ARTS AND LETTERS

HOW DAL ALUMNI ARE MAKING THEIR MARK ON STAGE AND PAGE

HELPING START-UPS THRIVE  SMARTER SOLAR  THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE
A MESSAGE TO DALHOUSSIE'S ALUMNI COMMUNITY
How Dal is addressing the Dentistry situation
page 2

LIGHT IN ACTION
With 2015 designated as the UN’s International Year of Light and Light-based Technologies, we turn the spotlight on Dal’s light-related research and insight. By Nikki Comeau
page 14

CULTURE CLUB
As students in the new Fountain School of Performing Arts make their way through their first year, we look at Dal’s contributions past and present, on stage and on the page. By Lola Augustine Brown, Keri Irwin, Matt Semansky and Erin Stewart
page 17

REGULARS
5 Dal News
27 Dal Alumni
28 Building A Better World
31 Spotlight
32 Donor Profile
33 Events
34 Spotlight
35 Class Notes
37 In Memoriam
40 Dal DNA

ON THE COVER
17 Arts and Letters
9 Helping Start-ups Thrive
14 Smarter Solar
11 The Future of Agriculture

DALMAGAZINE
DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS

Difficult conversations are a part of life. Handling them well can be a challenge, especially when the models for sharing divergent views tip more to civil war than civil discourse: experts taking potshots at each other on 24-hour news channels, politicians flicking barbs across the floors of legislatures in the hope of scoring a news clip hit. Opinions, it seems, are everywhere, but respectful conversations are perhaps less common.

Universities are one of the places where difficult and important conversations are not only to be tolerated, but encouraged; where members of the community of students, faculty, staff, alumni and neighbours should be welcomed to the table, listened to and learned from.

How can smart people with different views on important issues respect and learn from each other rather than simply hope to demolish the “opposition”? In his book Intuition Pumps and Other Tools for Thinking, philosopher Daniel Dennett quotes the advice of games theorist and peace studies pioneer Anatol Rapoport. Rapoport advised beginning with a clear and fair restatement of your opponent’s position, a listing of any points of agreement and a statement of what you’ve learned from your opponent. Finally, after framing your remarks this way, you get to your rebuttal. Dennett points out that Rapoport’s approach makes psychological sense too: it’s easier to hear criticism of one’s position framed against a backdrop of points of agreement.

It’s a tough model to embrace: my first instinct is to start with “But” and shortcut directly to critique. Still, as I engage in the difficult conversations that life inevitably brings, I’m giving it a try. I figure adding respect to the mix can’t hurt.
Fostering a culture of respect

In December, the university was shaken by the news that offensive Facebook posts had been made by some of our fourth-year male students in the Faculty of Dentistry. There has been extensive media coverage and campus conversation about this. The situation continues to unfold, but as we go to press in early February, I want to update our alumni community about where things stand.

First, let me say that this behaviour is completely unacceptable, deeply disappointing and does not reflect the values that we, at Dalhousie, espouse. We are committed to a just and inclusive process to understand, identify and define responsibility, and move forward in response to this offensive behaviour. The process will comply with the law and university policies, and respect the rights and needs of those involved in a safe and trauma-informed way. We continue to engage local and international expertise to ensure that we are on the right track.

We will not rush to judgment, nor will we sweep this under the rug. While some might have preferred a quick solution, it is important that we find the right solutions. As a result, we are using a range of actions and processes to address the harm done to the fourth-year Dentistry women who were most directly affected, as well as the harms experienced by others in the Faculty of Dentistry, the broader university community, the dental profession and the general public. (See “How the university is responding” and visit dal.ca/cultureofrespect.html for full details.)

But this situation is about much more than what has occurred at our Faculty of Dentistry. It underscores the deeper need to address misogyny, sexism and the importance of inclusion and respect at Dalhousie and in our community. In Dalhousie’s Strategic Direction we stated that building a collegial culture grounded in diversity and inclusiveness is an institutional priority. This incident gives new urgency to that commitment. (See “Why respect and inclusion matter”)

This has been a challenging time for our university and our community. Our work to address this will continue in the weeks and months to come. I believe we can work together to exemplify equality, inclusivity and respect. Moments of crisis make us stronger and wiser. They are an opportunity to test our principles and examine our values. I believe in Dalhousie, and I believe—I know—we can emerge stronger.

Richard Florizone, President

Our work to address this will continue in the weeks and months to come. I believe in Dalhousie, and I believe—I know—we can emerge stronger.
Why respect and inclusion matter

Alongside the direct response to this particular incident, Dalhousie is also undertaking a university-wide initiative focused on building a collegial culture of respect and inclusion, led by Kim Brooks, dean of the Schulich School of Law. We asked Dean Brooks for her thoughts on why this initiative matters.

HOW DOES THIS INITIATIVE HELP IN ADDRESSING THE DENTISTRY SITUATION? In Spring 2014, Dalhousie’s Senate and Board of Governors approved Inspiration and Impact: Dalhousie Strategic Direction 2014–2018. It includes 25 strategic priorities, one of which was focused on fostering a collegial culture grounded in inclusiveness and diversity. The last several months have thrown into sharp relief the importance of an inclusive and diverse culture in that community. Each person—whether student, faculty, staff, alumni or friend of Dalhousie—has something to bring to the table, so to speak. When we fail to create an inclusive and diverse community, we are losing out on the full richness the university can provide.

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR THIS INITIATIVE? Our committee—which includes students, faculty and staff with various perspectives and experiences related to these issues—expects two stages to our work. In Phase 1, the committee has reached out to groups, solicited input from individuals, and reviewed reports and research produced at Dalhousie and at other Canadian universities. An action plan will be made public and presented at Senate at the conclusion of the phase. We hope to release that plan in late February. Phase 2 will see several working groups struck. Each working group will carry out aspects of the implementation plan. These working groups will report regularly to Senate and the Dalhousie community. That work will continue over the life of this strategic plan—until 2018.

HOW CAN FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS AND ALUMNI BE HEARD? In Phase 1 we have reached out to members of our community. That work is drawing to a close. Phase 2 will provide an opportunity for many members of the Dalhousie community—staff, faculty, students, and alumni—to be part of this aspect of Dalhousie’s strategic direction. There will be a number of initiatives and we hope that every member of the Dalhousie community will see something that engages and excites them. Our project will be a success if you look at some aspect of it and think “I want to be part of that.”

TO LEARN MORE, INCLUDING THE MOST CURRENT UPDATES, GO TO WWW.DAL.CA/CULTUREOFRESPECT.HTML

How the university is responding

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROCESS The DDS Class of 2015 has demonstrated strong support for proceeding with a Restorative Justice process. Through a detailed inquiry process involving the individuals, groups and institutions involved, the restorative process will develop an understanding of what happened, how and why it happened and what is required to address the harms caused and establish safety and respect in future. The parties involved in the process will commit to doing what is required of them to ensure this outcome. For more information on restorative justice, go to http://www.dal.ca/dept/restorative-justice/q-and-a.html.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS CLASS COMMITTEE (ASCC) The ASCC within the Faculty of Dentistry has broad authority over academic performance, including professionalism requirements. The committee also recommends students for graduation. The ASCC will assess the situation of each student involved and ensure any individuals recommended for graduation will have complied with the professionalism requirements of their academic program. No student will be permitted to graduate unless they have done so.

PRESIDENT’S TASK FORCE ON MISOGYNY, SEXISM AND HOMOPHOBIA IN THE FACULTY OF DENTISTRY An external task force, led by Professor Constance Backhouse of the University of Ottawa, and assisted by Professor Don McRae, the University of Ottawa, and Nitya Iyer, a lawyer with expertise in human rights and professional regulation, will complete an investigation of the Faculty and report to the President no later than June 30, 2015. The reports will subsequently be shared publicly.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE ON DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVENESS With the support of a diverse team of students, faculty and staff, Kim Brooks, dean of the Schulich School of Law, is helping lead Dalhousie’s university-wide initiative focused on building a collegial culture of respect and inclusion. (See “Why respect and inclusion matter.”)
The Legacy Effect
Jock and Janet Murray

"Universities are incredibly important. They are agents of social change and need to be supported. It's up to us to do something, and there are so many ways to contribute.

We have a vision for how we want to make a difference. Our bequest to Dal will see it fulfilled."

Visit dal.ca/murray to get the Murray's story.

We Can Help
If you're thinking of including Dal in your estate plans, we can help you match your gift to your wishes.

Explore the possibilities at dal.ca/plannedgiving

Or get in touch, we're here to answer your questions.
Ian Lewer 902-494-6981 ian.lewer@dal.ca
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“THE ARCTIC IS ONE OF THE LAST FRONTIERS ON EARTH, BECAUSE IT’S SO UNEXPLORED.”

Kai Boggild, a Dalhousie co-op student whose work term supervisor with Natural Resources Canada invited him to join a six-week Geological Survey of Canada expedition to the North Pole aboard the Canadian Coast Guard Heavy Arctic Icebreaker Louis S. St-Laurent.
Dalhousie has welcomed an internationally-known neuroscientist as its new William Dennis Chair in Epilepsy Research. Alon Friedman joined the medical school in 2014. His research focuses on detecting and treating damage to blood vessels in the brain. Dr. Friedman is particularly interested in the shield that these vessels form around the brain—a kind of security system called the blood-brain barrier. It’s a natural, almost non-permeable layer separating the brain from circulating blood. Damage to the barrier can trigger epileptic seizures and slow, progressive and irreversible damage. Dr. Friedman and his research partners at Ben-Gurion University Brain Imaging Research Center and Soroka University Medical Center made a breakthrough in early detection and diagnosis methods of leaky blood-brain barriers. The research, published in *JAMA Neurology*, came after an advanced magnetic resonance imaging diagnostic approach identified damage to the blood-brain barrier in pro football players. —Cory Burris

Dalhousie’s Paola Marignani and her team have successfully tested a combination of drugs that shuts down aggressive, metabolically active HER2-positive breast cancers. The study results were published in the scientific journal *Oncotarget*. The drug combination may also prove effective against other forms of cancer with mechanisms similar to HER2-positive breast cancer, says Dr. Marignani. —Melanie Jollymore

A stuffed bus of generosity

A big, colourful Halifax Transit bus isn’t Santa’s usual form of transport, but for special deliveries to Feed Nova Scotia, it more than does the trick.

For the eighth year in a row, Dalplex took part in Feed Nova Scotia’s “Stuff-a-Bus” campaign, in which local organizations collect non-perishable food items in early December to be delivered to Feed Nova Scotia. In total, nearly 500 pounds of food was collected.

Dalplex patrons, as well as students, faculty, staff and community members, dropped off food items in November, with Dalplex offering a free T-shirt for donations of five items or more. “We have a diverse community and we all know people who’ve experienced hunger,” says Amanda Kirby-Sheppard, Dalplex manager of recreation marketing, communications and membership sales. “With Feed Nova Scotia, they know their donations are going to support a family in their community at a time when they might be really struggling.” —Ryan McNutt

Five Dalhousie alumni made 2014’s list of Canada’s Top 100 Most Powerful Women, as honoured by the Women’s Executive Network. They included Faten Alshazly (BSc’99), chief creative officer and co-founder of the strategic communications firm WeUsThem; Laurie Poole (BN’86, MHSA’94), vice-president of telemedicine solutions for the Ontario Telemedicine Network; Sara Austin (BA’98), director, president’s office for World Vision Canada; Sarah Devereaux (BEng’93, MEng’99), partner at Dillon Consulting; and Sally Daub (LLB’91), president and CEO of VIXS Systems.

As well, eight Dal faculty and alumni were honoured during the 25th Annual Progress Women of Excellence Awards in Halifax. They included faculty members Dr. Shelly Whitman, executive director of the Roméo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative and Dr. Sherry Stewart (BSc’87), founding director of the Centre for Addictions Research at Dal. Alumni honoured at the awards included Christina Brothers (LLB’96), litigation partner with Steward McKelvey; Ann Mellema (MBA’96), director, programs governance with Irving Shipbuilding; Mary Vingoe (BA’76), freelance director and playwright; Vicki Grant (BA’82), writer; Elana Liberman (LLM’04), owner and CEO of Cyclone Studios Inc.; and Dr. Elaine Gordon Cragg (DDS’69), doctor of dental surgery.

**RESEARCH**

**NEW EPILEPSY RESEARCHER JOINS DAL:** Dalhousie has welcomed an internationally-known neuroscientist as its new William Dennis Chair in Epilepsy Research. Alon Friedman joined the medical school in 2014. His research focuses on detecting and treating damage to blood vessels in the brain. Dr. Friedman is particularly interested in the shield that these vessels form around the brain—a kind of security system called the blood-brain barrier. It’s a natural, almost non-permeable layer separating the brain from circulating blood. Damage to the barrier can trigger epileptic seizures and slow, progressive and irreversible damage. Dr. Friedman and his research partners at Ben-Gurion University Brain Imaging Research Center and Soroka University Medical Center made a breakthrough in early detection and diagnosis methods of leaky blood-brain barriers. The research, published in *JAMA Neurology*, came after an advanced magnetic resonance imaging diagnostic approach identified damage to the blood-brain barrier in pro football players. —Cory Burris

**DRUG COMBO STOPS GROWTH OF BREAST CANCER CELLS:** Dalhousie Medical School’s Paola Marignani and her team have successfully tested a combination of drugs that shuts down aggressive, metabolically active HER2-positive breast cancers. The study results were published in the scientific journal *Oncotarget*. The drug combination may also prove effective against other forms of cancer with mechanisms similar to HER2-positive breast cancer, says Dr. Marignani. —Melanie Jollymore
RESEARCH IN ACTION

NAME: Martha Crago, vice-president, research.
AREA OF STUDY: Internationally-known researcher, language acquisition and socialization.
WHAT’S HER FOCUS? Dr. Crago thinks of herself and her team as matchmakers, working to put the right people, facilities and funding opportunities together. “It’s about making connections and moving projects along.” In addition she works to influence the government to think about funding research in new ways.
HIGHLIGHTS: Since she’s been at Dal, Dr. Crago notes that she’s been part of the team that has “moved the dial on Dal’s involvement in international research”—including the signing of an important ocean science agreement between Dal and one of Germany’s largest research organizations, the Helmholtz Association. But for Dr. Crago, one of the big highlights has been completing the Strategic Research Plan, which was given Senate and Board approval in the spring of 2013. The plan highlights Dal’s priority research areas (ocean studies, advanced materials and clean technology, health and wellness, and governance, society and culture), as well as areas of emerging research strength (information science and communication, agriculture and food technologies, and energy and environment). The next goal for her team is to ensure that Dal gives the maximum support to the full range of research at the university, from the person getting a first grant to high-level projects. But Dr. Crago’s focus isn’t solely on Dal. She is also serving on the oneNS Coalition. “Our role is to put our heads together to think about possibilities for ensuring future prosperity and to turn to people who can make those possibilities happen in this province.”
WHY SHE DOES IT: “Academia is second nature for me; my father was an academic and I’ve always lived my life on or near campuses,” she says. She finds her daily interactions with researchers inspiring. “The ideas are why I love being a VP Research. My contribution is figuring out possible funding or partnerships to realize those ideas.” —Sarah Daniels
“After being given the scholarship, I felt far more confident about theatre and my ability.” A New Stage, p. 20

## DAL NEWS

### COMMUNITY CONNECTION

#### TD teams with Tigers for mentoring program

At the fifth annual Women in Leadership Spotlight Dinner in December, hosted by Dal’s women’s basketball and volleyball teams, TD Canada Trust announced a new mentoring program in partnership with the Dalhousie Tigers, coined “Investing in Tomorrow’s Leaders.” The program will facilitate six meetings between a female Dalhousie varsity student-athlete and a female junior high student. The objective of the program is to instil exemplary leadership skills in young women through hands-on experience with a community leader. Eight relationships will be fostered. The mentees will have the opportunity to be an honorary Tiger for the day, taking part in a full schedule of game-day activities. Other sessions include a lunch focused on developing business etiquette and a discussion on how to be a community leader. “Investing in Tomorrow’s Leaders will offer the opportunity of mentorship and leadership training to future leaders,” said TD Canada Trust’s District Vice President Georgette Moffatt in announcing the program.

### JUST THE FACTS

#### New Landscape Architecture program launches

Dalhousie will soon become the only Atlantic Canadian university to offer an undergraduate program in Landscape Architecture and one of only three to do so across Canada. The new program will include areas of study that explore site and ecosystem analysis, engage in collaborative design exercises, apply concepts of sustainability and efficiency, create construction details and specifications, and enhance the environment both aesthetically and ecologically. Students will receive training to develop technical skills in design, communication, installation and management.

Scheduled to begin in September 2015, the program will enable students to complete a Bachelor of Technology degree on the Agricultural Campus in Truro, which can be followed by further study in a master’s degree. The program also has an international connection: China’s Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University (FAFU) is working with Dal’s Faculty of Agriculture to flesh out a new 3+1 program to link students from FAFU with Dalhousie. That new proposed program aims to welcome its first students in China next September. — Robyn McCallum

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### BY THE NUMBERS

#### Converging Rhodes

At first glance, it may seem like a degree in Microbiology and Immunology and a degree in Creative Writing are worlds apart. But Brittany Graham, Dal’s newest Rhodes Scholar, has always been good at finding connections. Graham is a stellar student, with an impressive GPA and several scholarships to her name during her time at Dal. It was the Dalhousie Integrated Science Program (DISP) that drew her to Halifax and eventually to Dr. Craig McCormick’s lab in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology. In her Creative Writing major, she’s won Dal’s top awards in both poetry and short story writing and served as managing editor of Fathom, Dal’s literary journal. — Ryan McNutt

11

The number of Canadian Rhodes Scholars selected for 2015

89

The number of Dalhousie Rhodes Scholars in total

2–3

The number of years the fellowship funds students to study at Oxford University

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Dr. David Gray (right), dean of Agriculture, met with Fujian Agriculture & Forestry University President Siren Lan to discuss the new Landscape Architecture program.
MATT D’ENTREMONT:  
DIRECTOR, iDLAB  
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING  

INNOVATION: Engineer Matt d’Entremont has always been curious about making things work better. It has taken him from reading Popular Science magazine as a child to being published in the magazine as an inventor. And it makes him a great director of the iDLab which, with the Product Research and Design Group, makes up the Nova Scotia Product Design and Development Centre (NSPDDC). 

FOUNDATION: d’Entremont began his career with 10 years in commercial product development. Since joining the iDLab more than a decade ago, he has supported companies in Nova Scotia from inside Dalhousie. Most recently, he has been involved in the development of medical devices, projects that he says are particularly rewarding, as they have the potential to improve patient care. 

INSPIRATION: The inspiration for the NSPDDC stems from seeing start-up companies create technologies and products and, in turn, create jobs. d’Entremont has helped several startups, including one creating playing surfaces from recycled rubber. The NSPDDC is unique in that it provides tools and resources to solve and accommodate requests of varying degrees. 

IN HIS WORDS: “The NSPDDC is about creating new products and improving processes for entrepreneurial start-ups, companies and medical professionals. With Dal and the Centre’s resources, we provide an expertise to businesses to create and increase exports from Nova Scotia. The NSPDDC is an important part of the innovation fabric of the community.” 

WHY IT MATTERS: As Nova Scotia focuses on economic development in response to the oneNS Coalition, the Centre can play a key role in supporting new enterprise. “I believe we can use our training and developed skills to contribute to increased opportunities and seed startups with the technology solutions required to be on the cutting edge.” —Jennifer Moore
THE LIST

Good sports

Five of eight 2014 inductees into Nova Scotia’s Sport Hall of Fame are Dal alumni.

• Richard G. Munro (BPE’73) had a record-setting nine-year track and field career in the late 1960s, including competing for Dal and winning the Canadian Interuniversity Men’s Track and Field Championship in 1972–73.

• Dr. Cathy Campbell (BPE’75, MSc’77) is known for her important contributions to soccer, track and field, and sport medicine, and has been a builder of sport as a coach, administrator, educator and medical expert for over 40 years.

• Anthony Hall (BPE’81) was one of the first full-time year-round canoe coaches in the country and has led many athletes to international success. He has coached several Olympic and World Championship team members, including Olympic medal-winner Steve Giles.

• Brian Melanson (BPE’93, BEd’93) and John Kibyuk (BPE’84) were captain and coach respectively of the 1998 Truro TSN Bearcats Hockey Club, and helped lead the Bearcats to Nova Scotia’s second ever Allan Cup victory, ending a 63-year drought for the province.

RESEARCH

HALIFAX RESEARCHERS TESTING EBOLA VACCINE: A clinical trial for an experimental Ebola vaccine is underway at the Halifax-based Canadian Centre for Vaccinology (CCfV). Dr. Scott Halperin, director of the CCfV and professor of Microbiology and Immunology at Dalhousie Medical School, is the medical lead for the trial, which is being led by the Canadian Immunization Research Network (CIRN). CCfV will be the only vaccine test site in the country. The vaccine is made with a live animal virus called vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV), and does not contain the Ebola virus. “For the Ebola vaccine, the VSV has been genetically modified to produce a protein. This protein causes the immune system to generate antibodies that fight Ebola infection,” explains Dr. Halperin. “The vaccine can’t cause Ebola.” The preliminary CCfV trial results are expected in early 2015.

—Allison Gerrard

JUST THE FACTS

Measuring the oceans from space

Susanne Craig is seeing colours—and this time, she’ll be sharing her sights with the world. An expert in the field of oceanography, Dr. Craig has recently been accepted as a member of a science team for an upcoming satellite mission with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The PACE—or the Pre-Aerosol, Clouds and ocean Ecosystem—mission will measure the world’s oceans using a satellite that orbits the Earth.

PACE will keep track of colour variations of the oceans around the world, recording the data and transmitting it back to Earth on a daily basis. While the satellite’s launch date is still to be determined, it could be as early as 2021. The satellite will record ocean colour around the world, which reveals the physical and biological properties of the ocean to Dr. Craig, including how climate changes are affecting the type and distribution of phytoplankton. Dr. Craig will be the only Canadian science team member on the PACE mission. —Nicole LeBlanc

Dr. Susanne Craig will be the only Canadian science team member on NASA’s PACE mission, which will measure the world’s oceans via satellite.
THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE

What is agriculture? It’s Wasundara Fernando, a master’s science student in Dal’s Faculty of Agriculture, who is studying apple peels and fish oil components to determine their potential as breast cancer treatments. It’s Dr. Sarah Stewart-Clark, assistant professor of shellfish aquaculture, who is using the most innovative science to support one of Atlantic Canada’s most traditional industries: shellfishing. It’s Dr. Chris Cutler, associate professor of environmental science, whose team is developing ways to improve plant health, better manage insect populations and protect the environment by reducing the amount of chemicals used in agriculture.

INSIDE AGRICULTURE’S NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

The newest of Dalhousie’s 12 faculties, joining the university through the merger with Nova Scotia Agricultural College in 2012, the Faculty of Agriculture recently launched its first strategic plan under the leadership of David Gray, its first long-term dean and principal of the Dalhousie Agricultural Campus. Aptly titled “This is Agriculture,” the strategic plan will be used by the Faculty to encourage people to shelve their stereotypes of agriculture and to be open to a new vision. “In my role as Dean of the Faculty, people often ask, ‘What is agriculture?’” says Dr. Gray. “Almost immediately my mind takes me to the range of teaching and research on this campus that is redefining our relationships with our landscapes, our oceans, our food sources and even our healthcare systems.”

Over the next five years, the Faculty of Agriculture is committed to peeling back the layers of this question and showing the breadth and scope of agricultural teaching and research happening in Truro. Researchers at the Faculty of Agriculture are pushing the boundaries of the industry. From exploring compounds of apple peels for breast cancer treatments to one-of-a-kind blueberry harvesting technology, Dal’s Faculty of Agriculture is research-intensive, attracting more than $10 million in research funding annually. As one of its key goals under Research and Knowledge, the Faculty will be looking into other areas of research by building new and growing existing partnerships with other Faculties within Dalhousie and through its international academic and industry connections.

Underlying its other goals—Community Engagement, Regional Leadership and Impact, Management and Governance, and Teaching and Training—is a three-fold promise, focused on fostering an environment of teaching and learning excellence, creating a world-leading hub of research and innovation, and facilitating opportunities for students, staff and faculty to connect with and service local, national and global communities. This promise, along with the plan’s mission, vision and purpose statements, will guide the next five years of activity on the Agricultural Campus.

CONSIDERING THE PAST AND THE FUTURE

The plan sets a path for the future, but it doesn’t lose sight of the history that is embedded within the Agricultural Campus. “For close to 100 years, we have built an international reputation on being a unique and friendly campus community and we plan on preserving the unique nature of studying and working here in Truro well into the future,” says Dr. Gray.

—Stephanie Rogers

You can learn more about activities and events on the Agriculture Faculty’s Facebook page at facebook.com/dalagriculture.
New Dean of Medicine

David Anderson has been appointed dean of the Faculty of Medicine, effective July 1, 2015. Dr. Anderson is currently head and district chief of the Department of Medicine at Dalhousie, a position he’s held since 2011. A faculty member with Dalhousie Medical School for over two decades, he’s an award-winning teacher with over 150 peer-reviewed publications.

“Dr. Anderson brings to the Dean’s Office a great passion and enthusiasm for our medical school and its mission, along with deep relationships within the Faculty and across the region and a strong national reputation,” said President Richard Florizone in a memo to the Dal community. “His character and experience make him exceptionally suited to the tasks of maintaining the high quality of our medical education, of continuing to build significant research capacity, and of increasing the national and international stature of Dalhousie Medical School.”

The Faculty of Medicine includes campuses in Halifax and Saint John, 14 affiliated teaching hospitals and more than 100 teaching sites across the Maritimes. Dr. Anderson succeeds outgoing dean Dr. Tom Marrie, who agreed to postpone his retirement to ensure continuity of leadership during the search for a new dean.

—Ryan McNutt

Reducing student alcohol and drug misuse

Against a backdrop of concerning statistics on binge drinking among residents of Halifax, a group of researchers at Dal is taking action. In partnership with Queen’s University and the University of Calgary, Dalhousie has launched the new Caring Campus Initiative. The project, funded by Movember Canada, aims to reduce alcohol and drug misuse among first-year university students, particularly males.

In 2014, Halifax’s Capital District Health Authority reported the percentage of heavy drinking among residents of Halifax at 51 per cent, seven percentage points above the national average. Ninety per cent of those heavy drinkers are young adults aged 19 to 24.

“Heavy drinking and binge drinking is almost twice as prevalent in men as it is in women,” says Dr. Michael Teehan, who is leading the project, along with Dr. Sherry Stewart. The first phase of the initiative will survey first-year students about their alcohol and substance abuse, while the second phase will analyze the data to implement appropriate intervention strategies.

The information collected will also be used as a baseline to give ongoing feedback to students and faculty on what issues need to be addressed on the Dal campus. “With teams across three campuses that have different geographical locations and different cultures, it gives us the opportunity to intervene in those places and see if we can truly affect change,” says Dr. Teehan.

—Marie Visca

Working with France on oceans

The prevailing currents in the Atlantic Ocean flow from Canada’s east coast to Europe, eventually touching France’s famously beautiful and rugged region of Brittany.

Dr. Julia La Roche says Dal’s agreement with France will expand research opportunities.

And while researchers at Dalhousie and at France’s Université de Bretagne Occidentale (UBO), that country’s leading ocean research university, have forged connections in recent years, it wasn’t until last fall that the research relationship was formalized. That’s when Dal’s President Florizone and UBO’s President Pascal Olivard signed a formal Memorandum of Understanding that will pave the way for a more robust relationship between the two universities.

Julie La Roche, an oceans researcher in Dal’s Department of Biology, has worked with UBO researchers in the past. She’s excited about the agreement because UBO is one of the leading oceanography institutions in the world and the agreement will let her...
expand the reach of her projects. “The MOU will allow more researchers to collaborate with European colleagues and it will promote the exchange of ideas, methodology and lead to our participation in joint projects related to the Atlantic Ocean,” says Dr. La Roche.

—Sara Daniels

Mentorship program links students, non-profits

A new, gleaming sign hangs on top of the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) storefront on Gottingen Street in Halifax. That sign would not have been possible without Catherine Giffen. A fourth-year Commerce student at Dal, Giffen spent her third co-op term working for the not-for-profit CMHA with the help of the C3 Mentoring Program.

Catherine Giffin (left), a fourth-year Commerce student, spent her co-op term working for the not-for-profit CMHA with the help of the C3 Mentoring Program.

organized by Dalhousie Management Career Services, pairs corporate sponsors with not-for-profit organizations, funding a student’s job for the organization for the summer co-op term. The three Cs stand for “Corporate Community Connectors.” In 2014, C3 helped six management and commerce students from Dal, with corporate sponsors (in Giffen’s case, Emera Inc.) paying students a living wage to work at not-for-profit organizations. As well, students are matched with a mentor from the corporate sponsor who is available for advice and guidance. Giffen’s mentor, Anne-Marie Curtis, director of marketing and sales at Nova Scotia Power, was able to give Giffen a second professional point of view on the projects she was working on when they met a few times each month.

The Halifax branch of the CMHA moved to its new Gottingen Street location in July. “The main purpose of the storefront is mental health services and that huge sign helps guide people in,” Giffen says. Giffen also helped coordinate a fundraising event, which doubled its sponsorships this year.

“We’ve always wanted to work for not-for-profit but the overall experience with CMHA has reaffirmed that and now I know without hesitation that’s what I’m supposed to be doing with my life,” says Giffen.

—Misha Noble-Hearle

Celebrating Dal’s donors

Last year, nearly six in 10 Dalhousie undergraduates starting their studies received an entrance scholarship, bursary, award or prize. Much of that support is thanks in no small part to Dal’s donors, whose gifts often enable students to attend university when they might otherwise not be able to. That generosity was celebrated at Dal’s annual donor reception, held in December. Chancellor Fred Fountain saluted the large crowd of Dal supporters in attendance.

In addition to celebrating Dal philanthropy in general, the event also welcomed five new inductees into the university’s Heritage Society, which recognizes alumni and friends who plan to include Dalhousie in their estate planning. They were Robert Ripley (MEd’94), who is donating to the Dalhousie Art Gallery and establishing a scholarship for students entering Arts and Social Sciences; Cherry Ferguson (LLB’72), who is establishing a bursary in health law; Dr. Rory McLean (DDS’80) and Dr. Lois McLean (DDH’79), who met at Dal as students in the Faculty of Dentistry and plan on giving back in their estates; and Gaye Wishart, recently retired from the university, directing a gift to establish a bursary for students in financial need.

—Ryan McNutt

Dal Chancellor Fred Fountain saluted the efforts of Dal’s donors at a December event.
LIGHT IN ACTION

With 2015 designated as the UN’s International Year of Light and Light-based Technologies, we turn the spotlight on Dal’s light-related research and insight.
By Nikki Comeau

“We’re working on the next generation of solar cell technologies,” says Ian Hill in the Faculty of Science about his team’s efforts to incorporate solar cells into common building materials.
“Over 80 per cent of Dal buildings have been retrofitted with higher efficiency lamps, ballasts and some lighting controls,” says Rochelle Owen, director of Dalhousie’s Office of Sustainability.

Getting smarter about light

Bright upgrades

With three campuses in Halifax and one in Truro, Dal has more than a few buildings to light. Between 2011–2013, “over 80 per cent of Dal buildings have been retrofitted with higher efficiency lamps, ballasts and some lighting controls,” says Rochelle Owen, director of the Office of Sustainability. It’s one of a number of energy-saving initiatives led by the Office of Sustainability and Facilities Management, with a goal to reduce Dal’s greenhouse gases by as much as 50 per cent by 2020. Next up: the Dalhousie Agricultural Campus in Truro, Nova Scotia, where testing of LED tube lighting has already taken place.

Staying sun safe

Harmful rays from sunlight are known to seriously damage the skin and lead to cancer. “UVA rays have a longer wavelength and can penetrate the skin deeply. But it’s felt that UVB rays have the potential to cause more damage,” explains Peter Green, with the Faculty of Medicine. UVB rays are more associated with sunburns but over-exposure to both UVB and UVA rays contributes to premature aging as well as cancerous changes in the skin. Dr. Green points out that any unintentional sun exposure is unhealthy, even if an individual tans easily. “In order to develop a tan, an individual’s DNA would have to be damaged to get there,” says Dr. Green. “A tan without damage is scientifically impossible.”

Cheaper solar

Rising climate change concerns and electricity rates have many homeowners exploring renewable energy sources. Solar panels are affordable but expensive to install: The necessary racks and wiring required can make solar energy generation a hefty investment. That’s why Ian Hill in the Faculty of Science is keen on re-examining solar cells and better incorporating them into materials already used in building construction. “We’re working on the next generation of solar cell technologies,” says Dr. Hill. His team is working on new solar cell materials and technologies that could be printed directly onto common building elements, like glass windows. What would that mean? With significantly lower installation costs (after all, homes need windows anyway), residential solar electricity generation becomes a lot more affordable.

Improved mood

Canadians are used to cold and gloomy winter months. But fewer hours of sunlight can have a major effect on some vulnerable individuals, says Martin Alda, Dalhousie’s Killam Chair in Mood Disorders. Those with depression, bipolar disorder and other chronic mood disorders can experience worsening of their symptoms during times of reduced daylight in fall and winter. “Light is an important factor in mood regulation and it does play a role in mood disorders,” explains Dr. Alda. With light therapies in combination with other treatments, some people who suffer seasonal symptoms of mood disorders can successfully find relief.
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As students in the new Fountain School of Performing Arts make their way through their first year, we thought we’d look at Dal’s cultural contributions past and present—on stage and on the page.
Dal has a long history of fostering talented performers, from the concert stage to the big screen, from classical music to country tunes. Here, just some of our stars. By Lola Augustine Brown
**JAY FERGUSON, BA (English)'89 and PATRICK PENTLAND, BA (History)'91**

**CONTRIBUTION** Ferguson is vocalist/guitarist in the band Sloan, in which Pentland also plays guitar. Sloan has been nominated for nine Juno Awards (and won one), released 11 albums and toured the world. The band just released a limited edition vinyl recording of their 2002 concert in Tokyo.

**FAST FACT** Ferguson went on to study at NSCAD after four years at Dal, and says that a lot of what he used for his portfolio was drawn while not contributing in his classes at Dal.

**BARBARA FRIS, BMus’80**

**CONTRIBUTION** A soprano who was born in Halifax, Fris has performed all over the globe and has been heard on some of the world’s finest recital stages in Calgary, Chicago, Edmonton, Halifax, Luino (Italy), Montreal, New York, Philadelphia, Siena (Italy), Toronto and Winnipeg, among other cities.

**FAST FACT** She was awarded the Grand Prize at the 1989 International Bel Canto Voice Competition in Chicago.

**RAYLENE RANKIN, LLB’87**

**CONTRIBUTION** Along with her siblings, Raylene was part of the Rankin Family, a much-loved music group that delighted audiences in their hometown of Mabou in Cape Breton, and around the world.

**FAST FACT** The Rankin Family won six Juno Awards over the course of their career. Raylene’s solo album, *All the Diamonds*, was nominated for a Juno after her death in 2012 from breast cancer.

**DANIEL MACIVOR, BA (Theatre)'83**

**CONTRIBUTION** MacIvor is an actor, playwright, theatre director and film director. His works have been performed all over North America, including the Stratford Shakespeare Festival and the New York International Fringe Festival, where he won the award for overall excellence for his play *Never Swim Alone*. He has been a regular in the popular TV show *Republic of Doyle*, was a regular on *Twitch City*, and has appeared in many other Canadian TV shows.

**FAST FACT** In 1993, MacIvor won a Genie for his short film *The Fairy Who Didn’t Want to be a Fairy Anymore* and in 2006 won a Governor General’s Award for Drama. In 2008, he was awarded the prestigious Siminovitch Prize in Theatre, which recognizes Canadians for their work in the areas of design, direction and playwriting in Canada.

**PHIL ALBERSTAT, BSc’85, BA’86**

**CONTRIBUTION** A television and movie producer who has worked on big productions such as *Romeo and Juliet* (2013 adaptation), *The Incredible Mrs. Ritchie*, *Secret Society*, and documentaries including *FrackNation* and *Dirty Oil*.

**FAST FACT** Alberstat won a Daytime Emmy for the film *The Incredible Mrs. Ritchie* and was shortlisted for an Academy Award for his documentary, *Downstream*.

**KIRAN AHLUWALIA, MBA’93**

**CONTRIBUTION** A singer and composer who tours the world performing her own musical arrangements from ancient Persian and Punjabi poetry. She has released five critically-acclaimed albums and been nominated for four Junos, winning two for best world music album.

**FAST FACT** Kiran Ahluwalia won the ‘Newcomer’ category in the inaugural Songlines/WOMAD Music Awards (2009), the new ‘world music’ awards organised by the UK-based magazine, Songlines (presented in Copenhagen). The Observer called her “a powerful woman who has a depth of character in her wonderfully pliable, expressive voice.”

**PETER HERRNDORF, LLB’65**

**CONTRIBUTION** Herrndorf is president and CEO of the National Arts Centre in Ottawa. Career highlights include being vice-president of the CBC, publisher of *Toronto Life* magazine between 1983 and 1992, and Chairman and CEO of TVOntario from 1992 to 1999.

**FAST FACT** Herrndorf joined the CBC as a reporter in 1965, a day after graduating from Dalhousie University. He was awarded the Order of Canada in 1993.

**KATE MAKI, BSc’99, BSc’00**

**CONTRIBUTION** Maki is a full-time singer songwriter who has released five albums and is working on number six. Her third album, *On High*, won Album of the Year at the Northern Ontario Music and Film Awards in 2009.

**FAST FACT** When the Edmonton Journal asked Maki about her science background she said, “In science you start out as an observer, you test things and you find out what works and doesn’t work. It’s the same thing with music. You might set out to travel and meet new people. You test certain waters and styles, situations and dynamics. You stick with what works, but your curiosity feeds the method. Every album I’ve made has been an experiment.” Mojo magazine said of her: “Like the best country singers, alt or otherwise, Maki’s voice is conversational yet somehow self-contained, as if it’d be quite happy talking to itself sitting on an open plain, or whistling to itself behind a wheel.”

**JOSH CRUDDAS, BA’13**

**CONTRIBUTION** Cruddas is an actor and composer. He has been in *Call Me Fitz*, *Rookie Blue*, the Discovery Channel’s *Titanic: The Aftermath* and the movie *Copperhead*, a civil war movie released last year. On stage, he most recently originated a lead role in Mulgrave Road Theatre’s world premiere production of *As Ever*, written by renowned Canadian playwright Robert Chafe.

**FAST FACT** In 2014, SOCAN named the soundtrack that Cruddas composed for the LA-produced movie *Battle for Skylark* one of the top three scores by a young Canadian. He was awarded Dalhousie’s Stitt Award for promise and passion in acting and was nominated for the 2013 AC-TRA Maritimes Best Actor Award for his performance in *Copperhead*. 
Being under one roof—even a metaphorical one—is already having clear benefits for students and faculty of the newly-minted Fountain School of Performing Arts. The school welcomed its first class in September 2014.

“Even before the school was official, faculty and students began to seek out increased opportunities for integration and collaboration,” says Interim Director Jure Gantar.

“Since the school launched, the collaboration has increased—you have theatre faculty working on opera productions, leading to a better designed program and original music in theatre productions, resulting in better productions and better experiences for our students.”

Collaboration is also at the heart of how programs in the school are being developed. While still in the early stages, faculty in Theatre and Music are re-examining programming for the school, looking for opportunities for cross collaboration including a common first-year class for students studying music, acting, technical studies and costume design. The long-term goal is to have full collaboration between the Theatre and Music programs on all programming.

Another benefit for the Theatre and Music programs, which have seen 50 per cent growth in faculty and staff over the past 23 years but not an increase in space, is the ability to share rehearsal space. With 200-plus students in the school and an incoming class of approximately 80 students, space is tight. Since the creation of the Fountain School, there has been a shift in how physical space is being classified and used. Now, Theatre and Music students can access common rehearsal space, which has replaced dedicated Music and Theatre rehearsal spaces and has resulted in fewer hallway rehearsals. “It’s just a shift in thinking but it’s made a big difference for the students,” explains Dr. Gantar.

The Fountain gift has also brought an unprecedented level of support to students. The creation of entrance scholarships, in-course scholarships and summer program awards means almost one-third of students in the Fountain School of Performing Arts receive funding. “This is another aspect that makes us unique,” says Dr. Gantar. “Funding for music programs is pretty common but funding for theatre is almost unheard of.”

Dr. Gantar isn’t the only one who’s excited. “Receiving the Fountain Scholarship helped me realize that not only is theatre something I absolutely love, but it is a program that I am good at and I will be able to succeed in, even if I experience some challenges along the way,” says first-year costume studies student Alexis Geist.

Fountain Scholar and acting student Ursula Calder echoes her classmate. “After being given the scholarship, I felt far more confident about theatre and my ability. I thought that perhaps I did have a shot at it, which is one of the most incredible feelings in the world. It gave me the opportunity to study acting and learn something I am truly passionate about and in love with.”

In addition to scholarships, the Fountain investment enables yearly state-of-the-art equipment purchases. This year’s purchase is a second grand piano for the MacAloney Room, a significant gain for the music program and the community as there isn’t another venue with two grand pianos within the Halifax region. This addition broadens the performance possibilities for local and visiting artists, music teachers and the many community members who use Dalhousie spaces.

Looking ahead, Dr. Gantar has big dreams for the school. A future expansion of the Arts Centre would enable the school to include a dance program and film studies major. “Our goal is to be one of the top-notch performing arts schools in the world.”

Clockwise from top left: Donors Elizabeth (left) and Fred (centre) Fountain, with student Warda Limaye at the announcement of the Fountains’ donation to Dalhousie; Music students perform at the official opening of the Fountain School in September; students rehearse Our Country’s Good in November; students seated in the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium, venue for many of the Fountain School’s productions.
The rewards of a career in the performing arts are many: passion, purpose and perhaps acclaim. We asked Dal alum who’ve made it their life’s work for their best advice about what it takes to stay happy, centred and sane in the spotlight.

By Matt Semansky

**PAUL MEDEIROS, BMus’10**  
CONCERT VIOLINIST BASED IN AMSTERDAM  
“A young musician should strive to continually refine their skills and absolutely avoid closing doors of opportunity. The latter will surprise you. Take every opportunity you can, whether it be on stage with a symphony orchestra or with a small group of musicians at a festive gathering. Money isn’t everything, especially in the beginning when building your network and professional relationships are top priority. Above all, never forget why you chose to dedicate your life to music, for this love for what you do will radiate in a rehearsal, in a concert or in a conversation with a colleague.”

**JODI LYNE, BMus’07**  
MULTI-INSTRUMENTALIST. MEMBER OF THE MELLOTONES. BANDLEADER AT BEDFORD ACADEMY.  
“Number one: You have to be open-minded and not be too attached to the art you’ve created if you want to move forward. Other people have input in the music that you make. Number two: it pays to be versatile. It’s paid off for me.”

**TAYLOR OLSON, BA (Theatre)’14**  
ACTOR, PRIMARILY FILM & TV  
“Put yourself out there and let people know you’re willing to work. Also, don’t put too much pressure on yourself to succeed. Do it because you love it and that’s when your best work is going to happen.”

**SUZANNAH SHOWLER, BA’09**  
POET AND JOURNALIST  
“Make sure you like writing and not just the idea of having written something. If what excites you is the end result of having something published, you’re going to have a rough and disappointing time. Art-wise, you need to pay attention to the world and take in a lot of information, but also put your head down and do the work.”
CLAIREE LÉGER, BA (Theatre)’09  
CO-FOUNDER, CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
AT XARA CHORAL THEATRE IN HALIFAX.  
“The biggest thing is to work hard.  
There are a lot of talented people out  
there, so you need to work hard and  
not give up and really get creative  
about the way you make your living.  
Working hard and thinking your  
way through all the challenges  
is what can make it happen.”

ROSE COUSINS, BSc (Kinesiology)’99  
SINGER-SONGWRITER  
“The motto I stand by and share  
most with people starting out is  
be resourceful. There are even  
more resources available now  
than when I started. Use them,  
your head and your gut. Ask good  
questions but only after you know  
you can’t answer them yourself.  
Be kind and have integrity.”

PAT HENMAN, BA (Theatre)’10  
ACTOR AND SINGER  
“In my third year at Dalhousie, (former  
Theatre faculty member) Peter Perina  
took me out to lunch because I’d gotten  
an ‘A’ in acting. You think, ‘Wow, I must  
be super-talented.’ But he wanted to let  
me know that it was because I worked so  
hard. I’ve never forgotten it. The greatest  
driver of success is the ability to work  
hard—and without passion for your work,  
you won’t have the drive to work hard at it.  
Passion’s probably number one, then your  
work ethic—and then your talent is third.”

KLINLEY DOWLING, BMus’07  
VIOLA PLAYER, MEMBER  
OF HEY ROSETTA  
“The best advice I could give was a piece  
of advice that I got from one of the best  
musicians in Canada, Doug Riley—they  
called him Dr. Music—who passed  
away a few years ago. He once told me,  
‘Kinley, always take the gig. No matter  
what happens, take the gig.’ I’ve pretty  
much lived by that rule and it’s worked  
out. Every gig I get, I meet someone  
else and play with different people. And  
every show you play, you get better.”

LOKKI MA, BA (Theatre)’06  
HEAD OF PROPS AT YOUNG  
PEOPLES THEATRE IN TORONTO.  
“As someone who hires people, it’s  
important to me that the person I  
hire fits in with the environment and  
can get along with everyone else. It’s  
about being enthusiastic, having a  
good attitude, being a hard worker  
and knowing your stuff. You also  
need to learn as much as you can  
and be humble and ask questions.  
If you have a question, ask.”

PETER CHYKOWSKI, MA’11, BA’11  
POET, COMIC WRITER, VISUAL ARTIST.  
“It’s very easy to think that, at some  
point, somebody’s going to discover  
your work. But if you’re a creative  
person, you really have to champion  
your own work and be ready to share  
it with the world. No one’s going to  
come and ask you for your manuscript  
or your art gallery submission or  
your great song. You have to keep  
your creativity as public as possible to  
keep it alive and find a home for it.”
BETWEEN THE COVERS

The performing arts aren’t Dal’s only contribution to Canadian cultural life: our alumni and faculty have a long history of publishing books that inform, inspire and educate. Here are some of their most recent offerings. By Erin Stewart

LEADERS OF THE PACK

Dal-penned texts contribute to the enlightenment of students on our own campuses and beyond. Here, a sampling of influential textbooks from our faculty and alumni.

- **MANAGEMENT** (Pearson Education Canada): With over 100,000+ copies sold in North America, Management is the largest selling introduction to management text in North America. Faculty of Business faculty Ed Leach and Mary Kilfoil are two of the text’s four authors.

- **THE GROVE DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN MUSIC** (Oxford University Press): At eight volumes, this is the largest, most comprehensive reference publication on American music and was awarded the 2013 Association of American Publishers Prose Award, Multivolume Reference / Humanities and Social Sciences. Dalhousie’s Jacqueline Warwick, associate professor, musicology, is on the senior editorial board.

- **PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS** (CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group): After asking the question “Why don’t we teach our chemistry, physics and engineering students some of the more interesting aspects of science?” Dalhousie prof Mary Anne White wrote Physical Properties of Materials. Aimed at undergraduate students with an interest in materials science, this text looks at the basic principles of materials science, and how they are applied in everyday life.
SHAKESPEAREAN SCIENCE
In his most recent work, The Science of Shakespeare: A New Look at the Playwright’s Universe (Thomas Dunne Books), Dan Falk (BSc’89) explores the connections between the famous playwright and the beginnings of the Scientific Revolution—and how, together, they changed the world forever.

WHAT THE CRITICS SAY
“...readers will thank Falk for putting Shakespeare and Galileo on the same well-illuminated world stage.” – Booklist

40 YEARS OF POETRY
Celebrated novelist, poet and Dalhousie prof Lesley Choyce earned the 2013 Atlantic Poetry Prize for his most recent collection of poems, I’m Alive. I Believe in Everything. (Breton Books). Written over a 40-year period, Choyce’s subject matter ranges from war, peace, surfing, organic gardening, aging and seaweed, to Halifax, Saskatoon, Glasgow, outhouses, cement mixers, crows, watermelons, mushrooms, geese, truth, lies and madness.

WHAT THE CRITICS SAY
“Choyce’s poetry is always compelling because it is sumptuously crafted—of feeling and philosophy, of whimsy and warmth. He makes us care for what he cares about—the exemplary liberty of wind, water and light; the godly love for life itself.” – George Elliott Clarke, The Chronicle Herald

CULTURE BENEATH THE WAVES
In The Cultural Lives of Whales and Dolphins (University of Chicago Press), Dalhousie prof Hal Whitehead and alumnus Luke Rendell (PhD’03) show that humans are not the only species for whom culture is vital. In this book, Whitehead and Rendell seek to define what cetacean culture is, why it exists, and what it means for the future of whales and dolphins.

WHAT THE CRITICS SAY
“The Cultural Lives of Whales and Dolphins is a revolutionary book. Transcending the notion of a ‘science’ book, it contains explosive new concepts for our understanding not only of whales, our watery cousins, but of our own selves, too.” – Philip Hoare, author of The Whale and The Sea Inside

HAUNTING POETRY
Don Domanski’s (BA’73) ninth book of poetry, Bite Down Little Whisper (Brick Books) earned him the J.M. Abraham Poetry Award at the 2014 East Coast Literary Awards. The collection looks at the interconnectedness of all life, and is hailed by The Chronicle Herald’s Philip K. Thompson as “the strongest new book of poetry I have read this century.”

WHAT THE CRITICS SAY
“Bite Down Little Whisper is haunting and re-readable. The cover, to which Domanski contributed, is a useful indicator of what lies ahead: if you are capable of deep appreciation of everything from sleeping stags to Venn diagrams, Domanski’s verse offers great riches.” – Stevie Howell, Quill & Quire

YESTERDAY’S WORK
Shortlisted for the Evelyn Richardson Award at the 2014 East Coast Literary Awards, John Demont’s (BA’80) A Good Day’s Work (Doubleday Canada) is a portrait of Canada as it once was, captured through interviews and encounters with a blacksmith, a cowgirl, a milkman, a traveling salesman and other custodians of trades from another time.

WHAT THE CRITICS SAY
“The Halifax author has taken a long, lingering look back, not forward, to how men and women earn their daily bread in lines of work that are vanishing. He has produced a meditation as much on what work — when it is good, satisfying and durable — does for the soul as what it does for the pay-packet.” – Jim Coyle, Toronto Star
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IN PRINT

Building a Better World: Brad Pickard, MArch’10 p. 28
Spotlight: Tracey Dobbin, BSc’99, and Genevieve Nicholson Loughlin, BComm’98 p. 31
Donor Profile: John Brophy and the Ian Lamont McLachlan Jazz Scholarship p. 32
Events: p. 33
Spotlight: Vassy Kapelos, MA’06 p. 34
Class Notes: p. 35
In Memoriam: p. 37

ON LINE

VISIT US AT ALUMNI.DAL.CA

DAL WINTER 2015
When Brad Pickard (MArch’10) decided to study architecture at a graduate level, there was only one institution he applied to: Dalhousie University.

“I wanted to go to a school that was making a real difference in communities,” explains Pickard. “There’s a philosophy at Dal of advancing sustainability through collaboration with—and empowerment of—communities that is embodied by mentors such as Richard Kroeker, Brian Lilley and Frank Palermo. They not only do amazing academic work, they also do remarkable built work, and so do the students and alumni.”

You only have to look at Pickard’s impressive résumé to confirm that he shares his mentors’ dedication to community engagement and building. In fact, many of the projects he has been involved with have been Dalhousie-related initiatives. Some were done through Dalhousie’s Cities and Environment Unit while others came about through his participation, as both an instructor and student, in the School of Architecture’s one-of-a-kind design and build Free Lab course work. He’s collaborated with First Nations groups on design and build projects that have embraced sustainable practices and community building through collective vision and effort. He helped students and tradespeople design and build an outdoor classroom during a six–month Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) internship at the Gambia Technical Training Institute in Gambia, West Africa. And in collaboration with current Dalhousie architecture students, he assisted Hope Blooms, a youth–run community garden in Halifax, in designing and building a new fence that embodies the unique spirit of this social enterprise.

What Pickard brings to these projects is more than design expertise. He brings the belief that each one is an opportunity for community development. By engaging people in the design process, fostering partnership with the community and encouraging the use of local resources, he’s advancing a way of building that empowers people and sustains communities into the future.

“These types of projects have the power to be change–making events; advocating for appropriate design at a local level. They are fundamentally collaborative and allow communities to effect positive change in their world and on their terms.”

The type of child who was always doing something with his hands, Pickard seemed destined for a career in architecture. Initially, he studied landscape architecture at the University of Manitoba, inspired in part by his childhood visits to his family’s Alberta farm and wilderness trips to northern Saskatchewan. But once he discovered the bigger picture, he changed course and headed eastward to Dalhousie.

“I found through architecture that you could focus on a larger scope and affect building at multiple scales—building, landscape, city planning. But it was the connection I felt to landscapes that first drew me into the profession.”

It proved to be the perfect fit for Pickard, if the accolades he has received from his peers are any indication. They include the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada’s Student Medal for his academic achievements and final MArch design thesis and the 2011 Canadian Institute of Planners Social Planning Award of Excellence for his contributions to community projects involving First Nations. Yet the real reward for Pickard is working on projects where he feels he truly has contributed to change, such as the greenhouse and community garden he facilitated with the Standing Buffalo Dakota Nation in Saskatchewan.

“The goal was to positively impact health, encourage community cooperation and foster a more meaningful relationship with the landscape,” says Pickard. “We did this through a community–based approach to design and building, using local resources and involving band members. Now, they have a wonderful garden and greenhouse that is providing food for the whole community and they are planning to expand this initiative in the years to come.”

Balancing community projects with the demands of nine–to–five employment can be tricky, but Pickard has found considerable harmony...
For nearly 200 years, Dalhousie alumni have made extraordinary contributions that positively impact the lives of others. We’re featuring just some of these graduates in our Building a Better World series. READ ABOUT OTHER INSPIRATIONAL ALUMNI AT ALUMNI.DAL.CA/STAY-INFORMED/BUILDING-A-BETTER-WORLD.

between his pursuits. If anything, he’s been able to draw on the skills he’s acquired as an architect with P3Architecture, a Regina firm with an environmentally friendly focus, to enhance his volunteer work.

“For example, in commercial practice, you develop the ability to be very efficient and conscious of the time and resources you use because you need to be accountable for the hours you bill. I think it is important to take that spirit into a volunteer-organized community project and ensure that everyone—and their time—is highly valued.”

Speaking of spirit, there is one other way that Pickard is drawing on the inspiration of his Dalhousie mentors and experience to make a difference. In 2011, he and four other Dalhousie alumni—Victoria Yong-Hing (BEDS’07, MArch’10), Robyn Robertson (BEDS’07, MArch’10), Mark Sin (BEDS’07, MArch’09) and April Hiebert (BEDS’07, MArch’10)—launched OPEN, a collective that is engaging the public and challenging perceptions about the built environment through conversations, media, public art and design. Although based in Saskatchewan, it has evolved into a national network, undertaking a number of projects ranging from representing Canada at the 2012 Venice Biennale—the Olympics of architecture—to addressing accessibility issues at Citadel Hill in Halifax.

“The inspiration really came from the Free Labs course work at Dalhousie—making good things happen in your community, pushing design into the public realm and being advocates for design.”

Pickard plans to grow this network of like-minded professionals, locally and nationally, pursuing a socially engaging community approach to design. Ultimately, he remains committed to pushing the envelope on how practitioners can achieve such advances at the local level.

“I think our profession is always searching for new approaches to design and planning. I see this movement of community-based design adding significantly to the evolution of the profession—embracing an approach that fully values social engagement and community need for any given project.”

DAL WINTER 2015
We litigate

LOTS OF DAL IN THE HEART OF TORONTO

Dalhousie Alumni: Peter R. Greene, Sr. Partner (LL.B. ’78)
Kenneth A. Dekker, Partner (LL.B. ’96)
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Two Dalhousie alumnae have poured their passion for wine into a business that’s bringing a world-renowned wine education program to Atlantic Canada. Autour du Vin’s Tracey Dobbin (BSc’99), and Genevieve (Nicholson) Loughlin (BComm’98), offered the first-ever Wine Spirits and Education Trust (WSET) level one course in St. John’s and Halifax to capacity crowds this past fall. “Level one is about major varieties and the principal styles of wine and the art of tasting. You leave with increased knowledge and confidence to be able to communicate about wine,” says Dobbin, the company’s teacher and owner.

Autour du Vin (www.autourduvin-bordeaux.com) is the first WSET-approved program provider to offer courses in Canada east of Montreal. Industry professionals and consumers wanting an in-depth education into the many facets of wine seem eager to enroll. “Wine is history, taste, geology, agriculture. There are so many levels of knowledge as you get into it,” says Loughlin, Autour du Vin’s chief administrator. She became WSET-certified in Boston.

The friends met 20 years ago at Shirreff Hall. As their earlier careers as an occupational therapist (Dobbin) and in book publishing (Loughlin) moved them around Canada, their shared interest in wine began to grow. Dobbin was the first to transition to a career in the wine industry after working as an occupational therapist in Vancouver. She completed WSET, then worked for a Vancouver company as an instructor before relocating to Bordeaux, France where she now lives. Dobbin holds an MBA in Wine Management and Marketing from the Bordeaux International Wine Institute and is enrolled in a Master of Wines program—currently held by only four people in Canada and about 310 worldwide.

Loughlin’s previous job in book publishing took her to Vancouver where she attended wine tastings with Dobbin. The two also have a long history of buying bottles of wine to share with one another as they catch up. Though an ocean now separates them—Loughlin lives in Wood Islands, P.E.I., these days, where she is also a yoga instructor—they decided to open Autour du Vin (meaning “about wine”) when they saw an opportunity to bring high-level wine education to Atlantic Canada. There has been double-digit growth in the wine industry in Canada in recent years and the pair surmises the boom in wine sales is fueled by multiculturalism and education. Growth in Atlantic Canada even exceeds that of the rest of Canada. Dobbin will travel here several times a year as they continue to offer more WSET courses and master classes in the region.

“You walk into a wine shop and there are so many choices. People buy by the label or buy the same wine over and over. Life’s too short for that,” says Dobbin. “Wine is alive in a bottle. It’s grouped by country. People may think to themselves, ‘I want to bring home a piece of Argentina tonight.’”

The pair will repeat level one and offer more advanced WSET levels to meet demand. Autour du Vin also offers two-hour master classes on specific aspects of wine. While in Halifax this past September, Dobbin taught a master class on the wines of Bordeaux, where she managed to elevate the lesson to an almost philosophical level to the rapt crowd. “Wine is about communication,” Dobbin said, “the beautiful mystery of grapes.” Cheers to that.—Alison DeLory
Every week for more than two decades, Ian Lamont McLachlan (MA’99) sat down behind a microphone at CKDU radio and invited listeners to join him on a 90-minute journey to The Dark End of the Street.

“That show was a muse for him,” says long-time friend John Brophy. “It was a forum in which to share his passion for jazz, blues, world music and the spoken word.”

Anyone who knew McLachlan knew his zeal for the music extended far beyond his radio show. He was an active volunteer with both Jazz East and the Halifax Jazz Festival, helping to stage concerts and raise the profile of the genre. He also sought out unpaid gigs at local coffee houses, just to play guitar and introduce people to the music of his idols, such as Johnny Smith.

“While he held a wide range of interests, jazz is a key one that I associate him with,” explains Brophy. “It’s less conventional, it’s sophisticated and intellectual in style, it has a maturity to it, and you could say the same things about him.”

McLachlan passed away in November 2013 after a battle with cancer. Seeking to memorialize his friend, and support a key interest of McLachlan’s, Brophy established the Ian Lamont McLachlan Jazz Scholarship at Dalhousie University. The endowment will provide financial support to second-year students attending the Fountain School of Performing Arts who demonstrate considerable artistic potential or achievement as a jazz musician.

“There are scholarships that assist students in the sciences and business and they are all vital. But this is the first jazz scholarship at the School, so it’s nice to fill a gap and to help support and perpetuate the music that Ian loved. It’s also a kind of recognition of Dalhousie. The university’s radio station provided him with a platform from which to share this music, which is vital because it isn’t as mainstream as pop or rap. This is also a thank-you for that.”

Brophy thinks McLachlan would be delighted to know that, in some way, he’s helping to foster a new generation of jazz artists and keeping the music alive. As for inspiring others to do something similar, Brophy says only that people should follow their own hearts, just as his friend McLachlan did.

“Any gift or donation you make to Dalhousie should be your own choice, free of any influence. Stand back, evaluate the opportunities and make an independent decision. That would be in keeping with Ian’s spirit.”—Mark Campbell
Get in the picture at an upcoming alumni event!

ALUMNI EVENTS

Celebrating Rhodes less travelled

From Halifax to Hong Kong, alumni events fêted our Dal community both near and far. Across the pond, there was a special celebration this year as the U.K. Alumni Chapter hosted a tour of the University of Oxford with Dalhousie’s 87th and 88th Rhodes Scholars, Paul Manning (BSc (Agriculture) ’13) and Michael Mackley (BSc’14). Meanwhile, the Hong Kong Chapter hosted a dinner for Dal President Richard Florizone and other senior administration on a tour of China, where the university has more than 30 active international agreements in place across a variety of disciplines with Chinese institutions.

Closer to home, our St. John’s, Toronto and Ottawa events were extra special as we presented five alumni with Building a Better World designations. Dental hygienist Bill Nippard (DDH’88) was recognized in St. John’s and MP and advocate Erin O’Toole (LLB’03) was honoured in Ottawa. In Toronto, lawyer and aboriginal rights activist Pamela Palmater (LLM’99, JSD’09), along with World Vision mover and shaker Sara Austin (BA’98) and youth education activist David Gonsalves (BComm’01) were all awarded for their contributions. Read about all of our Building a Better World honorees by visiting alumni.dal.ca.

Alumni and donor receptions were also held in Montreal and Halifax. As well, the Pink in the Rink Friends and Family Event sold out again this year. This event has become very popular in ‘Moose Country,’ raising awareness and funds for the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation – Atlantic.

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For details, visit alumni.dal.ca/events.

TOP, London U.K. alumni on a tour with Rhodes scholar Paul Manning. ABOVE (l-r), Building a Better World honourees Bill Nippard in St. John’s; Sara Austin, Pamela Palmeter, and David Gonsalves in Toronto. ABOVE, President Richard Florizone and Dr. Carolyn Watters, provost and vice-president, academic with the Hong Kong Chapter. RIGHT, Erin O’Toole with Acting VP External, Peter Fardy in Ottawa.
Helping people make sense of the world seems an impossible task, but day in and day out, that’s what drives Vassy Kapelos (MA’06).

Whether it’s a chaotic breaking story such as the shooting on Parliament Hill last year, or a complex web of numbers and political positioning on policy issues like income splitting, Kapelos thrives on the challenge of taking vast amounts of information and turning it into something people can understand in her job as the parliamentary correspondent for Global National. She credits her time at Dalhousie, where she tackled the debt crisis in Argentina for her masters studies in political science, with giving her the skills necessary to do what she does today.

“The most useful skill I have now is the ability to look at large amounts of information and find what is most important, and synthesize and present it in a way that is easy to talk about,” says Kapelos. Class discussions and essay assignments, where reading requirements were challenging, forced her to hone in on the heart of arguments and relevant facts. “My degree forced me to do that faster and better and that was without question the most transferable skill I have today.”

Born and raised in Toronto, and with a BA from University of Western Ontario, Kapelos chose Dalhousie because of the Political Science department’s reputation, and the appeal of living in Halifax. After graduating with her MA, she took a one-year journalism course at a community college in order to break into the industry.

Shrinking newsrooms and unprecedented cuts made her chosen field a tough one to get into. Her first job was in Swift Current, Saskatchewan, and she admits that she found the stories she was assigned at the local level to be a bit frustrating. “I remember thinking I spent time being so challenged at Dal, and here I was doing stories on fundraisers and crosswalks. It was a humbling experience to have.” Humbling, but one she says she wouldn’t trade.

From Swift Current, she headed to Saskatoon and Edmonton, where she got her first taste of political journalism as Global’s legislative reporter. She experienced for the first time the kind of effect solid reporting can have on people’s lives. Her investigative exposé of the ambulance industry in Alberta, which she revealed was under-resourced and put people’s lives at risk, forced a provincial review of the entire system.

“That was a defining moment for me,” says Kapelos. “I realized that beyond just reporting what has happened we do have the ability to effect change. I felt I was able to use my job for something really positive.” In 2013, she received the Edward R. Murrow award for best news series for her reporting on the issue.

And for Kapelos, it brought home an important lesson: understanding the world is a challenge, but good reporting makes it easier, one story at a time. —Tina Pittaway
1960s

'65 WILLIAM BEZANSON, BSc, BEng’67, MEng (NSTC)’69, wrote I Believe: A Rosicrucian Looks at Christianity and Spirituality, published by General Store Publishing House Inc. The book recasts the Nicene Creed in a more mystical and relevant mould. This is his third book in a series encouraging readers towards mystical spirituality and less organized religion in contribution to saving humanity and the world. He is retired and lives in Ottawa with his wife, Susan.

'73 VICTOR DAY, BA, retired as Director of Counselling Services at Dalhousie on July 1 after working for almost 36 years at Dal. After graduating from Dal, he obtained his PhD in Clinical Psychology from Queen’s, then returned to work in Clinical Psychology from Dal, he obtained his PhD years at Dal. After graduating 1 after working for almost 36

1970s

'75 CHARLENE DAY, BN, MN’94, retired in 2012 after a successful career in nursing education and research. She most recently worked as a clinical nurse educator for the Mental Health Program at Capital Health. She is now serving as president of the Victoria General School of Nursing Alumni Association.

'79 JAY MACDONALD, BEng (Civil), retired near Yosemite Park in the beautiful Sierra foothills after 30 years working with Chevron in Calgary and California. He and his wife, whom he married in 2004, are enjoying country living. Classmates are welcome to make contact (jaymacdonald@ sti.net) and come visit the amazing central California region.

1980s

'83 DR. NORA FOSTER STOVEL, PhD (English), retired as professor emerita on June 30, 2014. She taught in the Department of English and Film Studies at the University of Alberta for 29 years. She continues to pursue her research.

'86 ERIC BALL, PhD (English), published Archibald Lampman: Memory, Nature, Progress in 2013. The book is a thematic study of Lampman’s poetry, published by McGill-Queen’s University Press. This marks the completion of work begun at Dalhousie a long time ago.

'88 JOHN MACDONELL, BA, LLB’94, has been appointed to the board of the Medical Devices Commercialization Centre ("MedDev") at the University of Ottawa. The newly established non-profit centre is dedicated to developing collaborative networks, removing roadblocks and helping bring innovative medical devices, designed and made in Canada, to market.

1990s

'90 JEANNE SARSON, BScN, and co-worker LINDA MACDONALD, BNRN’76, were at the United Nations in Geneva in November 2014. They attended the Geneva NGO Forum – Beijing+20 and the UN ECE Regional meeting, working to make visible the human rights violation of torture by non-state actors. Following this, they presented at the fourth International Conference on the Survivors of Rape in Lisbon, Portugal.

'91 SANDEEP SODHI, BSc, BScPH’96, and DEBORAH (CHERRY) ELLIS, BScPH’90, celebrated 10 years in business together. They offer a unique mix of pharmacy and health-care services at Village Family PharmaChoice in Village Hill. Ellis was elected to the PharmaChoice East Board of Directors in April 2014. She also received the Takeda Magnum Opus Award in recognition of her C.D.E. designation, services and consultations provided to her patients with diabetes.

2000s

'02 TONYA FLEMING, LLB/MBA, has joined the executive team at Painted Pony Petroleum Ltd. as vice-president & general counsel.

'03 M. REBECCA (WALKER) BAILEY, BComm, MBA’04, and PAUL BAILEY, BComm, MBA’05, of Whitby, Ont., announce the birth of their daughter, Mary-Grace Jacqueline Bailey on September 7, 2014 in

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DAL WINTER 2015
2005 OSCARS AND GENIES

OSCARS
BEST PICTURE: MILLION DOLLAR BABY, CLINT EASTWOOD, ALBERT RUDDY AND TOM ROSENBERG, PRODUCERS
BEST ACTOR: JAMIE FOXX IN RAY
BEST ACTRESS: HILARY SWANK IN MILLION DOLLAR BABY

GENIES
BEST MOTION PICTURE: LES TRIPETTES DE BELLEVILLE, PAUL CADIEUX, PRODUCER
BEST ACTOR: ROY DUPUIS IN MEMOIRES AFFECTIVES
BEST ACTRESS: PASCALE BUSSIERES IN MA VIE EN CINEMASCOPE

Oshawa, Ont. Mary-Grace is the first granddaughter of PAUL WALKER (BA’73, BComm’74) and FAITH (MCDONALD) WALKER (MSW’76) of Dartmouth.

2010s

'05 JENNIFER O’DONNELL, MSc, of Beresford, N.B., has been elected to the board of directors of Speech-Language and Audiology Canada.

'10 MAJ. RICK ENG, JD, deployed with Her Majesty’s Canadian Ship (HMCS) Toronto as its legal advisor during Operation Reassurance. During this operation, Toronto participated in NATO Operation Active Endeavour. HMCS Toronto departed from Halifax in July 2014, and returned to port January 18, 2015. It operated in the Black Sea between September 6 and 25, 2014, with vessels from several partner nations including Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine and the United States. Throughout deployment, Maj. Eng provided legal advice to the ship in the areas of operational law, military administrative law and military justice.

'11 EMMA HICKLIN, MLIS, is a librarian at the Jules Léger Library, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Ottawa. She would love to hear from friends in the Ottawa area (hicklin.emma@gmail.com).

'13 MARY-ELEANOR WALKER, MBA, married Jerry Power of Bedford on November 15, 2014. Mary-Eleanor and Jerry reside in Bedford, N.S. Mary-Eleanor is the daughter of PAUL WALKER (BA’73, BComm’74) and FAITH (MCDONALD) WALKER (MSW’76) of Dartmouth. She is employed as marketing manager of the Faculty of Agriculture at Dalhousie University’s Truro Campus.

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From a faculty comprised of many of the world’s top experts to our successful alumni, Dalhousians are influencing thought and action across multiple disciplines locally, nationally and around the world. By Stefanie Wilson

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**1889**
Archibald MacMechan begins teaching at Dalhousie. His students included Ernest Buckler, Lucy Maud Montgomery and Helen Creighton, and writers from Herman Melville to Virginia Woolf expressed appreciation for his readings of their work.

**2000**
Twelve-year-old Danielle Fong (BSc’05) begins her studies at Dalhousie. She is now the founder and chief scientist at LightSail Energy, a game-changing energy startup focused on efficient energy storage using compressed air.

**2009**
The Ocean Tracking Network, headquartered at Dalhousie, begins work with global marine scientists on a comprehensive and revolutionary examination of marine life and ocean conditions in the face of climate change.

**2014**
Time magazine names Dalhousie alumna Kathryn Sullivan (PhD’78) one of the “100 Most Influential People in the World.” Sullivan is a former astronaut who is now the administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

**1909**
Jack Mackenzie graduates with an engineering degree and goes on to be an instrumental player in the development of science and engineering education across Canada.

**1930**
R. B. Bennett (LLB’83) becomes Prime Minister of Canada.

**1956**
Bertha Wilson graduates from Dalhousie Law. She would become the first female Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada in 1982.

**1971**
Dalhousie’s Killam Memorial Library opens. It is now the largest academic library in Atlantic Canada with over one million books and 40,000 journals.

**1984**
Don Hill (MD’60) successfully performs the world’s first temporary artificial heart transplant and changes the landscape of open-heart surgery.

**1993**
Dalhousie chemistry professor Axel Becke publishes “Density-functional thermochemistry. III. The role of exact exchange,” which *Nature* recently ranked as one of the top 10 most-cited research papers of all time.
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