Are We Alone In The Universe?

DR. JASON ROWE, BISHOP’S VERY OWN CANADA RESEARCH CHAIR FOR EXOPLANET ASTROPHYSICS, HOPES TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION.

IN THIS ISSUE: GALT MACDERMOT + MACLEAN’S RANKINGS + THE FUTURE OF DIVINITY HOUSE + YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION + FREE SPEECH ON CAMPUS + TOP 10 AFTER TEN & MORE
I love the Bishop’s University Singers, and have been a proud member since the 1980s. More importantly, I am honoured to be part of a program which helps promising young students like Isiah and Canda make their voices heard.

Please join me in Building a Better Purple Today!

- Jim Davidson
Bishop’s University Network Analyst & Administrator
Proud BU Annual Fund supporter since 1998

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50 years after its off-broadway debut, Hair still has a lot to say. So does its composer.

**ARE WE ALONE?**

Bishop’s own Canada Research Chair for Exoplanet Astrophysics hopes to answer that question

**TOP 10 AFTER TEN**

Bishop’s honours a new Top Ten alumni class paving the way in their respective fields

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- Principal’s Note
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Remembering Bishop’s in your Will is an excellent way to create a lasting legacy. You can decide how you will be remembered — through scholarships, bursaries, awards, improved athletics facilities, or in whatever way is most meaningful to you. A gift in your Will, big or small, is a gift to future generations... for generations to come.

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“Augmenting the Stewart Hopps Fund, through a bequest in my Will, ensures ongoing enhancements to the Peter Curry Marsh for the enjoyment of future generations of students.” Judy Hopps ’69

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As a new year begins, we can look back with pride on a remarkable year for Bishop's.

In the Spring, we concluded negotiations with the Government of Quebec on an agreement that will see Bishop's receive an annual $4 million increase in funding. This corrects an inequity in the way Bishop's was funded, and will be a critical component of our efforts to ensure a sustainable financial future for the University.

In September, we announced that our Leading the Way campaign had raised $40.5 million, surpassing its original objective by $10 million. These funds will provide financial support for the next generation of Bishop's students, help finance capital projects like the renovations of the library, residences and science labs, and further our efforts to provide the best undergraduate education in Canada.

We also welcomed our largest student body of 2,500 full-time students. (Half of our students are from Quebec, divided equally between Anglophones and Francophones, 30% come from the other nine provinces and three territories, and 20% come from more than 50 countries.)

Under the direction of Fannie Gaudette, and with a significant anonymous gift by a Bishop's faculty member, our University Singers celebrated their 50th anniversary by performing Bach's choral masterpiece, the B Minor Mass, with a professional orchestra at l'Abbaye St. Benoit du Lac and l’Église St-François Xavier in Bromont.

Our second Donald Lecturer of the year, Senator Murray Sinclair, delivered a powerful and insightful address about how Canada can continue to work towards reconciliation with its indigenous peoples.

A new member of our Physics faculty, Dr. Jason Rowe, was named a Canada Research Chair in Exoplanet Astrophysics.

We are building a cross-country ski course, recognized by the Fédération internationale de ski, on the grounds of our golf course.

And Bishop's received the highest rating of any Canadian university for student satisfaction in the Maclean's 2017 University Guide.

So it was a great year. When things are going well it is a good time to ask how we can get even better.

And one of the areas where I think we can improve is in our academic reputation.

There is a gap between our internal perceptions of Bishop's academic reputation and the external assessments.

One measure of this is that even though we led the country in student satisfaction, our overall ranking in the annual Maclean's report went down.

This Fall I discussed our reputational issues with our Academic Senate, the Board of Governors and many faculty, staff, students and alumni. These preliminary discussions have revealed a strong interest in the issue throughout the Bishop’s community.

We have decided to study the topic more systematically by creating a Principal's Task Force on Academic Reputation.

The overall goal of the Task Force will be to understand better the factors which influence the University’s academic reputation, and to identify strategies and actions aimed at enhancing how we perform and how we are perceived.

Over the past nine years, I have met hundreds of alumni across the country and around the world. Your appreciation and support for Bishop's is an inspiration for all of us who work here.

Beneath the passion of our alumni for their alma mater lies a depth and breadth of experience and knowledge of Bishop’s which is unique to those who studied here.

We would like the work of the Task Force to be informed by your insights. I hope you have completed the short survey sent to you in December. If you haven’t received an email invitation to participate in the survey, and would like to provide your comments, please send an email to taskforce_reputation@ubishops.ca with your name and email and we will send you a link to the survey.

We will keep you informed about our deliberations as we work to make a great University even better for the next generation of Bishop’s students.

Best wishes for a happy, healthy and productive 2018.

- Michael Goldbloom, C.M.
ONCE A GAITER
ALWAYS A GAITER

GAITER UP WITH A SELECTION
FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

BISHOP’S UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE
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BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2018, I WILL ASSUME A NEW ROLE AT THE UNIVERSITY AS DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS AND RECREATION. IT IS AN OPPORTUNITY THAT I AM INCREDIBLY EXCITED TO TAKE ON AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THOSE WHO HAVE SUPPORTED MY TRANSITION TO THIS NEW ROLE.

THERE REMAINS AN EXCEPTIONAL ADVANCEMENT TEAM IN PLACE WHO ARE COMMITTED TO RAISING MONEY AND CONNECTING PEOPLE TO THE UNIVERSITY. OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN, LEADING THE WAY, ANNOUNCED AN INCREDIBLE AMOUNT RAISED, NORTH OF $40M, ON HOME-COMING WEEKEND. UNTIL THE END OF MARCH, WE WILL BE ASKING ALL ALUMNI FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR OUR INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT ANNUAL FUND BUT ALSO FOR A STRETCH GIFT TO OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN, WHICH STILL HAS A FEW PROJECTS NOT COMPLETELY FUNDED. IN MARCH 2018, WE WILL ANNOUNCE A FINAL NUMBER AND PARTICIPATION RATE, AND OFFICIALLY CLOSE THE CAMPAIGN. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

THE FUTURE FOR BISHOP’S IS VERY BRIGHT. I BELIEVE THAT BISHOP’S TODAY IS BETTER POSITIONED THAN AT ANY OTHER TIME IN MY 17 YEARS AT THE UNIVERSITY, AND MAYBE EVEN IN ITS HISTORY! A FEW REASONS WHY: GOING FORWARD THE UNIVERSITY WILL BE OPERATING IN A BALANCED BUDGET STATE, THANKS TO RECENT GOVERNMENT FUNDING; PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT IS SOARING, ENABLING IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR CAMPUS LIKE THE NEW SPORTS CENTRE, NEW RESIDENCES, NEW LEARNING COMMONS AND MUCH MORE THAT WILL HAVE A LASTING IMPACT; AND THE BISHOP’S UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION CONTINUES TO BE VERY WELL MANAGED, EXPERIENCING EXCELLENT RETURNS AND GROWTH. ON TOP OF ALL OF THIS, WE ARE BLESSED TO HAVE OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP IN PRINCIPAL MICHAEL GOLDBLOOM AND A GROUP OF FACULTY AND STAFF WHO ARE DEDICATED TO OUR MISSION.

Indeed, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of the University are all responsible for Bishop’s success. For the past 174 years, this group of people has generously given back in a multitude of ways so that our University remains among the best places to learn and to develop leaders of tomorrow, and where students receive an exceptional educational experience.

In 2017, over 15% of all alumni and friends made a gift to Bishop’s. This is one of the highest giving participation rates among Canadian universities. Philanthropy at Bishop’s has the ability to set a standard that no other school in the country can match. I encourage you to be generous and send a message to the world that our educational model and our students are worth supporting.

It is a great honour for me to be heading across campus and leading a group of people who care deeply about our student-athletes, campus and community programming. Since January 2017, I have been in an interim position in Athletics and Recreation; I see great potential. Our new state-of-the-art facility will greatly contribute to our ability to attract business and outstanding student-athletes.

Athletics and Recreation has a long history and remains a key component to life on our campus. It is critical that the University continues to invest in this area. Things like exceptional customer service for our entire community will be at the forefront of my initial goals. You can also expect to see your Gaiters on the national stage sooner rather than later, led by great coaching staff and student-athletes who will excel on and off the field.

Athletics at Bishop’s has always been fortunate to have the support of alumni. To say we bleed purple is no exaggeration. This group has the ability to be the difference maker. I will be turning to our alumni in particular for leadership and support to write a new page in our long history, United together we will raise banners and build a championship environment for our student-athletes and the entire community. Let’s dream big and challenge each other to reach the gold standard in Canada.

Go Gaiters!

Matt McBrine ‘96
Director, Athletics & Recreation
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

BISHOP’S RECORD-BREAKING CAPITAL CAMPAIGN IS CRUISING TO THE FINISH LINE WITH $40.5M RAISED.
CRUISING TOWARD THE FINISH LINE

Homecoming Weekend marked the official closing of the Leading the Way campaign that was launched in 2012 with a target of $30 million. Having achieved its objective one year ahead of schedule, the goal was raised to $36 million in 2016.

On Thursday, September 21, faculty and staff were joined by campaign co-chairs Tim Griffin ’71 and Daniel Fournier, as well as Principal Michael Goldbloom whose presentation highlighted the one million dollars contributed by Bishop’s students, as well as the 80% participation rate by faculty and staff, which is among the highest participation rates for any university in Canada.

The audience erupted in cheers upon learning more than $40.5 million has been raised. A celebration followed on the TD Terrace.

On Friday, members of the Bishop’s community, alumni, and friends set out on the Grand Cru on Lake Memphremagog to further celebrate the incredible success of the Leading the Way campaign. The opportunity to recognize key donors and volunteers was much enhanced by a balmy evening, a gourmet meal, and a scenic cruise which culminated with a magnificent light show.

True to Bishop’s spirit, a squad of cheerleaders entertained the passengers as they cast off but more conspicuous was the camaraderie on board that signified a job well done.

Both events, a testament to our community’s profound commitment to Bishop’s, were the culmination of six years of hard work and a way to say thank you to one and all for their role in Leading the Way.

We are continuing to invite donors to contribute to a variety of initiatives including the modernization of the library and the revitalization of our residences. The final tally of donations will be completed on March 14, 2018.
TOTAL RAISED TO DATE

$40,549,563

THANK YOU!

LOOK FOR A FULL RECAP OF HOW YOUR DONATIONS HAVE HELPED DRIVE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN THE SPRING/SUMMER 2018 EDITION OF THE BU MAGAZINE.

$6.0M
RAISED FOR RESIDENCE REVITALIZATION

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$3.9M
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$2.3M
RAISED FOR NEW INITIATIVES
For the third year in a row, students awarded Bishop’s University the number one overall rating for student satisfaction in the latest edition of the Maclean’s University Rankings. Bishop’s also received a number one ranking for course instructors and extra-curricular activities from the publication whose annual rankings are considered the gold standard in Canada. Bishop’s fared well elsewhere, receiving a flurry of number one overall ratings from CampusRankings, including Safest Campus, Friendliest Students, Best Study Abroad Program and Best Overall Value. Bishop’s was also the only school to receive a double-A rating from the Campus Freedom Index for Freedom of Speech and Expression. Other notable accolades included top two finishes in Strongest Alumni Network, Most Beautiful Campus and Most Entrepreneurial Students, and a top five ranking for Employer Recruiting and Student Employment after Graduation.
On September 28th, students, staff, faculty, and community members from Bishop’s, Champlain College, and Bishop’s College School came together to commemorate #OrangeShirtDay. Gathering in front of McGreer, the group heard from an Abenaki spokesperson and members of the community before marching from Bishop’s University to Bishop’s College School in memory of the individuals and families affected by Canada’s residential schools. Recognized across the country, #OrangeShirtDay is intended to open the door to global conversation on all aspects of residential schools. It is an opportunity to create meaningful discussion about the effects of residential schools and the legacy they have left behind, a discussion all Canadians can tune into and create bridges with each other for reconciliation. Special thanks to the Indigenous Cultural Alliance and Mélissa Poirier, Indigenous Student Support and Community Liaison Officer at Bishop’s, for organizing the gathering.
Homecoming 2017 was hotter than usual this year as the temperatures on the Saturday touched 35 degrees. Despite the scorching weather, hundreds of alumni still came out en masse to participate in a multitude of events including our Alumni and Friends Golf Tournament, Friday night at Coulter Field, Pancake Breakfast at Griffin House, Coulter Field Tailgating, and 90’s Night at the Gait. Homecoming 2017 was also special for the classes of 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998 as they celebrated their 20th reunion on campus. As always, it was wonderful to see friendships rekindled over the weekend and great to see so many familiar faces back on campus. Be sure to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for all of the pictures from the weekend and news of upcoming events including Homecoming 2018 which will be announced at the end of January.
BY RACHEL NEWCOMBE ’17

This summer was anything but idle on campus. From August 13 to 18, 50 Anglophone students called Bishop’s University their home for the inaugural Civic Leadership Forum.

The purpose of the Forum was to bring together English students from across the province to speak about citizenship, community involvement, politics, the environment, and everything it means to be a member of Quebec society.

“The Bishop’s Forum aims to give young English-speaking Quebecers an enhanced understanding of how Quebec society functions and greater insight into some of the key challenges we face,” says Bishop’s Principal Michael Goldbloom.

The success of the Bishop’s Forum was made possible with $471,000 worth of funding from the Quebec government as part of their Youth Action Strategy, which will help support the Forum for the next three years.

“Quebec society has everything to gain from involved, motivated, dynamic young people, since they are the leaders and entrepreneurs of tomorrow… Bishop’s University’s organization of the Forum makes it a key partner of the government in attaining this objective,” said Philippe Couillard, Premier of Quebec.

Participants spent the week attending panels in both English and French on several different topics. They also listened to a variety of speakers who brought unique insight and experience to the discussion on civic engagement.

Speakers at the Forum included former New Democratic Party leader Tom Mulcair, former Quebec premier Jean Charest, and Indigenous Member of Parliament Roméo Saganash, to name a few.

At the end of the Forum, the students presented to a Parliamentary Commission a concrete policy change they would make, a true example of civic leadership and a valuable experience for all involved.

“We want to empower the English minority here in Quebec and contribute to the community,” Sylvia Martin-Laforge, president of Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN), shared. “We want representation, and to influence advocacy. We want to engage young people in English communities to take up leadership roles.”

Charest agreed. “What I think has changed and what needs to change is an acknowledgement of the role of the English-speaking community, how the institutions of the Anglophone community are very important for the future of our fellow citizens,” he explained.

Perhaps the best example of a citizen proactively looking to make change is Saganash, who spent 10 years of his life in a residential school.

“When I came out of residential...
schools, I set out... to reconcile with the people who put me away. So I ran for Parliament;" he shared. Now he promotes reconciliation on a national scale.

This example of civic leadership, and the whole Forum, had a tremendous impact on the students who attended.

"I didn’t know what it was at first," participant Marissa Matthews admitted. But when her priest explained to her the benefits of the Forum, she knew she wanted to leave her home in the Magdalen Islands and participate.

"It was an eye-opening experience to come here and listen," said Matthews. "The Forum changed me in a lot of ways. I feel like now when I go out into society, I know what’s going on."

Now that the Forum is over, Matthews is eager to start putting what she learned to work. "I can’t wait to go out into the world and explain to people how as a society we can change for the better;"

"I’m very passionate about social justice and activism," another participant explained. "I thought that there was nothing better than... to find out how to get involved in my community."

It was Goldbloom’s hope that students would have this reaction to the Forum.

"My hope is they will come out of this and say, ‘There are other people who share my same concerns that I have about the environment or social justice,’" Goldbloom concluded.

Goldbloom continues to hope that opportunities and experiences like the Forum will encourage English-speaking students to call Quebec their permanent home.

"I think the more one understands a society, the more one can feel at home in it and more likely choose to make one’s home in it," he said.

The success of the Civic Leadership Forum is an excellent indication of the widespread interest by Anglophone students in being active members of Quebec society. There is no doubt that the Bishop’s campus will be just as packed next summer with bright minds and questions about how they can make a difference.

THE FUTURE OF DIVINITY HOUSE

BY GELSEY LATONIO ’18

At the entry to our red-brick campus, adjacent to the Massawippi River, rests Divinity House, a building that has stood on the grounds almost as long as Bishop’s itself has been here.

Originally built in 1891 to room students in the Faculty of Divinity, the house has since served many needs: at one time it included an oratory and more recently it has housed classrooms for students, offices for faculty, and academic support services, such as the Writing Centre.

In 2014, however, the building was vacated and subsequently condemned due to a series of major structural problems. Since then, the fate of the house has been unclear; that is, until a recent Task Force was constituted by the Board of Governors in June 2017 to evaluate potential opportunities for the local landmark.

But even with preservation at the forefront of deliberations, the Task Force delivered its report in September 2017 and concluded that it would cost six to seven million dollars to fully renovate the building. "It would be cheaper to demolish and construct an entirely new building," says Trygve Uglad, Interim VP of Government Relations and Planning at the University.

"The issue for the Quebec government is that they believe that Bishop’s has too many buildings already on the campus and consequently government support for the project has not been forthcoming."

"So what does this mean for Divinity House? "[Divinity] House is in jeopardy," says Isabelle Goyette, VP of Finance and Administration and a member of the Task Force. She says that unless independent funds are raised over the next six months, on May 31, 2018, the Task Force will have to deliver a final report and will likely recommend that demolition papers be signed.

But all hope is not lost.

The Administration is working to develop a plan for Divinity House that could be presented for funding to the Ministry of Higher Education and other potential donors. The idea is to renovate Divinity House into an indigenous resource centre and gathering space, built in consultation and collaboration with indigenous voices.

"There are many reasons why several generations of alumni have significant memories of this house," says Uglad, who himself is drawn to the efforts to save the building, having taught in its classrooms.

Although there are several high-profile renovation projects currently underway at Bishop’s, the case for Divinity House cannot be ignored. In order to extend the longevity of this landmark for future generations of Bishop’s students and to preserve the fond memories of alumni, independent funds and generous donations are encouraged.

"My hope is that some members of the Bishop’s community who recognize the historical value and architectural importance of Divinity House will have the desire and the means to help preserve the building," says Bishop’s Principal Michael Goldbloom.

"I think that creating an indigenous meeting centre on traditional Abenaki territory near where the Massawippi and St. Francis rivers meet would be a fitting use of the building."
On September 13, 2017, we were privileged with a visit from CIBC representatives to campus to announce CIBC’s $200,000 donation to the Leading the Way campaign. In typical Bishop’s fashion, students had the opportunity to meet CIBC officials over lunch at the Adams Dining Room.

This donation established the CIBC Business Bursaries that will support students in the Williams School of Business over the next four years, with a preference for those participating in the Co-Op Program.

In his remarks, Sylvain Vinet, Senior Vice President and Region Head, Eastern Canada, commented: “CIBC is very pleased to support Bishop’s University, a highly respected institution with shared values of advancing student opportunity and investing in our leaders of tomorrow. This donation supports our commitment to helping students achieve their academic and career goals, and we wish the first recipients the greatest of success.”

A number of business students were on hand, including third-year Finance and Economics Major Steve Filion who spoke of his two co-op placements. He reinforced the important impact of bursaries, saying, “I’d like to thank CIBC for its generosity toward Bishop’s students. By lessening the financial burden on students, bursaries like CIBC’s make it possible for them to devote more time and effort to their studies and other activities on campus and in the community. Simply put, they don’t have to work as much to pay for tuition and other expenses, so they can benefit fully from the Bishop’s experience.”

Raising funds for student support has always been, and always will be, the University’s top priority. Value-added experiences outside the classroom significantly enhance the learning our students receive. The CIBC Business Bursaries are a tremendous addition to the available opportunities that make student satisfaction at Bishop’s the best in the country.

Football: Elsewhere, the Gaiters football squad completed their inaugural season in Atlantic University Sport (AUS). An injury-riddled campaign gave a number of Gaiters playing time that will surely
help for the future. Despite the 1-7 mark, the program took a stride forward. At the end of the year linebacker Liam Patton was named AUS Rookie of the Year and Matthew Oullet De Carlo, Nathan Walker and Vincent Dube earned all-star nods.

**Women’s Soccer**: Women’s soccer showed signs of what is to come under head coach Paul Ballard. At times, they were competitive with some of the country’s best squads. Ballard has worked towards implementing a culture change and that was certainly evident, highlighted by a Gaiters 4-0 drubbing of cross-town rivals Sherbrooke the Monday after Homecoming. That game featured a hat trick by Gaiters’ striker Frederique Rivard, the first of its kind by a Bishop’s player since 2008.

Sarah-Kim Bergeron was named the 2017 RSEQ & U SPORTS Leadership and Community Service Award winner. She is the first-ever Gaiter to win a major award at the U SPORTS level.

**Women’s Rugby**: Women’s rugby again faced adversity competing in the toughest conference in the nation. The RSEQ regularly boasted three teams in the U SPORTS Top 10. Bishop’s did not win a contest but were able to score their second most points as a team since 2009.

**Men’s Rugby**: After a hot start, the Gaiters faltered down the stretch and battled a number of injuries. The team came together and won an epic RSEQ quarter-final tilt against Sherbrooke in dramatic fashion as they scored on the final play of the game and Tyler Murphy, filling in for an injured Josh Bray booted through the winning points with the convert. Bray and Captain Carter Filion were selected RSEQ all-stars.

**Lacrosse**: Men’s lacrosse fought an uphill battle knowing that they had to beat either McGill or Trent to qualify for the 2017 Baggataway Cup as Queen’s earned an automatic berth as the host. Bishop’s stunned the Redmen in dramatic triple overtime fashion during their first meeting of the season, the annual homecoming game. Unfortunately for Bishop’s they lost the re-match and dropped a pair of contests to Trent forcing them to travel to Peterborough for the CUFLA East playoff game. It was another thriller, but Trent came away with the overtime victory, ending Bishop’s season before the Baggataway Cup. Taylor Kauffeldt was named an all-Canadian and Sam Marceau, Samuel Firth and Matt Wolf earned honourable mentions.

**Women’s Hockey**: Women’s hockey started a new era as members of the American Women’s Collegiate Association (ACHA). As of publication they stood at 3-1 with games scheduled through January.

Stay up to date with everything Bishop’s Athletics by checking out the new-look www.gaiters.ca or following #GaiterNation on social media.
NEW YEAR, NEW BEGINNING

By the time you read this note, we will be well into 2018. A new academic semester begins on campus, and a new year begins for each of you. Often, Bishop’s can seem far away from our daily lives. It’s my sincere hope that in 2018, we can bring campus a little closer to where you live, and vice versa.

Late last year, I became the President of the Bishop’s University Alumni Association. It’s an honour to represent our more than 19,000 alumni around the world. As a student, I was fortunate to meet alumni from all walks of life, and from around the world. Since graduating (almost ten years ago!), the alumni network has been instrumental in my moves to the UK and Toronto and in my career. I’d like to help ensure that more students and young grads have the same opportunity I did, and the same connection with alumni long before they graduate.

For current Bishop’s students, the experience of meeting and interacting with alumni can help them determine their future career, make a new connection, or just have a familiar face to call when they move to a new city.

In the following pages, you’ll meet our current team. We have a terrific President-Elect in Lesley Kelly ’99, who is already doing great work representing alumni on the University Task Force on Academic Reputation. We’re lucky to have committed, hard-working graduates running engaging events across the country. My objective over the next few years is to continue to build a team that improves the alumni experience, while helping our alumni deliver value back to campus. That will be the starting point for everything we do.

In 2018, here’s what we’ll focus on:

**Development of a multi-year strategy for the Alumni Association**

Now that we have Chapter Leaders in place in Toronto and Vancouver, it’s time to think about how we grow those chapters and ensure meaningful engagement over the long-term. If you’re interested in helping us out with this, drop me a line at alumni@ubishops.ca.

**The hiring of new Chapter Leads**

I want to extend a huge thanks to Erin Wallace in Ottawa and Ryan French-MacDougall in Montreal, whose terms will end in 2018. If you’re interested in becoming a Chapter Leader in Montreal or Ottawa, send me a note. We’ll put out a more formal posting in early 2018. I should also say that we’re always looking to expand our chapters, so send me an email if you want to discuss further.

**Assisting our new Associate Vice Principal of Advancement and Communications**

Matt McBrine deserves our thanks for his excellent work on the Capital Campaign, and for his efforts on behalf of alumni as Director of Alumni Relations and Development. On behalf of all alumni, I wish him all the best as he takes on a new challenge as Director of Athletics & Recreation. Now, as we welcome our new Associate Vice Principal to the new role, I look forward to helping the AVP understand the value our Association can add to their efforts, and to working with them to determine how best to link alumni with campus in the years ahead.

Within the pages of this magazine (and a thanks to our editor Fraser Lockerbie ’09, for his ongoing efforts to make this a magazine we’re all proud of), you’ll meet great students, talented faculty, exceptional graduates, and learn about milestones celebrated by members of our alumni community across the country and around the world. The stories and experiences are as rich and diverse as they have ever been. So here’s to a successful 2018 for our association, and for all those on campus. May we bring the two ever closer in the year to come.

- Mark Lawson ’09
  President, Alumni Association
I’m honoured and excited to have been chosen to serve as the 2017-19 President-Elect of our Bishop’s University Alumni Association.

It has been 18 years since I graduated and I am so grateful that the knowledge and values that I developed at Bishop’s led me to a lifetime of learning and a rewarding career.

While I was a student, my involvement with Big Buddies and on the Women’s Soccer team gave me the opportunity to step outside student life, take on new challenges and appreciate what it means to be part of a community. Outside my family and professional life, I still work hard to find the time to invest in my community, as a minor sports coach, an active volunteer with the United Way and on the board of my local professional association.

Bishop’s holds a special place in all of our hearts and what sets it apart is its exceptional people and our enduring Purple Pride! During my term as President-Elect, I hope to strengthen the ways we engage and connect as alumni. I look forward to hearing from you and working with our incredible alumni volunteers to build an inclusive, member-driven, relevant Alumni Association.

LESLEY KELLY ’99
PRESIDENT-ELECT

Alex Fournier ’14
TORONTO

I did not have to look far when it came to finding my ideal university; a small English-speaking university with an excellent business program. The two-hour drive from Montreal to my Norton residence made the choice to pursue a BBA in Marketing and Entrepreneurship at Bishop’s an easy one.

Following graduation, I moved to Toronto to begin my career in tech and am proud to use the many business and social skills I learned on campus as the Customers Success Lead for OneLocal, a startup helping traditional small businesses grow in a digital world. I started interacting with small business at Bishop’s in the entrepreneurship program and then joined Enactus where I got exposure to the many challenges faced by local businesses. From there, I was asked to put theory into practice as manager of our favourite campus snack heaven, Doolittle’s General Store. I subsequently filled the position of Director of Finance and Operations for the SRC and had an amazing time working with clubs and overseeing operations at the Gait, Doolittle’s, and various events on campus.

Fun Fact: the best way to spend some time off-campus is to take a vacation down south by going snowboarding at Jay Peak.

ALEX FOURNIER ’14
TOBONTO

Greetings to my fellow Bishop’s alumni in the Montreal region. As you know the goal of our role as Chapter Leads is to help grow the alumni network in our respective communities. We want our older alums to get to know our recent grads, build a community and continue to share the love and stories about our great institution.

What have we done in the last year in Montreal? A few examples of events include the Welcome Home BBQ that we organize each June to introduce our recent grads to other members of the BU community here in Montreal. This year, we had over 65 people attend on the beautiful Lachine canal, where we had some food and refreshments and most importantly some good laughs. Another great event that we put on is the Montreal St. Patrick’s Day Parade, where we participate with a walking unit showcasing our purple pride through school flags and song. Last year we had 30 people come out and my goal is to get it to the maximum 50 people in 2018.

If you have suggestions for events or activities that we can hold, please don’t hesitate to reach out to me at alumni@ubishops.ca. Let’s keep these events growing!

RYAN FRENCH ’09
MONTREAL
Since my degree in Sociology at Bishop’s, I have spent the last ten years working in the non-profit sector, specifically within employment services as well as in the private sector at an executive recruitment firm. Volunteering as the Bishop’s alumni Chapter Lead in Ottawa was therefore a logical step for me as I enjoy working with the Ottawa community, connecting with the Bishop’s alumni and facilitating opportunities for new grads. Following Convocation, I was excited to start my career but quickly missed the Bishop’s community. Luckily, I was invited to attend a BU alumni event, where I brainstormed with others and created the “Welcome Home Event”. This event was launched from that desire to stay connected to the Bishop’s community upon leaving Lennoxville and to network with established alumni living in Ottawa.

In Ottawa we are fortunate to have a strong alumni presence, and host several events throughout the year including the Welcome Home Event, Homecoming Everywhere, Redblacks games, Ottawa Senators events, comedy shows, charity golf tournaments, networking seminars, Gaiters sporting events and more. We hope to see you at our next event in Ottawa - go Gaiters!

Erin Wallace ’08
Ottawa

I moved to Vancouver in 2014 and was quickly impressed with the purple presence here. It made for quite the easy transition as I packed up my life and moved to a brand new city.

With the help of a fellow Gaiter, I am now an Account Executive at Salesforce. I couldn’t be more thrilled to lead such a close community of Bishop’s alumni. BU gave me the best four years of my life and I am excited to ensure that these local connections will last much longer than four years.

Through frequent events, we will bring together alumni of all ages. There are few university graduates in the world that have the opportunity that we do. I have seen firsthand the willingness of BU alumni to go out of their way to help a fellow Gaiter. Whether you attended Bishop’s in 1843 or 2017, you bleed the same purple.

To prospective students, our recruitment team calls Bishop’s Your Home Away from Home. New(ish) to Vancouver, I have a different perspective in that wherever I am will always be the Home Away from the Home I had at Bishop’s.

After all, we may be alumni but we will never graduate.

Alex Cook ’14
Vancouver

Interested in volunteering in your city?
Send an email to alumni@ubishops.ca, and let us know how you would like to get involved.
50 YEARS AFTER ITS OFF-BROADWAY DEBUT, HAIR, THE ICONIC MUSICAL, STILL HAS PLENTY TO SAY. SO DOES ITS COMPOSER.

BY RONAN O’BEIRNE ’11

Hair is... unusual. Not hair like the thing on your head, which is perfectly normal. Capital-H Hair. Hair: the American Tribal Love-Rock Musical. It’s unusual not because of its themes (shocking to some) or quality (off the charts), but because of its staying power.

Not many musicals get birthday parties at the Lincoln Centre, or get adapted to film, or get revived twice in the West End and twice on Broadway, or top the Billboard charts, or find success on Top-40 radio, or really, genuinely matter 50 years after their debut.

Maybe because most musicals aren’t written by Galt MacDermot ‘50. MacDermot isn’t one to brag, though. He sounds almost blasé about his renown, as if he’s a mere mercenary. When asked why his score for Hair has endured so well, he said, “I can’t explain it. Music either works or it doesn’t work, and the music seemed to work.” To call that an understatement would be an understatement. The music didn’t just work; it was brilliant. It still is.
or those who haven’t turned on, tuned in, and dropped out: Hair, which debuted in October 1967, is the story of a young man struggling over whether to dodge the Vietnam War draft. His friends (“the tribe”) try to sway him by praising their countercultural lifestyle: Peace! Sex! Music! Drugs!

On that score, Hair isn’t exactly subtle. One song lists a half-dozen sex acts. Another features a long list of recreational drugs; later, a character says he’s holding drugs for the Pope. Several characters appear fully naked. Flag-worship is parodied.

That’s not to mention its treatment of race, which would be progressive even by today’s yardstick. Hud, a black militant, rhymes off a long list of racial epithets as the tribe recoils in mock fear of him. There are back-to-back songs praising interracial relationships. Abraham Lincoln is portrayed by a black woman. One-third of the Broadway cast were people of colour.

Everything about the story and lyrics was big, bold and modern, starting with “Aquarius” and carrying through to the curtain call. So the music needed to be big, bold and modern. The writers, James Rado and Gerome Ragni, were tipped off to MacDermot, who had garnered some attention earlier in the decade with a Grammy-winning composition called “African Waltz.”

Musically, they couldn’t have asked for a better match. After attending Bishop’s in the 1940s, MacDermot was educated in South Africa, where his father had moved; he studied the local music scene, and would incorporate it into his music. With typical MacDermot humility, Galt downplays what a stroke of genius the pairing was: “Well, I was doing things they liked. They found me.”

Personally, MacDermot might have seemed a square peg. He had a privileged upbringing: his father – who taught at Bishop’s for a time – was the principal at a posh private school in Toronto, which Galt attended; later the senior MacDermot’s career as a diplomat saw him travelling and living abroad. Galt, after his education in Lennoxville and South Africa, found his way to a middle-class life on Staten Island.

Amidst all the bohemian garb and long hair, MacDermot wore a necktie (!) to the cast recordings. “I didn’t know anything about underculture or overculture,” MacDermot says of his role in a very hippie musical. “I just hoped it would be successful enough, and it was.” (Again with the understatements.)

That’s not to say MacDermot was a buttoned-down member of the old school; his alma mater wasn’t even old school. “Culturally, Bishop’s was well ahead of the country or the world,” he says. “There were very sharp guys lecturing; they were good.”
And the idea of a brilliant composer starting at BU makes perfect sense. Anyone who’s been on campus in the past couple decades—maybe longer—knows how vital music has become to the community. Spring musicals have consistently sold out; the University Singers perform two smash-hit shows a year to crowds from across the Townships; and the Golden Lion’s open-mic Acoustic Tuesdays are a staple of student life.

So it’s strange to hear MacDermot say that music wasn’t such a force at BU in his era. “There wasn’t much music going on then, but I’m glad it’s happening now. It’s a perfect place to study music, or anything else.” (Galt’s grandson is currently studying at BU—and the composer himself received a DCL from Bishop’s in 1972.)

Hair hit the United States like a Molotov cocktail.

Two astronauts walked out on a performance, apparently because of how the stars-and-stripes were treated. Several cities tried to have the show shut down, citing arcane indecency laws; those laws were then challenged all the way up to the Supreme Court, which finally gave its blessing to the cast’s nudity. Across the ocean, a production in London nearly didn’t happen because the city censor didn’t give it a license.

Even listening to the cast recording today, you’re struck by how thoughtfully progressive the show is. It might have seemed shocking and inappropriate to the pearl-clutchers and placard-bearers, but none of it was gratuitous. Abraham Lincoln wasn’t played by a black woman because they thought it might be cool to have a black woman do it; “Abie Baby” is a clever, incisive take on race in America. Draft cards weren’t burned onstage because Rado and Ragni wanted to have a bonfire; they were burned onstage because they were being burned in the streets.

When the show was celebrated earlier this year at Lincoln Center, Vogue said the performance “swirled with a timely poignancy.” Galt’s son, Vince, vividly recalls something that a member of the audience told him: “It’s still relevant because part of the country keeps making the same mistakes, like going to war for the sake of money. There’s a spiritual battle going on.”

That battle has spouted conflicts over race, speech and patriotism. Hair held up a mirror to those same debates 50 years ago and added considerable fuel to them. MacDermot, humble though he is, was a huge part of the musical’s impact.

His songs in Hair are heavy on pop and rock, but there are bits and pieces of other genres at play. “Manchester England” is, appropriately, a British Invasion throwback. Lincoln’s part in “Abie Baby” is pure doo-wop. “Walking in Space” verges on the psychedelic. And MacDermot injected the rhythms he had studied in South Africa into the score. Like the story it supports, the music is very good—and timeless.

MacDermot didn’t stop creating influential music after Hair, though. His catalogue is enormous, with more than 60 albums to his name. According to WhoSampled, his compositions have been used in songs by, among others, Busta Rhymes, Snoop Dogg and Public Enemy. One song, “Coffee Cold,” has been particularly popular with funk and jazz fans.

It was also in a Lexus commercial a few years ago. (Google it. You’ve heard it.)

He’s quick to downplay his talent, though it’s obvious to anyone who’s heard even a fraction of his work. In 1972, the Globe and Mail wrote, “He insists that it is theme and idea that makes a hit, but by now it’s obvious that it is really his melodies that people like.” It went on to call him a “quiet, shy, unpretentious man who has fought hard to remain unaffected by his success.”

That success continues today. MacDermot doesn’t compose much anymore, but maintaining his catalogue on Spotify keeps his family busy. He doesn’t say much about his own craft, but when talking about Hair and about his family, you get a sense of where his genius comes from.

“Religion and show business are very close together,” he says. “They both touch on spiritual subjects. It doesn’t even matter whether you recognize them as spiritual.”

His son Vince adds: “If you do music the right way—my father’s way—you move the spirit.”
Are We Alone in the Universe?

Dr. Jason Rowe, Bishop’s very own Canada Research Chair for Exoplanet Astrophysics, hopes to answer that question.

Our children are the first generation of humans to grow up knowing that planets are more plentiful than stars in the Milky Way. Many of us will remember learning and memorizing the names and properties of planets in our Solar System. At the time, these were the only planets human civilization knew about. This picture began to change in the early 90s as new techniques, developed by Canadian scientists, began to reveal evidence of distant worlds in orbit around distant stars. There are now thousands of exoplanetary systems we can point telescopes at to study and to understand. Our textbooks are being rewritten and our theories of how planets are formed and evolve are being tested and revised. Planets appear to be a natural byproduct of processes that form stars like our Sun. This profound knowledge is now challenging us to wonder if these distant planets might harbour life.
Are We Alone in the Universe?

EXOPLANETS
Who hasn't once gazed up at the sky and thought, "Are we alone in the universe?" I've been an astronomy and space-nut for as long as I can remember. I remember the first untethered spacewalk by American astronauts; seeing the grainy, black-and-white image in the newspaper captured my imagination. It was around this time that NASA's Voyager II Spacecraft was making its way towards the ice-giant Neptune and in a few years, would return stunningly beautiful pictures. I ate it up. Every school project of mine from elementary to high school would somehow be related to space.

University gave me the chance to both apply myself to the study of space and the universe and to participate in active research projects. My foray in the study of extrasolar planets started with the Canadian Space Agency MOST Mission. MOST is a 50-kg micro-satellite that houses a 15-cm telescope. It was launched on Canada Day, July 1, 2003, into an 800-km orbit above the Earth's surface. From this vantage point, MOST can continuously monitor the brightness of star, unimpeded by the Earth's atmosphere. MOST was directed to observe a specific star, HD 209458. A star too faint to be seen by the naked-eye. What makes this star interesting is that every 3.52 days the star will appear to minutely dim. This dimming is due to an orbiting planet, aptly named HD209458b, that is about 30% larger than Jupiter. Due to a chance alignment of the planet's orbital plane to our line of sight, once per orbit, the planet passes between us and its host star blocking some of the star light. I used these measurements to complete my Ph.D. thesis on the first measurements of the reflectivity, or albedo, of an extrasolar planet.

While applying for postdoctoral positions I noticed a job ad advertising an opportunity to work at the NASA-Ames Research Centre in California on a future space mission related to exoplanets. This seemed like a good fit, so I sent an unsolicited email and quickly received a reply asking me to forward my CV and research statement. I learned that the person offering the opportunity was Mr.
William Borucki, Principle Investigator of NASA's Kepler Mission. When the job was offered I enthusiastically accepted. Two years later I travelled to Kennedy Space Center and Canaveral to watch the Kepler Space craft being carried off in a Delta II rocket. I can honestly say: the next time you are in Florida, skip Disney World and go watch a rocket launch. It is one of the most astonishing events I have ever witnessed in my life.

A mission as complex as Kepler is successful because of no one single individual. I was fortunate enough to be part of a very talented group whose work has led to discovery of thousands of exoplanets including many that appear to have the same size as the Earth and orbit with the so-called Habitable-Zone of their host star. The Habitable-Zone refers to a region around a star where the orbit of a planet could support an atmosphere like the Earth's. You can think of the Habitable-Zone as a campfire. Get too close to the fire and it becomes unbearably hot; too far and it becomes too cold. The "sweet-spot" is what astronomers refer to as the Habitable-Zone.

My personal contributions to the Kepler Mission were commended by being awarded NASA's Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal twice: once in 2011 for the development of models to measurement fundamental parameters of transiting exoplanets such their size and again in 2016 for the validation of more

The above painting, created collaboratively by Bishop's University Fine Arts students Maxime Beaulac and Marie-Soleil Provençal-Aubé, represents an exoplanet located in the Habitable Zone transiting in front of its host star. This cross-departmental collaboration perfectly represents the Bishop's University model: one individual's research can be fruitful across disciplines and benefit the University as a whole.
than 800 exoplanets using new statistical techniques. While in California I became a member of the nonprofit SETI (“Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence”) Institute. SETI is a fascinating place to work. I had a chance to interact with scientists from a variety of disciplines ranging from studies of Mars to active searches for radio signals from distant civilizations, all with an ultimate focus towards determining if there is life beyond the Earth’s biosphere.

Determining if we are alone in the universe is an exceedingly difficult question, but progress is being made. Transiting exoplanets may present our first chance to search for signs of biology in the atmospheres of these distance worlds. When a planet transits its host star, some of the light from the star will pass through the planet’s atmosphere. The chemical makeup of the atmosphere will be embedded in light due to molecules and atoms absorbing light at specific wavelengths. Spreading the light from an exoplanetary transit into its constituent colours will reveal a bar-code-like pattern. The hope is that one of these barcodes will correspond to signs of life.

I returned to Canada in 2015 to work at Université de Montréal on the NIRISS (Near-InfraRed Imager and Slitless Spectrograph) Instrument onboard the James-Webb-Space-Telescope (JWST). JWST is a 6-metre space telescope that will launch in 2019. The Canadian-built NIRISS instrument has a special mode designed to study the colours, or spectrum, of a transiting extrasolar planet. With a bit of luck and careful analysis, JWST may provide the first evidence of remote life.

So, are we really alone in the Universe? How likely is it that we’ll find a form of life elsewhere, or that we will identify another planet capable of supporting human life? The study of extrasolar planets allows us to potentially answer this question. We know of at least one planet in the universe that can support life: the Earth. The Earth has an atmosphere that has been altered through its history by physical and biological processes, and the Earth is located at just the right distance from our Sun for molecules such as water to exist in solid, liquid and gas states. In our study of extrasolar planets, we will learn if such conditions are unique to the Earth or if they are found elsewhere. My research is essentially the study of planet habitability, which will teach us the properties that make a planet Earth-like and enable us to identify potential signs of biology and life. We may be the first generation of humans to determine if life exists outside our Solar System, which is something I find terribly exciting! I look forward to pursuing this research alongside my colleagues and students of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Bishop’s University, and I am thankful for the Canada Research Chairs program’s support of my research.
“Our children are the first generation of humans to grow up knowing that planets are more plentiful than stars in the Milky Way.”

Dr. Jason Rowe was named Canada Research Chair in Exoplanet Astrophysics at Bishop’s University in July 2017. He has received a $148,879 grant from the Canada Foundation for Innovation, the Ministère de l’Économie, de la Science et de l’Innovation and from private partners to allow him to set up his research laboratory at Bishop’s. He has also received a $125,000 Discovery Grant from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) for his research project entitled “Determining What Makes a Planet Earth-like”.

In November 2017, Clarivate Analytics’ Highly Cited Researchers List listed Dr. Jason Rowe among the top 100 most impactful scientific researchers in the world in the 2010-2015 period. This list is determined by the “extent to which [scientific researchers’] papers have supported, influenced, inspired and challenged other researchers around the globe. It identifies authors who have consistently won peer approval from international researchers in the form of high citation counts.” (Clarivate Analytics, http://news.clarivate.com/2017-11-15-Clarivate-Analytics-names-the-worlds-most-impactful-scientific-researchers-with-the-release-of-the-2017-Highly-Cited-Researchers-List)
Arash Madani, originally from Truro, Nova Scotia, graduated from Bishop's University with a B.B.A. in 2002. He began his career with The Score after stints in sports radio, daily newspapers (including the Truro Daily News) and he has twice directed public relations for CFL teams. Arash has been with Sportsnet since 2009, covering a gamut of sports – from Hockey Night In Canada to the Olympics, to multiple World Series, NBA Finals and Super Bowls. Passionate about storytelling and play-by-play, Madani has travelled the world covering live events, sideline reporting, and producing both news items and features for the network. He is also a radio co-host on Prime Time Sports. He has had the distinction to interview some of the biggest newsmakers in sports including Roger Federer, Usain Bolt, David Beckham and Derek Jeter.
Junior Sirivar graduated from Bishop’s with a B.A. (Honours) in Human Geography in 1999. He earned an LLB from Dalhousie University in 2002 and then articled with McCarthy Tétrault in Toronto where he has now practiced law for the past 14 years. An experienced trial lawyer, he is both Partner and Co-Chair of McCarthy Tétrault’s International Arbitration practice group. Junior is an author and frequent speaker on topics including international arbitration and mining industry related issues while delivering seminars on legal issues of informed consent at the University of Toronto Medical School. Junior has been consistently ranked as a Litigation Star by Benchmark Canada and he is the recipient of a 2010 Lexpert Zenith Award honouring him for his pro bono representation of the victims of a pogrom in Romania. As a committed volunteer he has served on the Board of Directors of the Child Development Institute.

Michael Laidlaw graduated from Bishop’s with a B.A. in Drama in 1996. He also holds a Graduate Diploma in Education from Griffith University (1998) and an M.Ed. from University of Southern Queensland (2003). Currently he is Head of Dramatic Arts at Etobicoke School of the Arts (ESA) in Toronto. Working with a variety of artists, students, teachers and a community agency, he helped to create In Bloom: A Celebration of Teen Spirit and the Arts, a performance evening devoted to raising awareness around youth mental health issues. At Lawrence Park Collegiate, he established the Career in the Arts series, United Artists for a Cause and he was Co-Editor in Chief of the Arts & Culture magazine Masquerade. In 2011, Michael co-founded the Éclat School of Performing Arts. He also co-founded the Chancellor’s Folly – a testament to his continued affinity with Bishop’s University.

Mylène Savoie graduated from Bishop’s University with a B.B.A. (Marketing) in 1998. She currently lives, with her two daughters, on Nuns’ Island, in Quebec. A recognized advertising industry expert, Mylène’s attributes her success to her bilingual and bi-cultural approach. In 2014 she was recruited to open the Montreal office of John Street where she grew the operation from a one-woman show into a thriving 15-person agency, winning multiple creative awards in their first year of operation. In 2016, she was recruited by McCann World Group to take the helm of their newly acquired Montreal operation. Mylène currently leads a team of 50+ skilled marketers offering major clients such as L’Oréal, Nespresso and Bombardier, expertise in communications and advertising. Mylène was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the A2C (The Association of Creative Communications Agencies).
Paulette McCarthy is an accomplished Human Resources professional who graduated from Bishop’s University with a B.B.A. in 1996. Born and raised in Winnipeg, Manitoba, she is currently Chief Human Resources Officer at St. Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg. Throughout her career she has had many accomplishments and most recently she was the creator and lead of an Injury Prevention System that has reduced staff injuries and garnered an innovation grant from Workers’ Compensation. She has always been active in sports and community volunteerism, most notably as President, Vice-President and currently, Treasurer of the Sandy Hook Community Club.

Born and raised in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Rick Jaggi completed a B.Sc. (Honours Biochemistry) degree at Bishop’s University in 2003. He then went on to medical school at Dalhousie University as well as a residency in Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery. His interest in Facial Plastic Surgery and Reconstruction led him to Auckland, New Zealand for a one-year fellowship at Auckland City Hospital. Dr. Jaggi was then recruited to Saskatoon in 2013, where he now lives with his wife, Sharmi, and two children, Luka and Mila. Of course, his little Corgie is named Bishop. Dr. Jaggi recently established the Face Institute for advanced care in the fields of Facial Plastic Surgery, Head & Neck Oncology, and Ear, Nose & Throat Surgery. He frequently gives lectures in the fields of facial cosmetic and reconstructive surgery, both nationally and abroad.

Sarah MacLean graduated from Bishop’s with her B.A. in Biology in 1999. She now holds her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (Western) and her Registered Nurse designation (College of Nurses of Ontario). In 2016, she obtained her Masters Degree in Nursing (Ryerson) and a Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner Certificate. She started her career at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto working on the Oncology unit for 14 years. During this time she was able to support, teach and care for children and their families, and to support novice nurses in their careers. Currently, Sarah holds a position at the Victoria Order of Nurses – Keene Health Care Centre. She has volunteered her time on the Innisfil Community Health Committee.
Scott Tucker graduated from Bishop’s with a B.A. (Sociology) in 1996. Already interested in broadcasting, he began volunteering at the campus radio station CJMQ during his first semester. Scott landed his first broadcasting job in tiny Rosetown, Saskatchewan, population 2900. He later worked in Regina, Kingston, and Montreal but the majority of Scott’s career was spent in London, Ontario, where he spent ten years building two successful morning shows. He was named On Air Talent of the Year at Canadian Music Week in both 2014 and 2015 and is currently the host of the Tucker in the Morning show on Toronto’s 99.9 Virgin Radio. Scott has hosted hundreds of charity events over the years with countless community organizations including Community Living London, who help people with developmental disabilities.

Sidney Sommer graduated from Bishop’s in 1997 with a B.A. in Sociology. A true entrepreneur, in 2003 he started a business that has become a leader in the security industry. By 2008, UCIT Online Security (pronounced You-See-It Online) had grown to 35 employees and Sidney was named BDC Young Entrepreneur of the Year award, for Ontario. Today, with the 2016 acquisition of Dallas-based Stealth Monitoring, UCIT employs over 420 people at offices across North America. Since the beginning of UCIT, Sidney has provided free services to Habitat for Humanity and each year a team of UCIT employees helps build a home for underprivileged families. Sidney and his wife, Natalie, also support Sick Kids and for many years were members of the Children’s Circle of Care.

Suzanne Bertrand graduated in 1996 with a B.B.A. from Bishop’s University. In 1998, she obtained a Graduate Diploma in Accountancy from Concordia University and her Chartered Professional Accountant designation. Suzanne worked for 15 years as a professional accountant and business advisor, starting her career at Deloitte and subsequently Fuller Landau where she was named partner in 2010. She became a trusted financial advisor to private owner-managed businesses. In 2013, Suzanne was named Chief Financial Officer of Moment Factory, a new media and entertainment studio. Currently she is the Chief Financial Officer of Rodeo FX, a world-leading visual effects company. As a successful business woman and mother to Sabrina and Mathieu, Suzanne provides a positive role model to both young women and men.
It has been said that “volunteers are not paid – not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless”. Thirteen of the fifteen Directors of the Bishop’s University Foundation who manage the Foundation’s affairs and provide support and guidance to the Advancement Office, do so in a volunteer capacity. And they are priceless, indeed!

The Bishop’s University Foundation was born in 1971 “to receive, hold, and disburse gifts made by direct donations, deeds, wills or bequests intended for the betterment of Bishop’s University.” Forty-six years later the Foundation is managing close to $60 million, including the permanent endowment which stands at $48.4 million. With over 300 funds invested collectively, the 2016-17 payout allowed for disbursements of more than $1.55 million to the University’s scholarship and bursary program and myriad student and faculty opportunities. In the competitive world of undergraduate education this support allows our students to thrive and is intricately related to Bishop’s being awarded the #1 ranking for Student Satisfaction in this year’s Maclean’s survey. Successful volunteer-driven initiatives lead to the betterment of Bishop’s each and every day and the effectiveness of our Foundation Board is paramount – or priceless, some would even say.

The Foundation Board of Directors has been chaired by George Hendy ’68 since 2010. George’s fifty years of affiliation and affinity with Bishop’s, including nine years on the Corporation and 28 years on the Board, ranks him among our most committed of volunteers. He was recognized with the University Service Award in 2000 and was named Alumnus of the Year in 2013. During his seven years as Foundation Chair, George has led us through what can only be described as exceptional growth and he will continue to serve in a Director’s role going forward.

As of November 2017, we are privileged to welcome Bob Goldberger ’79 as our new Foundation Chair while Jo-Anne Ryan ’83 will replace Bob as Vice-Chair. Tim Griffin ’71 will continue his remarkable work leading the Investment Committee as will Mark Saykaly ’72 on the Nominating Committee. Stephen Lloyd ’89 recently joined the Board and will oversee the Audit Committee and Linton Carter ’89 will now take charge of the Development Committee. The entire Board deserves congratulations on a most successful year and thanks for the hundreds of volunteer hours they provide to advance the Foundation’s mission.

Finally, a multiple thank you is extended to our former Chair, Sydney R. “Bud” McMorran ’60, DCL ’04, former Principal, Dr. Hugh M. Scott, DCL ’99, and former Chancellor, Alex K. Paterson, ’52, Q.C., O.C., DCL ’74 for their 82 collective years of outstanding service. All continue their involvement as Honorary Patrons of the Foundation. To complete the slate of the 2017-18 Foundation Board is Peter Dunn ’66 along with three new Directors, Robert J. Dunn ’76, Sasha Manes ’06, and Laura McElwain ’98. Four ex-officio positions are filled by Michael Goldbloom (Principal and Vice-Chancellor), Robert Hall ’79 (Chair, Board of Governors), Brian Levitt (Chancellor), and Matt McBrine ’96 (Director of Advancement).

On a very sad note, we will miss the contributions and guidance of Ron Lawless, O.C., DCL ’00 who passed away on August 14, 2017, and who served the Foundation with wisdom and integrity for over 22 years. (see Obituary P. 49)
With more than 300 funds invested collectively, the Bishop’s University Endowment has grown to $48.4 million as of April 30, 2017, up from $41.55 million a year ago, or a 13.07% rate of return.

The Bishop’s University Foundation has a policy of conservative payout to ensure a consistent level of support to the University over the long terms and protection against market instability. This year, more than $1.55M was disbursed to University to fund a range of programs and services.
1. Alice Gillham '17 with mother Nancy Fraser '87.
2. Michael Baldwin '95, Lauren Audas '17 (daughter).
3. Emily Williams '17 with father Daryl Williams '97.
4. Allison Roberts '17 (daughter) and David Roberts '76.
5. Geneviève Paul '17 with father Doug Paul '79.
6. Catherine Kohner '17 (daughter) and Stephen Kohner '86.
8. Wendy Morton '82, Andrew Morton '17 (son), David Sim '83.
9. Larry Everett '02 with daughter Jessica Everett '16.
11. Olivia Hobbs '17 with father Richard Hobbs '84.
12. Spiro Krallis '85, Petra Hillebrand '88, Alexandra Krallis '17 (daughter), Isabelle Hillebrand '17 (niece), Amelia Krallis '20 (daughter).
13. Samantha Backman '17 and David Gregory '54 (grandfather).
15. Fabio Cozzuto '17 with spouse Karen Pellerin '05.
WEDDINGS: 1. Wanless ’10-Nimigon ’10: Megan and Eric were wed this year. 2. Limpert ’06-Woods: Sara and Ken were married in Santorini, Greece on May 24, 2017. 3. Bertrand ’15-Duke: Alysha to Peter on September 3, 2017 in York, United Kingdom. Pictured left to right are Peter, Alysha, Maigan Newson ’15, and John Hawke ’15. 4. Lockhart ’14-Metcalfe ’14: Kyrinne to Austen at the Ancaster Mill, in Ancaster, ON on August 20, 2017. Among the close friends and family in attendance were: Mathew Stiffel ’14 (groomsman on the far right of the photo), Jasmin Allen ’15, and three of their most loved professors; Michele Murray, Daniel Miller, and Jenn Cianca ’02. 5. Harrison ’13-O’Reilly ’12: Noah and Sophie were wed this summer surrounded by 30+ Gaiters many of whom were from the Soccer, Lacrosse, and Rugby teams. 6. Larochelle ’14-Aumais ’16: Jordan and Marianne were wed this year at Bishop’s University with many Gaiters in attendance. 7. Lawless ’14-Pilles ’14: Rachael and Matthew married in front of family, friends, and fellow Gaiters Nicole Maracle ’14 and Alexander Van Beers ’14. 8. Maddison ’02-Mc-
Carvill: Michel and Mary Ellen married on July 29, 2017 at the Rodd Crowbush Beach and Golf Resort in Prince Edward Island. Pictured from back to front, left to right are Dave Millard ’02, Dan Wallace ’02, Matt Stewart ’02, Rick Lamanna ’02, Clifford Brown ’04, Steve Martell ’02, Keith Maddison ’02, Ryan Whitlock ’02, Michel Maddison ’04, Kate Maddison (McLean) ’04, Meaghan Adamski (Mosher) ’02, Mary Ellen McCarvill, and David Pendlebury ’01. Also in attendance were Arash Madani ’02, Mike Leonard ’02, Jonathan Davies ’02, and Francois Maddison ’05. BIRTHS:

9. Christo ’93-Murphy: Jessie and Giselle welcomed a new addition to their family on Thursday, July 27 when baby Clark was born. Birth weight was 7lbs 11.5oz and he was 20 inches long.


11. Barnes ’09-Lefebvre ’09: Natalie and Joel welcomed their first daughter, Chloe Lefebvre, into the world on October 17, 2016 in Kingston, ON.
Colonel George MacDougall '42 enjoyed the pancake breakfast at Homecoming 2017 along with his niece, where they had the opportunity to meet Principal Michael Goldbloom.

On September 21, 2017, Dr. Ron '62 and Andrea Hunt hosted a BBQ for several early sixties graduates and some of their spouses. Blessed with a beautiful fall day the group enjoyed their annual get-together in Montague, ON, near Smiths Falls. Stories of Bishop’s days in the early 1960’s abounded, especially related to daily life and pranks at “The Shed” (Divinity House). But none was more entertaining than Cliff Maclean '62’s tale, with enhancements by Lloyd Reaume ’61, on how three sheep found their way to the Molson Common Room one evening much to the chagrin of Professor Dan Patridge, the unlucky guardian of that student lounge. The fun didn’t last long when Principal Ogden Glass ’35 began his investigation into the student prank because the sheep had been “borrowed” from a nearby French-Canadian farmer and the FLQ had seized the opportunity to politicize the event. Oh... the good old days! In summary, Ron and Andrea were warm and congenial hosts and a wonderful day of camaraderie and laughter was had by all. Pictured are: Dean Purdy ’64, Cliff Maclean ’62, Peter Burpee ’61, Andrea Hunt, Harvey Katz, Pam Stagg, Jean Jones (Cummins) ’62, Rene Jones, Judy Reaume, Lloyd Reaume ’61, Lynda Southam ’62, Ron Hunt ’62.

On September 29, 2017, in Sutton, Quebec, author Peter Turner ’63 held a book launch to present Bullpout, Old Dogs, and Stone Walls, 12 Stories of the Townships. In his ever jovial manner, Peter signed copies and joked with the attendees while Gussy ’64 took charge of refreshments for the guests. If you wish to know more, or get a copy of the book, check out Peter’s website at: www.peter-turnerstories.com

Don Mills ’71 spoke at JUMP Halifax’s first event of the season on September 25. In the picture from L to R are Justice Jamie Saunders ’70, Malcolm Boyle ’78 QC, and Don Mills ’71.

Malcolm Boyle ‘78 QC, Bruce Stevenson ’76, Stefanie DeYoung ’09, Nathan King ’04, and Eric Jorgensen ’10 recently got together at the Gorsebrook Lounge for a pre-game reception before Bishop’s took on Saint Mary’s University in football.

Elaine Roper ’78 has been a Partner with the not-for-profit/public sector, and national board practices in the Toronto office of Odgers Berndtson since November 2017. She brings over 30 years of international experience as an executive, consultant and board director in the technology, financial services, and non-profit sectors, in addition to public/private partnership organizations throughout North America, Europe, and Asia. Elaine has served in senior leadership roles on numerous non-profit boards, and currently sits on the board of directors of the national Canada Games Council, the 2021 Niagara Summer Canada Games Council, and the Royal Ontario Museum. Elaine served on the Bishop’s board for nearly 10 years, and is a founder of the JUMP Mentoring Program for recent Bishop’s graduates, currently operating in Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and Halifax.

The neighborhood turned purple this summer in Greely (outside Ottawa). Ten alumni who all arrived on campus in 1974 got together to welcome the last one into his 60’s. These alumni are: Francois Legros ’79, Tom Moser ’79, Peter Fingold ’77, David Wilson ’77, Carl Haddad ’80, Althea Duhaney ’78, Pierre Blier ’78, Michel Clermont ’77, Donald Robinson ’79, Jean Blier ’77. Needless to say there was plenty of beer and BBQ on the spit.

On September 20, 2017 the 1982-83 and 1983-84 Bishop’s Ga-
tional Championship basketball teams were inducted into the Sherbrooke Sports Hall of Fame. They will forever have their place in Sherbrooke sports history on the shores of Lac des Nations.

Marie Olney ’83 achieved her goal for Canada 150 of skiing with Rocky Mountain Adaptive (RMA) at Sunshine Village Ski & Snowboard Resort 150 times during the 2016/2017 season. You can read more about her amazing story at http://rockymountainadaptive.com/if-id-it/.

Keith Davidson ’88 has been promoted to Branch Manager for Scotiabank in Comox, BC.

Abraham Blair ’91 Queen’s B.Ed ’02 M. Ed ’07 has been accepted for his PhD at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) at the University of Toronto. You can reach him at blair-anna2002@yahoo.com.

Kim Bozak ’92 recently launched “Glorious & Free: The Canadians”, a book she co-wrote with Rita Field-Marsham. Inspired by Canada’s 150th anniversary, the book features 33 personal stories that redefine how Canadians see themselves. “We are more than just landscapes, polar bears, Mounties, and canoes. More than just “thank yous,” “sorrys,” hot prime ministers, and doughnut shops. We are also tattoo artists who have discovered the secret to cheating death. Designers hell-bent on winning the Nobel Peace Prize. Super soldiers who take “live vests” off suicide bombers. Freethinkers who refuse to be tamed. We are global-village visionaries, world record setters, ambassadors of the imagination, and conquerors of the Rockies. We are Canadian. We are whoever we dream ourselves to be. And freedom of expression protects our right to do all of that. To purchase a copy, visit https://www.gloriousandfree.ca/.

Christina Kakebeeke ’97 and husband, Charlie Straussle, moved to southern Spain in late August of 2017 with their kids Wilder and Jake: “We bought an organic olive farm and plan to make our own olive oil as of November 2017. We also have 2 lovely little cottages that we rent out on our property which is situated 35 mins. north of Malaga. https://www.airbnb.ca/users/37242255/listings Come for a visit!

Lt.-Col. Kieran Kennedy ’02 is now the Commanding Officer of the 2 Service Battalion.

Anna Campbell ’03 is a Representative and Team Leader with Avon Canada. Anyone interested in learning about Avon can contact her at: campbell_ann15@hotmail.com

Darquise Nantel ’07, Dan Seneker ’94, Alex Henderson ’85, Mary-Anne Lawrence ’93, Bryan Lipscombe ’07, and Emily Theriault ’05 all caught up in the Cayman Islands as Dan (Director of Enrolment Management at Bishop’s), was passing through on a recruiting tour.

Andréeanne Parent ’15 is now working for Walter Roberts, in Tokyo. Walter Roberts is a professional recruitment consultancy and has a presence on five continents.

IN MEMORIAM

George Hanna ’50 passed away on August 2, 2017.

John Lawrence ’52 QC passed away of congestive heart failure at the age of 85. John was born in Kingston, Ontario but grew up in Lennoxville, Quebec attending Bishop’s College School and Bishop’s University where he studied History, was an avid hockey goalie and dabbled in amateur theatre as a result of which, two of his children are actors. John then pursued a career in law after graduating from McGill University.

Ronald Sumner ’54 September 7, 1930 – August 15, 2017. Ronald passed away in Ottawa, ON at the age of 86.


William Home ’59 passed away peacefully on October 15, 2017, at the CHUS Fleurimont.

Judith Beliaeff ’62 died peacefully at the age of 75 on June 23, 2017 at St Mary’s Hospital in Kitchener, ON.

The Venerable Lyman Nelson Harding ’63 B.A., L.S.T. April 19, 1937 (London, ON)-June 10, 2017 (Peterborough, ON). Died peacefully and unexpectedly at home after a brief illness, just a few short weeks after his 80th birthday.

Michael (Mike) B. Sommerville ’65 passed away on September 22, 2017, following a brief battle with cancer. He is survived by his sons Bart (Allison) and Ryan, sister Judy Karg (Joe), brother Bob (Linda) grandson Thomas, five nephews and two nieces. Mike was raised in Woodbridge, attended St Andrew’s College and graduated from Bishop’s University in 1965. His interests were ballroom dancing, bridge, sports, gardening and long walks with his dogs. Those who knew Mike at Bishop’s will remember him as a fierce Gaiter on the gridiron and a great friend to many.

Mike’s lifelong friend, Roy Cullen ’65, is spearheading an initiative to establish a memorial fund in Mike’s honor at Bishop’s, for the benefit of a Gaiter football player. If you would like to contribute, or can assist Roy, please contact him at: cullenr@shaw.ca or 250-507-7978 or you can make a donation directly at:
IN MEMORIAM

www.ubishops.ca/gift (Please mention the Mike Sommerville Scholarship/Bursary Fund.)

Russell Merfield '67 (June 12, 1946-June 29, 2017) passed away peacefully in Magog, Quebec at the age of 71. After practicing law for several years in Montreal, he returned to McGill to obtain a further degree in International Law, then joined the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada. His career as a diplomat and trade commissioner took him and his family to many places around the world, from Algiers to London, New York, Tunisia, Romania, and Jamaica. Rusty retired in 2013 to the family cottage on Lake Memphremagog, where he enjoyed golf, tennis, and bridge at the Hermitage Club, and the active winter groups in Georgeville and Magog.

Sandra Macgregor '68 (nee Bradley) died after a short illness on August 19, 2017, in Newmarket, Ontario. Sandy is survived by her husband, Ken Bradley '68, her daughter-in-law, Janine Bradley (Cameron) and her sister Sally (Bill Lee). She will be remembered for her enthusiasm and her smile.

Jack Schneider '71 (November 1, 1946-September 10, 2017). Jack passed away peacefully surrounded by his family and the Rocky Mountains in Invermere, BC. Jack grew up in Ontario, graduating from Upper Canada Collage and Bishops University with his life-long pals. Jack was one of the first in Canada to achieve his Gold Duke of Edinburgh’s Award from HRH Prince Philip. He was a passionate volunteer for the Award, for which he was presented the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Hazel Carson '75 passed away at the CHUS Fleurimont on August 25, 2017. She was well-known in the community of Richmond as she was a teacher at St. Francis Elementary School for more than 30 years. Donations to the Hazel Carson Memorial Scholarship at Bishop’s University, c/o University Advancement Office, 2600 College St. Sherbrooke QC J1M 1Z7 would be greatly appreciated by the family.

Robert Blackwood '77 November 24, 1954 - August 18, 2017. Bob was born in Knowlton, Quebec and grew up on the shores of Brome Lake. It was a place that never left him. He was one of the first employees of Global Excel and worked there for more than 25 years as a key member of the leadership team.

Marc Blais '86 passed away on June 14, 2017.

Peter Hogarth '88 passed away surrounded by his wonderful loving family. He graduated with a B.A. from Bishop’s and was a founding father of Sigma Chi fraternity.

Mary Trudel '04 (January 23, 1944 - August 21, 2017), passed away at home in Knowlton, Quebec.

June Yvonne Neill (nee Martin, June 13, 1923 - October 6, 2017), Peacefully at the age of 94 in Millbrook, ON. Formerly of Lennoxville, QC and staff member in the Bishop’s University Library.

Joan Ward Thomson, 1911-2017. On October 2, 2017, Joan Ward Thomson passed away peacefully in her 107th year. At the time of her death she was the oldest life member of the Diocesan Anglican Church Women and also of the Church Society of the Diocese of Quebec. A lifelong Anglican Joan was for the past twenty-seven years a member of St Mark’s Chapel, Bishop’s University and prior to that a member of St Peter’s, Sherbrooke. In the summers she attended St James, Cacouana.

Active in the life of the church she was one of the founding members and forces behind the St Peter’s ACW Thrift Shop. She served for many years on the ACW executive there, and was well known across the diocese through attending the ACW biennials. For more than a dozen years in her late seventies and all through her eighties she was the parish visitor for St George’s Church, Lennoxville, visiting shut-ins and those in retirement homes the vast majority of whom were decades younger than her.

Generations of those living in the villages along the north shore of the St Lawrence will remember her in her role with the students coming out from the coast for high school in the Townships. Beginning in the early 1970s she was responsible for finding homes and caring for the up to 200 students a year who had to travel from those villages to study at Alexander Galt Regional High School in the period when there were no schools other than elementary on the coast. The Ven. Robert Bryan in his book The Flying Parson of Labrador and the Real Story Behind Bert and I said, “A remarkable Eastern Townships woman, Mrs. Joan Thomson, took on the job of housing the students and watched their progress with great care.”

During the Second World War she was a Red Cross volunteer serving in hospitals and POW camps in England and across Europe.

In 2008 Joan was the recipient of the Outstanding Townshippers of the Year Award presented by the Townshippers Association. She also received the Lieutenant Governor’s Award in 2010 and was chosen by the Lieutenant Governor to present flowers to the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge when they visited Quebec City in 2011.

She lived in her own second floor walk-up apartment in Lennoxville until she was 103 and then moved to the Connaught Home in North Hatley and this summer to new Grace Village in Lennoxville.

Beloved mother of the Reverend Heather (James Sweeney) and Nora. Cherished grandmother of Claire, Mary (Jean-Marc Francius), Bridget (Chris Maynard), Keira, Johanne, and Tamara and much loved great-grandmother of Xavier, Lewis, Arsène, Gareth, Hannah, William and Elianna.
On August 14, 2017, at the age of 93, Ronald E. Lawless, C.M., friend and benefactor of Bishop’s University, passed away.

Since 1988, Bishop’s has benefited from Ron’s leadership, philanthropy and willingness to advance our mission. He served on the Bishop’s Corporation from 1988 until 2010, assuming the role of President from 1995 to 1999. He volunteered his time as a member of the Bishop’s Foundation from 1995 until 2016. In 2000, the University conferred on Ron Lawless its highest honour, a Doctor of Civil Law (honoris causa).

Ron was awarded the Order of Canada, 2007, in recognition of his service to Bishop’s, to the Old Brewery Mission, to Concordia University and to the Lakeshore General Hospital. In 2013, he received the Queen’s Silver Jubilee Medal. A decisive visionary with a tremendous heart, Ron declared with certainty that “putting an end to homelessness was not a dream but a possibility”. He was an inspirational leader, a revered businessman, and a philanthropist whose generosity will always be remembered.

Ecculated at the University of Toronto, McGill and Concordia, Ron spent his professional life at Canadian National Railways, where he rose through the ranks to become President and C.E.O. of both CN and Via Rail. In 1986 he was named Canada’s Transportation Man of the Year, and in 2004 he was inducted into the Canadian Railway Hall of Fame in recognition of his outstanding achievements in the industry.

A celebration of Ron Lawless’s life took place on Thursday, August 24th 2017 at the Rideau Memorial Gardens and Funeral Home in Dollard-des-Ormeaux. Philip E. Johnston ’59, a close friend of Ron’s, delivered a superb eulogy and observed:

“There are some people we meet that we instantaneously trust. Ron was one of these. I just knew from Day 1 that here was integrity in the flesh… and nothing was more natural to Ron than his smile which was a simple reflection of his kind heart and abiding sense of humour. He loved laughing and liked it even better if he’d caused it!”

Ron is survived by his son David (Fredelyn), daughter Jane, daughter-in-law Luana, seven grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, his friend and companion Joan and her daughter. Memorial contributions can be made to the Old Brewery Mission, a cause he held very close to his heart.

From the entire Bishop’s community, heartfelt condolences go out to Ron’s family, friends and loved ones. We also extend our thanks for his generous bequest to the University. Those who knew Ron will undoubtedly remember him for his charm, his quick wit, his impeccable dress and his gentlemanly manner. Our loss, a loss that is shared by countless others, is of a truly special human and friend.
A COMPLICATED YEAR FOR FREE SPEECH

Of all the accolades bestowed upon Bishop’s in this year’s university rankings, the one I, as an alumnus, am most proud of is the double-A rating for freedom of speech on campus from the Campus Freedom Index – the highest rating awarded by the organization, and Bishop’s the only school in Canada to receive the perfect grade.

This has been a complicated year for speech on campuses across Canada. Incidents at McGill, Laurier and Ryerson have thrust the conversation into the limelight and forced academics and administrators alike into the unenviable position of having to defend the free expression of ideas their institutions were founded upon while respecting the increasingly diverse and rightfully progressive nature of our society.

But pitting those two values against each other is a false dichotomy, stoked perhaps by our public appetite to have our world viewed in black and white. Few would say freedom of speech is inherently at odds with progressive values, and yet somehow the conversation on campuses across the country has become that.

The truth is that progressive beliefs only ever become accepted values through speech and time. Nelson Mandela once said, “No one is born hating another person... People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love.” What better place to teach something than on a university campus.

But to do that both sides must be open to having their worldview challenged, to confront the uncomfortable rather than blindly condemning or attempting to silence opposing views. Last year, in lieu of boycotts and pressured cancellations to which other universities succumbed, the Bishop’s community hosted a range of discussions around sexual assault and ethical obligation in advance of a talk by Marie Henein. (Henein, you’ll recall, was the defence attorney for former CBC personality Jian Ghomeshi, who was accused – and found not guilty – of four counts of sexual assault.) While many initially questioned the good judgement of the University in bringing such a controversial speaker to campus, Centennial Theatre was full that night and Henein’s talk, powerful. More than a few came away with a different point of view.

Which brings me to my final point: the molding of young minds. Nowhere will instilling a belief in the power of open discourse be more impactful than on a university campus. The issues these students will face as future leaders are more complex than ever, as evidenced by the quandaries many institutions of higher learning find themselves in today. Effecting the change they wish to see in the world will require empathy, understanding and an open mind – both for those with whom they agree and those they don’t.

That’s not to say that there are “many sides” to some debates – we shouldn’t accept or tolerate hate in any form – but we also shouldn’t close down avenues for discussion because we find something or someone to be personally offensive. Placing a high value on free speech allows those inclined to look past what someone has said, and try to understand why they said it.

Not all minds will be open to change; there is, buried here, an idealism for a more constructive discourse. But I’m proud that Bishop’s is reaching for that ideal, equipping the next generation of leaders with the values that will not only help to achieve change, but will inspire it in others.

- Fraser Lockerbie
Managing Editor, Bishop’s Magazine
“A walnut cost me $1,500.”

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