a possible eye to medicine.

"I love the program that I'm in," she says. "It's had such an influence on me that if I do end up in medical school, I'll look back on it and say, 'I wouldn't be the doctor I am without the social work program'." Naturally, Dalhousie Medical School would be her preferred place of advanced learning. —Pat Lee



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“I see the morning show as setting the agenda for the day.”

SPOTLIGHT

Radio Roots

Portia Clark (BA'91) comes home to the airwaves in Nova Scotia

When Portia Clark (BA'91) stepped into the CBC Halifax newsroom in April as the new host of *Information Morning*, it was nothing short of a full circle moment. For many reasons.

It's the newsroom where she got her start in 1998 as an intern, working alongside recently retired Don Connolly. “When I heard Don's voice that first day in the newsroom, it felt like I was walking into a live radio play,” she says with a laugh. It was the familiar, comforting voice that had filled her home growing up in Sandy Cove, Nova Scotia. Clark's family moved from British Columbia when she was nine years old. “We lived in a 100-year old home, set in the woods, with no television and without neighbours nearby. The radio was constantly on for company.” (Her mother, Dr. Lorene Clark, studied law at Dal, and went on to teach in the law school.)

But that internship wasn't Clark's first time on-air—while still in her teens, she'd “tested” herself with a call to CBC's *Maritime Noon*. “I had this idea to call in and record myself to hear how I sounded... to see if I had what it took,” she recalls. Luckily, she was pleased with what she heard.

And now her voice is filling Nova Scotian homes each morning.

Throughout her 20-year career, spanning radio and television as a producer, reporter and host, radio has remained Clark's first love. “I see the morning show as setting the agenda for the day. It's the first news and conversation about what's new and important, that people hear,” says Clark, who has spent the last 18 years in Edmonton.

With a curiosity that has followed her throughout her life (and flourished during her Philosophy studies at Dal), Clark has established herself as a versatile and informed host. She can ask the hard questions and offer an empathetic ear when it's needed, skills that she put to good use during the Fort MacMurray wildfire in late spring 2016. “We were providing a lifeline to people during a devastating situation. As the fires roared on we were the only radio station still on the airwaves as other stations had to evacuate. I was talking directly to people who were



TOP Portia Clark started as the new host of CBC Halifax's *Information Morning* in April. **RIGHT** Clark with her husband Gareth Hampshire and their children.



scared and needed calming and concise information,” she says. “I'm very proud of our work as a team and the way we banded together to broadcast live wildfire coverage for five or six days straight.”

As someone who's been “blessed to chase opportunities” throughout her career, the chance to return to CBC Nova Scotia has been “a pinch me” moment. “Nova Scotia is evolving,” she says. “I'm looking forward to sharing in this with our listeners and reaching new ears, and bringing people the information that's important to them.”

On a personal level, Clark is eager to raise her children similar to her own upbringing, by the sea. “As a family we're looking forward to exploring all that Nova Scotia has to offer.”—Fallon Bourgeois



DAL'S THIRD CENTURY

IGNITE BRINGS TOGETHER CHANGE-MAKERS AND INFLUENCERS
PASSIONATE ABOUT NEW KNOWLEDGE AND IDEAS.

Through immersive storytelling with three of our leading researchers, we'll explore extraordinary perspectives on some of the greatest challenges facing humanity – food security, debilitating diseases and sustainable energy.

Join us for an evening of inspiration and discovery.

Friday, September 28
Halifax Convention Centre
1800 Argyle Street
Reception: 6:00 pm | Dinner: 7:00 pm

Purchase tickets at alumni.dal.ca/ignite

Make tracks for Homecoming 2018

ALUMNI EVENTS

Nunavut, Hong Kong—and Halifax!

The alumni team has been hard at work at events around the globe—and with planning for our biggest Homecoming ever

HONG KONG GATHERING On March 2nd, members of the Hong Kong chapter and the alumni community gathered for a delightful evening to celebrate Dalhousie University's 200th anniversary. The event took place at the impressive Canada Room of the Consulate General of Canada in Hong Kong and Macao. All were honoured to be hosted by Derry McDonell, consul and program manager. A huge thank-you to Derry McDonell, Peter Chow (BSc'70, BScPh'72), president of the Hong Kong Chapter and the entire Hong Kong Chapter executive for presenting a wonderful 200th celebration in the Year of the Dog.

NORTHERN FUN On January 24, Dr. Carolyn Watters (PhD'86), provost & vice-president academic and Susan Spence, vice-provost, planning and analytics met with Dal alumni and friends at the Frobisher Inn in Iqaluit. The dinner was a chance for alumni in Iqaluit to celebrate with us and be a part of Dal's 200th celebrations from afar.

HEAD TO HOMECOMING! We're pulling out all the stops to celebrate Dalhousie's 200th year September 27–30. From faculty receptions and lectures, to a sail on the Tall Ship Silva, Ignite and more, there's a wide variety of events to enjoy.

Innovation is a key theme of Homecoming. The public will be invited to tour the \$64 million IDEA (Innovation and Design in Engineering & Architecture) project on the Sexton Campus in the heart of Halifax's emerging innovation district as well as the opening of the newly renovated state-of-the-art Dalhousie Dental Clinic. Also check out the Faculty of Computer Science Celebration of Women in Computing virtual lobby exhibit, an interactive display celebrating women's contributions to computing nationally, internationally and throughout the region. The weekend's highlights also include faculty lectures that feature world-renowned experts in various fields. Visit dal.ca/homecoming for details on compelling conversations with experts and changemakers.

Join the community in the Studley Quad for the 5th Annual President's Fun Run/Walk. The three-campus run, jog, walk or stroll for the

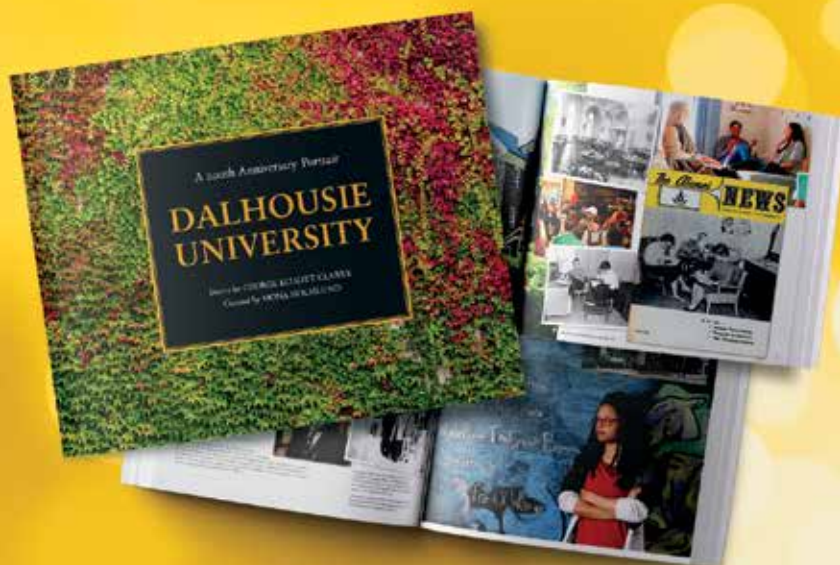


FROM TOP Participants in the President's Fun Run during Homecoming 2017; members of the Hong Kong Chapter host alumni and friends at a gathering in the Consulate General of Canada in Hong Kong and Macao; Nunavut alumni dinner attendees in Iqaluit

whole family is followed by the Black & Gold Carnival hosted by the Dalhousie Student Union. After that, cheer on the Tigers as they take on their rivals in football and athletics. Check dal.ca/homecoming for game times and match-up details.

The capstone event of the weekend is Ignite: Dal's Third Century. This evening full of light, sound and innovative ideas will spark your imagination and leave you feeling inspired. The event is a chance to explore even greater horizons of opportunity and global impact leading us into the next century. For more information on the gala, see page 12. See you in September!—Robin Spittal

JOURNEY THROUGH THE MOMENTS THAT SHAPED US



Images, artifacts and documents paint the story of Dalhousie's past, present and future in this beautiful book, *A 200th Anniversary Portrait*, curated by Mona Holmlund.

Receive a **10% alumni discount** when you include "alumni" in the notes section of the online order.

Purchase your copy today at
bookstore.dal.ca/dal200

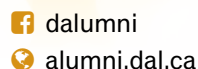
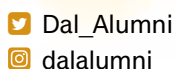


IT'S OUR BIRTHDAY. IT'S YOUR PARTY.

DALHOUSIE COAST TO COAST

Join us in one of 12 cities as we celebrate Dal's 200th year.

Register now at:
alumni.dal.ca/coasttocoast



#dal200

“You have to keep your resilience battery charged.”

SPOTLIGHT

Living for today

Two Kinesiology grads join forces to pen a book promoting wellness

To sport scientist, wellness consultant and, now, researcher and author Darren Steeves (MSc (Kinesiology)'05), “it’s not work-life balance we should pursue—it’s life! This is the life that counts!”

According to Steeves, people can’t keep putting off their lives, waiting for their overcrammed schedules to magically align with what they really want from life. They have to take control and live with intention, compassion and awareness.

“You have to have a purpose and know your vision and your values,” says Steeves. “Most of all, you have to keep your resilience battery charged. As we say in our wellness workshops, you’ve got to charge your ‘R’ battery for a ‘Q’—or quality—life.”

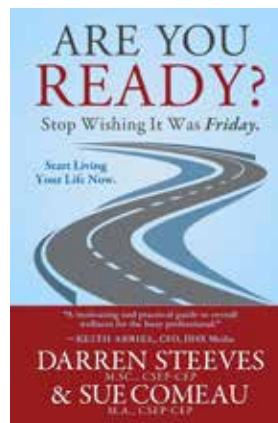
Steeves works extensively with Dalhousie University on wellness programs for students, faculty and staff, and is leading a three-year study in collaboration with the School of Health and Human Performance and Dalhousie Student Affairs to explore the optimal means of building students’ resilience. His white paper on resilience, *Staying Charged*, was released in the fall of 2017.

The desire to share his message with a larger audience led Steeves to approach his friend, former colleague and fellow Dalhousie alumnus, Sue Comeau (BSc (Kinesiology)'90) to co-write and publish a book they’ve called *Are You Ready? Stop Wishing it Was Friday*.

Rather than expounding advice like your average self-help book, *Are You Ready?* takes you into the day-to-day life of marketing executive Alex, a fictional composite of hundreds of stressed-out, dissatisfied people Steeves has helped over the years.

“I know so many people will recognize themselves in Alex,” Steeves says. “We chose a narrative approach to draw people in with a character and story that would resonate.”

As a screenwriter, novelist, fitness writer and author of her own motivational books (*The F.I.T. Files*, which feature the story of Finn, an active 13-year-old who wants to get his friends moving, too), Comeau was the perfect writing partner for Steeves.



Darren Steeves and Sue Comeau joined forces to create a book on wellness.



“I was excited when Darren approached me. He’s such a great thinker, I knew it would be a cool project,” says Comeau. “We share similar values and a desire to help people with motivational stories that really engage them.”

The two met more than a decade ago, when Comeau—a certified exercise physiologist who did her undergrad in kinesiology at Dal—was teaching in Dalhousie’s School of Health and Human Performance. At the time, Steeves was pursuing a masters in exercise physiology. They stayed in touch ever since. *Are You Ready?* is their first collaboration.

Are You Ready? and Comeau’s latest F.I.T. Files book, *It’s Your Move*, are both available on Amazon.ca. —Melanie Jollymore

CLASS NOTES

1950s

'59

DR. ALAN R. HEBB MD, was awarded a silver medal by the Chicago Philatelic Society (Chicagopex) in 2016 for his book, *The W. E. Hebb Picture Postcard Handbook 1904-1914: Gems from Halifax's Outstanding Citizen*. In addition to reflections on the life of W. E. Hebb, there are views of Halifax daily life, arrival of immigrants, beautiful patriotic and military postcards, scenes of Lunenburg and a series showing the Newfoundland sealing fleet. Historical notes have been included for many of these views. Dr. Hebb is a retired internist in Burlington, Ontario with a special interest in the hobby of collecting vintage postcards (deltiology).

1960s

'65

In the late summer and the fall of 2017, **JAMES MACNUTT BA, LLB '68** published three books: *A Century of Service of Rotary on Prince Edward Island*, *Historic Furniture of Prince Edward Island* (published by the Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation), and *On Five Dollars a Day: An Innocent Abroad in Europe Summer 1965* (published by Austin MacAuley, London). He is currently in the process of writing a sequel to his

first novel which should be published in 2019.

'68

DENNIS TAYLOR BSc, has published his third family history book. This one covers the ancestors of his paternal grandmother, primarily the descendants of Benjamin Chappell of diary and postmaster fame who immigrated to Prince Edward Island in 1774 and immediately became involved in many aspects of Island life.

'69

DONALD HODDER MD has released his memoirs entitled *Follow Your Bliss—The Life and Times of a Family Doctor*. He has woven tales of joy and sorrow, humour and fulfillment into this compelling memoir. He practised family medicine for over 45 years, all of it in his native Newfoundland. He witnessed a broad spectrum of human conditions: the mundane, the miraculous, the physical, the psychological and the social. He feels immensely honoured to have shared in the most intimate aspects of daily life with thousands of patients for so long. You are invited to sit at his table of memories and be entertained, enriched and enlightened. Available as e-book, soft cover and hard cover at books.friesenpress.com/store. Net proceeds go to charity.

1970s

'72

DR. THOM MCKENZIE MSc, Emeritus Professor of Exercise and Nutritional Sciences at San Diego State University, has been selected to receive the Luther H. Gulick Medal, the highest award given by SHAPE America (the largest membership organization of health and physical education professionals in the USA). The medal, designed by Canadian sculptor R. Tait McKenzie, was presented to Thom at the SHAPE America Hall of Fame Banquet in Nashville on March 23.

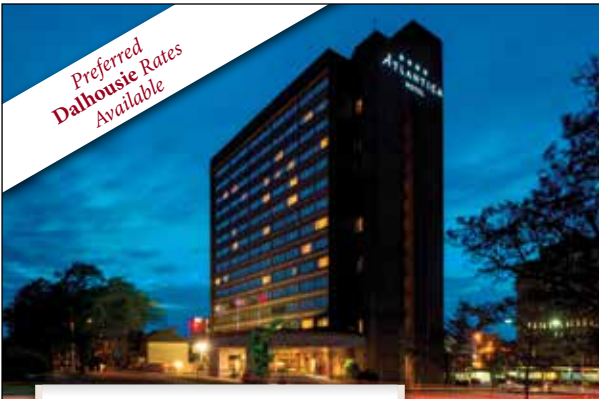
'74

CARL SMYTH BArch (NSTC) '74 is celebrating three generations of Smyth family architects. After graduating in 1974, Carl

practised architecture in Fredericton, N.B. for 43 years. Presently, at 80 years old, he is the oldest practising architect in New Brunswick. Carl's daughter **DARLENE SMYTH (BEDS(TUNS) '94, MARFP '95)** graduated in 1995 and has been practising in Asia for 22 years. She and her husband Warren, also an architect, are the two principals of the firm A.D. Lab in Singapore, with a staff fluctuating between 15 and 25 architects. Carl's

granddaughter **JACQUELINE GREEN (BEDS '11, March '13)** has been practising in Vancouver since graduation. She worked for over three years with MGA (Michael Green Architecture) and is presently employed with Urban West Architecture, a rapidly growing one-year-old firm started by **JUSTIN BENNETT (BEDS '01, MARFP '03)** with five architects on staff.

TOP FIVE SONGS OF 1974
SEASONS IN THE SUN, TERRY JACKS
THE STREAK, RAY STEVENS
SUNDOWN, GORDON LIGHTFOOT
YOU AIN'T SEEN NOTHIN' YET, BTO
THE LOCO-MOTION, GRAND FUNK RAILROAD






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Photo courtesy of Accedo Nix Wedding Photography.

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1980s

'81

ALOISIUS LOUIE PhD (mathematical biology) has just published his third book on relational biology, *Intangible Life: Functorial Connections in Relational Biology*. This book carries on the peregrinations of Dr. Louie's two previous monographs, on "What is life?" and "How do two lifeforms interact?". This "episode III" emphasizes the intangibility of life, that the real nature of living systems is conveyed not by their tangible material basis but by their intangible inherent processes.

'82

ROLAND DEVEAU BSc, LLB'86 is completing his two-year volunteer term as president of Golf Canada, the national sport organization for golf. He has also served as Canada's representative on the Royal and Ancient's Amateur Status Committee in St. Andrews, Scotland. Roland is vice chair of the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board in Halifax, N.S.

'83

BEV VINCENT BSc, PhD'88 is co-editing an anthology of scary stories involving flying, with author Stephen King. *Flight or Fright* will be published by Cemetery Dance Publications on September 4, 2018 in hardcover and eBook editions, with an audiobook edition from Simon & Schuster audio.

1990s

'90

DAWN DOIG MSc would like to announce that she recently had three children's picture books published and has three more coming out soon.

Being a published author is her childhood dream come true. The books are available in both paperback and e-book formats. The books are titled: *And So, Ahmed Hears!*, *Petra Pencil Pines for Pizza*, and *Go Away, Shawn*.

'92

VIVEK SOOD BComm is pleased that his youngest daughter Riley has been accepted to Dalhousie University's Bachelor of Science program for the 2018-19 year. She joins her older sister Jaya who is in her third year of the Bachelor of Commerce program. Vivek is the executive vice-president, related business at Sobeys Inc. and lives in Halifax.

'95

PAUL ATANYA MMM, published *Destination Canada: Tools for Success* to help others immigrate to Canada. It is a must-read book for all immigrants who have been accepted for permanent residency status to immigrate to Canada, or those contemplating immigrating to Canada in the future.

'96

DR. DEBORAH NORRIS PhD was recently named a research fellow at the Canadian Institute for Military and Veteran Health Research (CIMVHR). Fellows are recognized for their guidance and contributions towards CIMVHR's mission: to enhance the lives of Canadian military personnel, veterans and their families by harnessing the national capacity for research.

'99

LORI ANDREWS BEng joined Dillon Consulting Ltd. in Toronto as a Waste Management Engineer in October. Her main focus is on waste and resource planning and sustainable strategies for the municipal and IC&I sectors.

2000s

'00

The UNB Art Centre welcomed back **SYLVIA D. HAMILTON MA**, LLD'01 with her solo exhibition *Excavation: Memory Work* which ran January 12- February 23. She also had work featured in a national show at Toronto's Royal Ontario Museum: *ROM Presents a New and Original Exhibition of Black Canadian Contemporary Art*.

Froogie, a nutrition app developed by WeUsThem, has recently received a Gold Davey Award. This is a wonderful internationally recognized accomplishment for WeUsThem, owned and operated by Dalhousie alumni **ASHWIN KUTTY** BScCS and **FATEN ALSHAZLY** BScCS'99.

'05

MICHAEL THOMPSON BA, has launched bookpeacock.com and is helping people with a book idea get their books written and published. He's developed a process to help non-writers get their books written so that they can share their impact with the world. He is also the author of *Book Your Brand: How to Easily Grow Your Business by Publishing a Book, Without Writing Anything*.

2010s

'10

COURTNEY LARKIN BMgmt and **JONATHAN WILSON** BSc'05 are pleased to announce the arrival of Reid Cole Wilson on October 27, 2017 in Fredericton, N.B.

'15

ALASTAIR BIRD BEDS, MArch'17 won the 2017 Canadian Architect Award of Excellence for the top graduate architectural thesis in Canada and was featured in the December issue of *Canadian Architect Magazine*. Alastair's thesis, *Electric Space*, conceptualizes a deft repurposing of a decommissioned hydro facility in British Columbia. The project proposes creative, adaptive reuse solutions that explore ways through which old and new can exist against the backdrop of Vancouver's ongoing struggle to preserve its building heritage.

IN MEMORIAM

GEORGE CLINTON MILLIGAN, DEng'41, BSc'46, MSc'48, Dartmouth, N.S., on January 23, 2018

ELIZABETH RAINS (LITTLEJOHNS) CURRY, BA'42, DED'43, Halifax, N.S., on January 11, 2018

RUSSELL ANTHONY MACKINLAY, BEng'44, Little Harbour, N.S., on December 14, 2017

MARIE TERESA CAMPBELL, LCMUS'46, BM'49, BED'71, BA'71, Halifax, N.S., on January 14, 2018

BERNARD RAYMOND PARKER, FRC'46, Canning, N.S., on January 2, 2018

LAWRENCE J. PARKER, FRC'46, Canning, N.S., on February 25, 2018

JAMES NISBET SAUNDERS, BA'46, BComm'47, Truro, N.S., on March 16, 2018

DOROTHY JEAN (GRAHAM) MACINNES, BA'47, DED'48, North Bay, Ont., on February 8, 2018

ROBERT CREIGHTON ADAMS, BComm'48, Ottawa, Ont., on January 15, 2018

WILLIAM GEORGE CHIPMAN, LLB'48, Edmonton, Alta., on February 9, 2018

DAVID W JOHNSTON, DDIP'48, North Sydney, N.S., on November 3, 2017

IRVINE EUGENE MILLIE, BComm'48, Toronto, Ont., on January 25, 2018

WINIFRED MARY (NICHOLSON) ROSS, BA'48, DED'49, BED'50, MA'76, Dartmouth, N.S., on January 30, 2018

ALLAN ARTHUR FERGUSON, DEng'49, BSc'49, BEng'52, Oakville, Ont., on February 8, 2018

ANNA NANCY (MACDERMID) LANGLEY, BA'49, DED'51, Baddeck, N.S., on February 14, 2018

LAWRENCE BERNARD MURPHY, BEng'49, Halifax, N.S., on March 2, 2018

FRANK HECTOR CALDER, DDIP'50, Kingston, N.S., on January 24, 2018

JOSEPH HOWARD DYER, BEng'50, St. John's, N.L., on November 17, 2017

GORDON HENRY HALE READ, BA'50, LLB'52, Barrie, Ont., on December 2, 2017

DONALD ROSS SMITH, DEng'50, BSc'50, BEng'53, MEng'60, Halifax, N.S., on November 22, 2017

ALICE TERESA BUCKLEY, DTSN'51, Unknown, on February 11, 2018

MASON HUGH MACDONALD, BA'51, Windsor, Ont., on January 14, 2018

HOWARD ALAN MACKINLEY, BA'51, BComm'52, Bedford, N.S., on November 7, 2017

ELINOR ELIZABETH (CLARKE) BRAWN, BSc'52, London, Ont., on November 18, 2017

ROBERT ARNOLD BURDEN, MD'52, Springhill, N.S., on March 17, 2018

ARCHIBALD AUSTIN CROWELL, LLB'52, Hudson Heights, Que., on March 6, 2018

ALBERT JOSEPH SHAW, MD'52, Halifax, N.S., on January 16, 2018

GLORIA FRANCES (SMITH) MADER, BSc'53, Halifax, N.S., on January 3, 2018

WILLIAM ALEXANDER MATHESON, BA'53, St. Catharines, Ont., on December 10, 2017

VERNON ARCHIBALD MCCULLY, DDIP'54, Great Village, N.S., on January 24, 2018

JOHN LAUGHLIN MACKINNON, LLB'54, Nanaimo, B.C., on January 31, 2018

DONALD EUGENE PORTER, DDIP'54, Belmont, N.S., on February 26, 2018

LLOYD DANIEL MACKENZIE, MD'55, North Sydney, N.S., on January 2, 2018

EDNA KATHLEEN (MCINTOSH) CUNNINGHAM, DPH'55, Dartmouth, N.S., on January 23, 2018

DONALD GORDON LORDLY, BEng'55, Halifax, N.S., on March 20, 2018

CAROLYN (FLEMMING) MACDONALD, BA'56, Truro, N.S., on January 21, 2018

GWENDOLYN MACDONALD SLIPP, BA'56, MSW'58, Hubbards, N.S., on February 8, 2018

RALPH DUNCAN MATHIESON, BSc'56, Mississauga, Ont., on February 10, 2018

CARL RICHARD LEVO, FRC'56, Westville, N.S., on February 16, 2018

LAWRENCE RICHARD BEDFORD MARSHALL, BComm'56, TECH'72, Sussex, N.B., on November 10, 2017

RICHARD GEORGE TAYLOR, BComm'56, Windsor, N.S., on December 9, 2017

JOHN RUTHERFORD DICK, DEng'57, BSc'57, BEng'59, Windsor, N.S., on January 15, 2018

MARY MARGARET (MACNUTT) WERNER, BSc'57, MSc'60, Saint John, N.B., on December 16, 2017

EILEEN MARY (COUGHLAN) FARRELL, BED'58, Saundertown, R.I., on December 4, 2017

DENNIS WALTER JOHNSTON, MD'58, Halifax, N.S., on February 11, 2018

MICHAEL CHARLES RANDON, MD'58, North Easton, Mass., on February 24, 2018

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— Karen Woolhouse, BSc'65

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DONALD CLARE RUGGLES, BA'58, Weymouth, N.S., on January 21, 2018

DONALD H BOWLBY, DDIP'60, Lantz, N.S., on February 6, 2018

FRANCIS RONALD BULMER, BEng'60, Unknown, on February 11, 2018

JOHN VINCENT CUNNINGHAM, BEng'60, Sydney, N.S., on January 22, 2018

DAVID FERRAND CURTIS, BA'60, LLB'63, Valley, N.S., on March 27, 2018

GERALD ALAN JOSELSON, MD'60, Pikesville, Md., on November 22, 2017

ROY EDWARD KIMBALL, BA'60, LLB'60, LLM'87, Lahave, N.S., on January 30, 2018

DONALD LOUIS WHALEN, BSc'60, DEng'60, MSc'62, Edmonton, Alta., on January 11, 2018

GERALD JOSEPH DOUCET, LLB'61, Halifax, N.S., on November 23, 2017

MARGO ANNE MAE GIROUX, BA'61, BEd'62, Pepperell, Mass., on January 30, 2018

FRED EMERSON KENNEY, BComm'61, Middleton, N.S., on February 4, 2018

WILLIAM FRANCIS MASON, MD'61, Halifax, N.S., on February 7, 2018

JOHN KEITH YOUNG, BEng'61, MEng'63, Gravenhurst, Ont., on December 2, 2017

ISABELLE RITA BARRY, BSc'62, Corner Brook, N.L., on November 11, 2017

JAMES DAVID CHISHOLM, BEng'62, New Glasgow, N.S., on March 24, 2018

GARY BRENT DILLON, BEng'62, MEng'63, PhD'68, Port Alberni, B.C., on December 28, 2017

DAVID E COOMBES, DDIP'63, Falmouth, N.S., on March 2, 2018

LELAND RALPH LEWIS, DEng'63, BEng'65, Dartmouth, N.S., on March 5, 2018

CLARENCE MARK CLEARY, LLB'64, Halifax, N.S., on January 19, 2018

DAVID ARCHIBALD GRANT, LLB'64, Dartmouth, N.S., on November 22, 2017

JANET HELEN (BANKS) KEDDY, DTSN'64, Bedford, N.S., on March 4, 2018

RALPH DOUGLAS FERGUSON, BA'65, Pictou, N.S., on January 30, 2018

HERBERT LAWRENCE VALLET, MD'65, Mooresville, N.C., on November 23, 2017

DAVID ALLAN WRIGHT, BA'65, Halifax, N.S., on December 2, 2017

DAVID STEVENSON MOORE, BA'66, Bedford, N.S., on February 2, 2018

JOAN MARILYN (TONNING) STIRLING, BA'66, BEd'67, Halifax, N.S., on November 28, 2017

CHARLES JOHN ASHFORD HAYES, MA'67, Halifax, N.S., on February 6, 2018

CATHERINE ANNE (MCCRACKEN) KATZ, MD'68, Greenville, Maine, on January 17, 2018

LINDA MARY BIRK, BA'69, Saint John, N.B., on March 20, 2018

AUSTIN IRWIN BLONDON, BEng'69, NDA'71, Fall River, N.S., on December 1, 2017

JOAN TERESE CROWELL, BA'69, BAHC'76, BEd'77, MA'80, Halifax, N.S., on March 25, 2018

COLETTE MORRISON, DPT'70, Baddeck, N.S., on January 21, 2018

BASILON CLEVELAND COLE, BSc'70, MD'79, PGM'86, New Glasgow, N.S., on November 10, 2017

PETER THOMAS MCGUIGAN, BSc'70, Halifax, N.S., on December 8, 2017

MARJE BRADY, BSc'71, Hubbards, N.S., on February 23, 2018

PAMELA ANNE (O'BRIEN) FORTUNE, BA'71, Belnan, N.S., on January 12, 2018

ERIC GEORGESON, DDIP'71, Pictou, N.S., on January 17, 2018

JAMES ALEXANDRE MACLEAN, MD'71, Toronto, Ont., on January 20, 2018

CHRISTOPHER BENNETT COLP, BSc'72, BEng'75, Selkirk, Man., on February 25, 2018

P BRUCE GILLIATT, DDIP'72, Digby, N.S., on February 19, 2018

STEPHEN JOHN HENRY SEELY, BEd'72, Halifax, N.S., on March 8, 2018

PHILIP DUNBAR MUIRHEAD, MSc'73, MD'75, PGM'76, Musquodoboit Harbour, N.S., on November 12, 2017

JOSEPH JAMES SOUTHALL, BSc'73, Kanata, Ont., on March 16, 2018

FRANK HOWARD BURGESS, BSc'74, Dartmouth, N.S., on February 27, 2018

WENDY SUZANNE (LEBLANC) FLINN, BA'74, Glen Haven, N.S., on March 14, 2018

WAYNE HARRY HILLS, DDS'74, Wolfville, N.S., on December 25, 2017

WILLIAM DOUGLAS KIRBY, CPA'74, Halifax, N.S., on December 15, 2017

FLORENCE EVELYN GEORGE, BA'75, Toronto, Ont., on November 26, 2017

DONNA MARIE GILLIS, LLB'75, Halifax, N.S., on March 8, 2018

THERESA MARY (HYDE) KEEFE, BA'75, Dartmouth, N.S., on March 7, 2018

RICHARD JOSEPH PATRICK RYAN, BSc'75, Middleton, N.S., on January 26, 2018

JOHN VERNON TAYLOR, DDIP'75, Miramichi, N.B., on December 3, 2017

LINDA SUSAN (TREWIN) NUGENT, BNRN'76, Saint John, N.B., on December 18, 2017

DONALD BRUCE PHILLIPS, BA'77, Unknown, on January 25, 2018

JEAN VICTORIA TOOMEY, DPH'77, Glace Bay, N.S., on March 12, 2018

SYLVIE BOISVERT, BA'78, Gatineau, Que., on January 30, 2018

SHEILAH GRACE JONES, TECH'78, Riverview, N.B., on December 17, 2017

CHERYL ANN PEDERSEN SUTTON, BScPH'78, Aurora, Ont., on January 6, 2018

DAVID HAROLD GILES, BComm'79, Unknown, on December 13, 2017

JOHN ALEXANDER ROY, BA'80, Halifax, N.S., on August 12, 2017

DAVID BRUCE LEVER, PhD'81, Cow Bay, N.S., on January 7, 2018

STEPHEN JOSEPH JR MACNEIL, LLB'81, Calgary, Alta., on February 21, 2018

KENNETH CHARLES HILL, MSc'82, LLD'02, Canoe, B.C., on December 17, 2017

ALEXANDER EDWARD HIPWELL, PGM'83, Dartmouth, N.S., on February 15, 2018

RICHARD WALTER PATRICK MURPHY, LLB'83, Yarmouth, N.S., on November 28, 2017

HELEN TATLOCK, BSW'83, New Waterford, N.S., on March 11, 2018

MURIEL GERALDINE MACDONALD, MPA'84, LLB'88, Toronto, Ont., on February 12, 2018

DUNCAN LOUIS SEARLE, MED'84, Truro, N.S., on January 29, 2018

MICHAEL H J BENSE, PGM'85, St. John's, N.L., on December 12, 2017

JANICE LYNN CLARK, BSc'85, Calgary, Alta., on December 11, 2017

CHERYL JOANNE MACLENNAN, MLS'85, Carleton Place, Ont., on December 31, 2017

DARLENE LOUISE SMILEY-MACDONALD, BEng'85, Salt Springs, N.S., on February 14, 2018

DEBBI LORRAINE LEVY-KAY, BScA'86, Truro Heights, N.S., on February 6, 2018

EUTHALIA LISA PANAYOTIDIS, CCS'86, Calgary, Alta., on February 27, 2018

GERALD LATHAM, BSW'88, Timberlea, N.S., on March 18, 2018

RODNEY ANTHONY BURNS, BComm'90, Lower Sackville, N.S., on November 9, 2017

BRIAN CYRIL FRICKER, DEng'91, BEng'94, Fort McMurray, Alta., on November 27, 2017

JEANNE ELIZABETH BRECKENRIDGE, MSc'92, Upper Tantallon, N.S., on February 13, 2018

CYNTHIA KATHLEEN (LANE) ARAB, BScHE'93, Bedford, N.S., on December 15, 2017

SHANNON LEONARD CHURCHILL, DEng'95, BSc'99, Middle Sackville, N.S., on January 31, 2018

ANGELA MARIE MCGIBBON, MD'98, Fredericton, N.B., on February 11, 2018

MARY PATRICIA MACDONALD, BSW'04, New Glasgow, N.S., on November 16, 2017

TAMARA DAWN MATHESON, BMGT'04, BScR'04, Dartmouth, N.S., on February 16, 2018

WILFRED RONALD MCNEIL, BSW'04, New Waterford, N.S., on March 2, 2018

HELPING STUDENTS SUCCEED

Data helped us understand why some students were dropping out. Collaboration helped us come up with a strategy to make a difference.

Two years ago, data showed that Dalhousie had a retention problem—about 18 per cent of our first-year students were “dropping out”; that’s about 350 students per year. While some student attrition is to be expected, Dal was performing below many of its Canadian counterparts.

Even more worrisome was that the students who were leaving had similar circumstances—many came from rural communities, were the first in their family to attend university or were financially constrained.

We immediately and collaboratively developed a strategy that would incite positive change. And like most things here at Dalhousie, it wasn’t something we could do alone. In this case, we worked with donors who have expressed a keen interest in ensuring students have every opportunity to succeed.

Businessman David Bissett helped to bring the OnTrack Program to Dal, complete with student advisors and mentors. The Joyce Family Foundation established a new bursary program. And the J&W Murphy Foundation set up residence bursaries to enable more students to live on-campus in their first year.

One of the final pieces—emergency funding—resonated with my wife and me. We remember well the anxiety that comes from needing a little help at critical times. This led us to establish the On Track Microbursary, whereby first- and second-year students in urgent financial need can receive up to \$500. We gave \$50,000, hoping that, collectively, faculty, staff, parents and others close to Dal would match our donation. The response has been incredible. As this magazine goes to print, we have exceeded that goal—more than \$115,000 has been raised, for a total of \$165,000.

I am so proud of the Dalhousie community and our partners. We are already seeing positive change in our retention percentage and that will only improve once the full strategy is in place. And while we used data analysis to guide our decision making and priority setting, we are fully aware that behind all the numbers are great people wanting to be the very best they can. —Richard Florizone



The response to Dal's On Track Microbursary campaign has been incredible: more than \$115,000 has been raised, for a total of \$165,000.



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