

BISHOP'S

Alumni Magazine • No. 61 • Fall 2024



Blooming with Opportunity

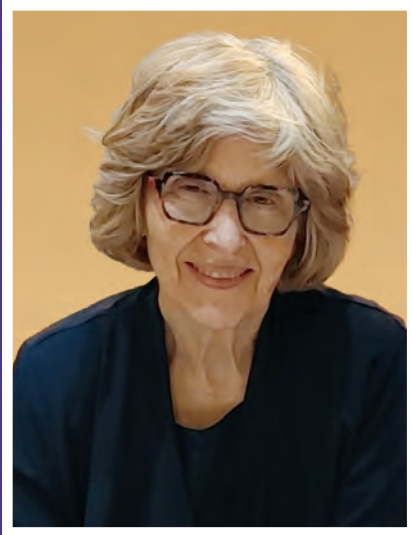
CANberries • A Bishop's Arboretum •
Convocation 2024 • Homecoming 2024 & More



UNIVERSITÉ
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UNIVERSITY

Give Now, Shape Tomorrow

—A Legacy of Lasting Impact—



Joan Stadelman '66

“When I attended Bishop’s, the number of students was a fraction of the current level, and the choice of courses and programs was much more limited than it is today. My Bishop’s education provided a good foundation for my career, but I believe my experiences outside the classroom were an even more important influence on me. As an alumna, I participated in university governance, and I planned to make a gift to Bishop’s in my will. I wanted the students who followed me, and those yet to come, to benefit from that special Bishop’s experience as much as I did.

In recent years, however, I felt the university’s existence as I had known it was under threat and the students were struggling. Government funding and regulations were being re-structured to very negative effect; the Covid-19 pandemic robbed students of in-person classroom and social experiences; life at Bishop’s seemed to have become much more complex. So, I decided to increase my annual donations to create an endowment fund right away, which could be topped up by an estate gift in the future. Starting the endowment early also meant that I could have the pleasure of seeing the benefits of my gifts as they happened.

I chose to invest in students by supporting mentoring programs related to student success. Over the last five years, it has been a joy to meet the interns I have sponsored and hear their reports on the projects they imagined and tackled. They acquired important leadership skills themselves while encouraging their fellow students to participate in a myriad of student life opportunities. The results the students have produced from my investment have been extremely satisfying already but equally gratifying is knowing my endowment will allow future Bishop’s students to have a better education tomorrow.”

—Joan Stadelman '66

Many alumni and friends establish endowment funds now and augment them with a bequest. When you include Bishop’s University in your estate plan, your generosity and compassion prevail in perpetuity.



For a confidential discussion on how you can have a lasting impact on Bishop’s students, please contact:

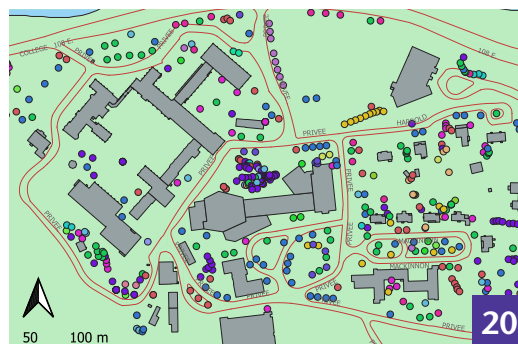
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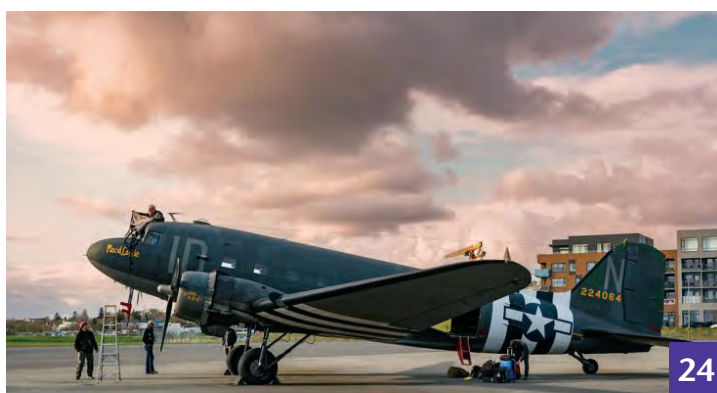
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THE BISHOP'S EXPERIENCE, POWERED BY VOLUNTEERS



We often talk about “The Bishop’s Experience” to describe the unique feeling of attending, or even just visiting, Bishop’s University. Students, alumni, faculty, staff, and community members recognize that B.U. is a place like no other, but what makes it so? Certainly, the small classes, our beautiful campus, and location in the Eastern Townships, among others. But, if you were to ask me, it is the people that first and foremost make Bishop’s the truly special place it is.

Our community is one that values helping others and giving back. As a student, an alumna, and now in my current role, I have witnessed the dedication of our graduates. Always eager to give of their time and expertise, our volunteers are an essential part of our operations.

The Bishop’s Foundation Board of Directors, for example, is comprised entirely of alumni volunteers who

help raise funds, wisely invest the endowment fund, and increase alumni engagement. Graduates like **Bob Goldberger '79**, who has been a member of the Foundation Board for 20 years and Chair for seven before retiring this fall, and his successor, **Jane Brydges '95**, are invaluable to our continued success.

It was volunteers who helped us surpass our goal and raise \$44.5 million for the *Leading the Way* capital campaign. It is volunteers like our chapter leads who assist in organizing events for alumni and friends to stay connected post-graduation. It is volunteers who help enrich the student experience by offering to guest lecture or create internship opportunities. It is graduates like **Bob Egan '80**, coordinator of the JUMP alumni mentoring program, who guide the next generations as they embark on their careers. It is people like Alumni Association President **Alex Cook '13**, who comes back yearly to represent alumni at Convocation, who continue to remind us why Bishop’s is without equal.

To every one of you who has given your time to Bishop’s, and everyone who continues to do so, I extend my heartfelt gratitude. To anyone who wants to volunteer but does not know where to start, all you have to do is reach out. As the University faces challenging times, volunteers will be more essential than ever to ensure the promise of “The Bishop’s Experience.”

—**Jacqueline Scott '90**

*Associate Vice-Principal
Alumni Relations & Philanthropy*

*If you would like to volunteer and offer your home or office space for upcoming alumni receptions in Spring 2025 (see back cover for dates and locations), please reach out to **Sterling Mawhinney '88** at sterling.mawhinney@ubishops.ca.*

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Justine Trempe '22

FACING CHALLENGES, BUILDING SOLUTIONS: OUR PATH TO FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

As you may know, Bishop's is facing a significant deficit this 2024-25 financial year. Much of it is owed to measures and situations that are frustratingly out of our control. What is in our control, however, is our ability to carefully assess the situation and make a long-term plan that will allow the University to emerge stronger and more self-sufficient in the long run.

So how did we get here? First, a series of measures by the provincial and federal governments have resulted in a loss of out-of-province and international students. Unfortunately, statements from both governments have created the perception that certain students are not welcome here. While we know this to be untrue, the impact of these declarations has taken its toll.

Furthermore, the Quebec Government, which controls about 75% of our funding, has implemented a new funding formula that puts the province's three English-language universities at a further disadvantage. We no longer keep the full amount from international student tuition because of new rules regarding these fees, and the funding we receive for all new students has also been significantly reduced. Moreover, while several new funding envelopes have been created, these mainly benefit Francophone universities.

A Commitment to Both a Liberal Education and Financial Sustainability

The unique, mostly undergraduate, liberal education model that has been at the centre of Bishop's identity since the very beginning has been its most fundamental challenge for over fifty years. Essentially, the University is

operating in a very strictly regulated environment which does not account for its distinct character. As a result, we have a cost structure that is not aligned with a funding model premised on larger class sizes and a significant number of graduate students.

While we are actively advocating for fairer access to funding, I do not anticipate any significant relief from the current provincial government given the record deficit it is facing and the current charged political climate.

Given this context, we are taking action to ensure the University's long-term financial sustainability. This involves generating savings and, where possible, extra revenue, as part of a recovery plan, essentially a roadmap back to a balanced budget.

As for the revenue part of the equation, while this mostly involves increasing our student body from its current roughly 2,600 students, we have no plans to increase enrolment beyond 3,000 students as we are intent on preserving the intimate, relationship-rich, and personalized character of our University.

Our guiding principle in finding savings is to preserve the unique Bishop's student experience. As such, we have been reviewing the non-academic services we offer and are implementing targeted restructuring efforts focused on both efficiency and benefit to our community.

On the academic side, we have undertaken a fundamental review focused on how to better embed our liberal education model into our academic structures and programs. This should lead to more significant collaboration across departments, faculties, and schools and a more

diversified and interdisciplinary academic requirement for students. While the overall number of courses being offered is expected to decrease, the reach of each discipline is expected to increase.

A New Strategic Plan for Bishop's

I am thrilled to announce that we have just launched a strategic planning process, the findings of which are intended to support Bishop's recovery plan. This will concentrate on Bishop's key differentiators, its liberal education focus, and its outstanding student experience. It aims to identify the central University priorities that will support Bishop's unique value proposition to students. Consultation with a wide range of stakeholders will be integral to this process.

Our graduates have a unique perspective on what makes the Bishop's experience exceptional and what we need to prioritize to ensure our University remains relevant while keeping true to its identity long into the future.

By the time you read these lines, we will have emailed all alumni with an invitation to complete a survey as part of our strategic planning exercise. If you are a graduate and have not received the email, I invite you to contact the Alumni Relations and Philanthropy Office to ensure your coordinates are up to date.

While this continues to be a challenging time for our University, I have full confidence we will find our way forward together and that we will provide Bishop's with renewed, stronger foundations for the future.

—*Dr. Sébastien Lebel-Grenier*
Principal and Vice-Chancellor

CANBerries: *The Fruitful Production of Sustainable, Out-of-Season Raspberries*



Can you imagine eating raspberries grown in Canada in the winter and spring? It's an idea that might seem impossible to many, but Dr. Mirella Aoun, Associate Professor in the Department of Environment, Agriculture and Geography and Scientific Director of the Educational Farm at Bishop's, saw an opportunity for innovation.

The idea came to her when she heard of the Weston Family Foundation's Homegrown Innovation Challenge, which was launched in February 2022. The challenge is to "create and deliver a market-ready system to reliably, sustainably and competitively produce berries out of season and at scale in Canada."¹

As a 5th generation agricultural producer, Dr. Aoun's love for nature is in her blood, and she has curated an exceptional career path in pursuit of this passion. For her Ph.D., she researched the infamous Dutch Elm Disease, one of the main diseases

affecting forests in North America. Afterwards, she did her postdoc as part of the lead lab in the cellulosic biofuel network at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to transform agriculture crop residue into ethanol. She then worked as Senior Project Manager at the Centre of Expertise and Technology Transfer in Organic Agriculture to research organic fruit production in Quebec and provide consulting services to those who wanted to transition from conventional to organic production. Given her history and experiences, she was excited by the prospect of fruit production as her next experiment at Bishop's.

In collaboration with researchers from *Université de Sherbrooke* (UdeS), Dr. Aoun has set up a greenhouse on the Bishop's campus behind the old arena, where she is growing different varieties of raspberries. Dr. Aoun has carefully planned her growing season to maximize production and harvest twice in the same year: spring and fall/winter. The first crop produced an abundance of berries which were all donated to food banks in Lennoxville, the campus community fridge, and the *CPE Panda* (the daycare centre on campus) earlier this spring. Angie Mason, from *CPE Panda*, tells us "The very next day, our chef made a delicious raspberry crumble with the fresh berries that was enjoyed by the children and adults of the daycare."

The next crop began to be harvested in November and is expected to produce fruit throughout the winter. This timeline is intentional; not only is she harvesting berries out of season, but she is purposefully not competing with local producers who grow their berries from April to late

June and typically harvest from July to late September. The objective is to reduce Canada's reliance on imported berries and fill the gap to provide Canadians with fresh, organic, and **local** berries year-round—hence the name CANBerries.

It was important to Dr. Aoun that the berries be produced in the most natural way possible. To achieve this goal, the team developed a unique growing system which relies exclusively on green technologies for climate control and energy production and does not use any fossil fuels. Therefore, the greenhouse was built to allow for natural light and is supplemented with artificial light only when necessary. The team is also using two unique and exciting technologies for energy production: agrivoltaics and an aero-geothermal system.

Agrivoltaics combines photovoltaics (the production of electricity via solar energy) and agricultural production. The south side of the greenhouse has louvered curtains with photovoltaic cells on the slats. When the curtains are deployed to create shade, those cells produce energy to fuel a battery that powers the greenhouse's computer, online system, air exchanger, and more. This technology was developed in collaboration with experts from the Interdisciplinary Institute for Technological Innovation at UdeS and its Executive Director, Jean-François Lerat.

The aero-geothermal system takes air from the greenhouse and sends it to circulate in a rock bed in the soil. Here the air is dehumidified and cooled to finally be returned to the greenhouse to regulate the internal temperature.

¹ <https://homegrownchallenge.ca/how-the-challenge-works/>

The Homegrown Innovation Challenge comprises three phases, and Dr. Aoun's team was selected for the *Shepherd Phase*. They are now gearing up to apply for Phase 3 (the *Scaling Phase*) in hopes of being one of the four teams selected to grow their systems to farm scale. Given the amount of berries they produced per square meter exceeds what is now possible in the industry, they are eager to show the judging panel just how fruitful their prototype can be.

While Dr. Aoun leads the project, she has emphasized that her research and industry partners as well as her students are an indispensable part of their success so far, stating "The students and I work as a team; they are part of the decision-making process. They can participate as research assistants, as part of experiential learning internships, and can even use this research for their honours thesis."

One of those students is Chloé Choquette, a Sustainable Agriculture

and Food Systems Major. Her job is to care for the plants and ensure the equipment is functioning properly. She is grateful for the opportunity, saying "Being part of this innovative project has been and is still a wonderful experience for me. Working to provide tools for people to access food sovereignty fascinates me and gives me the strength to surpass myself."

The opportunity to develop this research directly on campus can be a huge draw for current and future students affirms Dr. Aoun: "This is a unique prototype in Canada; it does not exist anywhere else. Bishop's students have the benefit of being exposed to this kind of innovation and can contribute to the future of food production in Canada."

Evidently, this research is highly beneficial for the Bishop's community, but it also has the potential to positively impact people across the country. We are eager to see how this story progresses.

Phase 1 Spark Phase

Top 15 teams were granted \$50,000 to implement their concepts and provide details on how they would proceed to the next phases.

Phase 2 Shepherd Phase

Top 11 teams were selected and granted up to \$1M over 18 months to develop a small-scale proof of concept for their growing systems. The teams had to reach Technology Readiness Level 5 or higher with their prototypes by the end of the phase.

Phase 3 Scaling Phase

Top four teams selected will be awarded up to \$5M over three years to grow their system to farm scale in Canada. By the end of the phase, teams must produce evidence that berries were grown out-of-season at the target costs, inputs, and other parameters. The solutions must be at Technology Readiness Level 8 or higher for final assessment.

Chloé Choquette, Éliana Vuillaume, Eya Trabelsi, Samuel Baudoux, and Dr. Mirella Aoun



FOSTERING CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT AND THE EVOLUTION OF CAMPUS CULTURE



Dr. Mike Teed, Full Professor in the Williams School of Business, is currently working with the University on an initiative to assess employee engagement and improve the organizational culture at Bishop's. Why should alumni and friends be aware of this project? Because the ultimate goal is to enhance the Bishop's experience for the entire community, including faculty, staff, and of course, students.

A united effort between the Principal's Office, the Human Resources Department, and the A.P.B.U. (the faculty and staff union), this project came to life in early 2023 with a view of better understanding and enhancing University culture, especially post-Covid. In January 2024, all employees were invited to complete an anonymous survey on 18 dimensions at Bishop's, including University Culture, Mental Health, and Innovation. Dr. Teed has been helping to analyze the data and plan next steps.

Having worked at Bishop's for 15 years, Dr. Teed was motivated to take

part in this positive initiative, drawing on his specialization in industrial and organizational psychology: "It's a nice way for me to give back to the University based on the knowledge, expertise, and experience I've accumulated thus far in my career." He has previously done similar consulting work for private organizations and has seen a variety of behaviours surrounding the results. While some places fail to take action after getting feedback or choose to only share the positive results, Dr. Teed affirms Bishop's is following best practices.

In fact, the survey was completed with the help of *TalentMap*, a business management consulting firm that has worked with many universities. Using an external resource to properly formulate the questions and obtain the most direct answers ensures a reliable benchmark to compare Bishop's results.

While the data collected was looked at as a whole, it was also segmented by department, allowing Dr. Teed and Nick Andrews, Associate Vice-Principal Human Resources, to meet with over 30 department managers, and later their teams, to explain their results.

In September, they began hosting *TalentMap Dimensions Dialogue* meetings, where all staff and faculty are invited to discuss the weaknesses and strengths from one of the survey's 18 dimensions. The goal of these discussions is to hear directly from employees, to create a safe space for them to share their thoughts, and to gather their ideas for change.

"So far, the response has been fairly positive," Dr. Teed noted. "Many managers are curious and want to learn more, which is why we have offered to continue meeting on a regular basis." The dialogue meetings have been well-attended, and many are eager to share possible solutions to some of the organizational challenges brought forward via the survey. Dr. Teed has approached these discussions much in the way he teaches—with thoughtful attentiveness and an authentic desire to help people better themselves and their environment.

The next step is to amass all the information and categorize the feedback as short-, medium-, or long-term actions. The goal is to implement some of these ideas this year. Dr. Teed suggests the best course of action is to start with options that require little time and money but can have a big impact. In doing so, they take immediate action while also taking the time necessary to tackle ideas that require more resources and planning.

A second survey is scheduled for 2026. It will serve as a checkpoint to evaluate progress compared to the 2024 survey. Dr. Teed has clarified, however, that this is not the last piece of the puzzle. Organizational change can take three to five years, so this project is a work in progress, and it may take many years if it is to succeed. The University has taken the first steps towards evolving its organizational structure and culture, but it will take a collective effort to truly effect change.

2024 CONVOCATION REFLECTIONS

On June 1st, 483 students crossed the stage at Bishop's University's 197th Convocation.

The Indigenous Students Graduation Ceremony, a new tradition established last year, likewise took place and celebrated twelve graduating First Nation, Métis and Inuit students, including the first Kanien:keha'ka graduate from the Individualized Master's Program.

CLASS VALEDICTORIANS

The 2024 valedictorians were **Sébastien Elie '24** and **Renée Rosteuis '24**. Both addressed the unique circumstances faced by the Class of 2024 in their years at Bishop's. From Covid-19 to the proposed tuition hike, these young adults surmounted unforeseen challenges. Sébastien and Renée both highlighted that these events have nevertheless made them stronger and have prepared them to forge ahead with determination and confidence.

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

It was an honour to present the *Young Alumna of the Year Award* to **Pascale Desmarais '22** for her contributions to the Games Industry and the B.U. community. Since graduating with a B.A. in Sports Studies and Management with a concentration in Athletic Development and a Minor in Psychology, Pascale has worked or volunteered for several prominent games, including the Niagara 2022 Canada Summer Games, the P.E.I. 2023 Canada Winter Games, the 2023 IIHF Women's World Hockey Championship, and the 2023 North American Indigenous Games. She also received an M.A. in Human Kinetics, with a concentration in Sport Management from the University of Ottawa in 2023. She now works at the Canadian Olympic Committee and prepared the travel arrangements for the Paris 2024 Olympics.

Pascale has given back to Bishop's whenever the opportunity has arisen. She was a guest speaker at the Sports Studies Summit, as well as



Chancellor Daniel Fournier, **Stephen Lloyd '89**, and **Alex Cook '13**

a guest lecturer in a Sports Studies class focused on venue and event management.

We were also pleased to recognize **Stephen Lloyd '89** as *Alumnus of the Year* for his many contributions to Bishop's. Stephen graduated from B.U. with a Major in Economics and a Minor in History. He went on to obtain a law degree from McGill in 1993 and began a successful career at Dentons where he is now a partner. Stephen has been recognized among Canada's leading lawyers on several occasions and has been a Chambers-ranked corporate lawyer for five years running.

Stephen has a particular interest in the environment and nature conservation movement; he often assists with initiatives between natural resource groups and Indigenous communities.

He has also always found the time to give back to Bishop's. He was Vice-Chair of the Board of Governors from 2012 to 2015 and is now Vice-Chair of the Bishop's Foundation Board of Directors. Stephen can often be found at alumni receptions in Montreal, as well as speaking events such as *Beyond the Bubble*, and is a proud ambassador for the University.



Principal Sébastien Lebel-Grenier, **Pascale Desmarais '22**, and Bishop's Alumni Association President **Alex Cook '13**

WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE CLASS OF 2024?

Many members of the Class of 2024 have embarked on new journeys since June. Here's a sneak peek at a few of their next steps.



Joe Bardwell '24

Joe Bardwell '24 graduated with an Honours in Physics and a Minor in Mathematics. An outstanding student, Joe received several awards for his academic performance, including the *T.S. Nagpal Prize in Physics*, the *Faculty Prize in Physics*, the *Irving Prize in Mathematics*, the *University Prize in Physics and Astronomy*, and the *David Savage Prize in Physics and Mathematics*. During his time at Bishop's, Joe was also a recipient of the *Chancellor's Excellence Scholarship* (now the *Michael Goldbloom Excellence Scholarship*) and the *B.E.S.T. Project Fund*. Over the summer, he undertook research with Dr. Lorne Nelson, his undergraduate supervisor. They ran simulations of interacting binary systems—modelling how two stars evolve over time—to create a synthetic replica of our galaxy and accurately predict the frequency of any type of binary system in our galaxy.

This fall, he began his M.Sc. in Physics at the University of Alberta. Under the supervision of Associate Professor Dr. Rodrigo Fernandez, Joe is assisting with astrophysics research, specifically using computational methods to better understand cosmic phenomena such as transients and kilonovae. As for life after graduate studies, Joe is leaving this door open for now, wisely choosing to see where his love of research takes him.



Lexie MacKenzie '24

Neuroscience Honours graduate **Lexie MacKenzie '24** moved to Boston in July to begin an exciting job as Clinical Research Coordinator in the Brady Laboratory at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. While at Bishop's, Lexie distinguished herself by earning the esteemed *Chancellor's Excellence*

Scholarship, receiving a grant from the *B.E.S.T. Project Fund*, and being awarded the *Dr. Shannon Gadbois Prize for Excellence in Psychological Research* at Convocation. She was also heavily involved in extracurricular activities, including the Charity Fashion Show, the Undergraduate Psychology Society, and Orientation Week.

Now, Lexie is working under Dr. Roscoe Brady Jr., Associate Professor at the Psychiatry Department of Harvard Medical School and assisting with clinical research projects on schizophrenia. Lexie hopes this experience will solidify her desire to work in clinical neuropsychology, allowing her to further explore her interests in psychopathologies, including the study of sex differences, before pursuing a

doctorate degree.



Rene Zeevat '24

Gaiters Football player **Rene Zeevat '24** graduated with distinction with an Honours in International Studies (Global Governance Concentration), a Minor in Political Studies, and a Minor in English. Rene worked and volunteered for both the Athletics

Department and the Students' Representative Council. His unique talent with a video camera allowed him to create short films for a variety of on-campus events, such as Fall Fest and Winterfest. Rene also completed the Model UN Practicum, inspiring his career choice to work in International Public Policy in hopes of protecting democratic values around the globe.

The pursuit of this goal now finds him at the University of Maryland (UMD), working toward his M.A. in Public Policy. Rene is a recipient of the prestigious *Robertson Fellowship* from the UMD School of Public Policy, which is awarded to students with exceptional qualifications and commitment to public service. This comes as no surprise given his multiple recognitions at B.U., including the *Florence May Foreman Scholarship*, the *SRC Student Life Impact Award*, the *Student-Athlete Leadership Award*, the *Marcel Lebrun Award*, and the *Golden Mitre Award*, the highest non-academic honour that graduating students can receive, elected by popular vote of the prospective graduating class.



Lindsay Tolton '24 and
Dr. Sunny Man Chu Lau

TEACHING AWARDS

The *William and Nancy Turner Teaching Award*, the highest teaching award at Bishop's University, was conferred to **Dr. Sunny Man Chu Lau**, Full Professor in the School of Education. **Lindsay Tolton '24** had the honour of introducing Dr. Lau, describing her as an incredibly kind, patient, and respectful mentor. An endless number of Lindsay's peers were eager to write letters of support for Dr. Lau's nomination, all in agreement that she always finds the time to guide and support her students—inside and outside the classroom—create unique research opportunities and help open doors for them as they embark on their career paths.

The designation *Distinguished Professor Emeritus* was awarded to **Dr. Michael Childs** in recognition of his service to Bishop's and its students for 30 years. Bestowed upon retired professors who have served at least 20 years at Bishop's and have demonstrated an outstanding contribution to the University, this designation was a perfect fit for Dr. Childs who has been a History Professor, Dean of Humanities, and Vice-Principal Academic during his career at B.U. Dr. Jamie Crooks,

who worked with him for 28 years, described Dr. Childs' unwavering belief in Bishop's and the importance of a liberal education, stating he "never saw that belief waver even for a moment; never saw that steadfast commitment to the past, present, and future of our University shaken, even once."

HONORARY DEGREES

This year, honorary doctorates were conferred to **Elisapie**, **Dr. George Siber '66**, and the **Community of the Eastern Townships**.

Inuk singer-songwriter, documentary filmmaker, and activist **Elisapie** has been performing as a musician since 1998. She has won several awards, including the *2024 Juno Award for Best Contemporary Indigenous Artist* for her album *Inuktitut*, which features covers of classic rock and pop songs translated into Inuktitut. She created and produced the first Canada-wide broadcast TV show to celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day, *Le grand solstice*. **Elisapie** also has her own television and film company, Sanajik Films, which is dedicated to honouring the stories of Indigenous and Inuit peoples.

Dr. George Siber '66 is an internationally recognized infectious disease trained physician with more than 40 years of experience in developing vaccines and antibody products. Dr. Siber's accomplishments and advancements in the world of vaccinology are far too numerous to fully cover but chief among them are his time as Executive Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer of Wyeth Vaccines (now Pfizer) where he led the development of vaccines and antibodies for multiple diseases, including pneumonia, influenza, and meningitis; his role in co-founding Affinivax, which developed a 24-valent

pneumococcal vaccine (24 vaccines in one) and was later acquired by GSK; and his receipt of the 2016 *Albert B. Sabin Gold Medal*, which is the highest scientific honor given by the Sabin Vaccine Institute in recognition of extraordinary contributions in the field of vaccinology.



Chancellor Daniel Fournier
and Dr. George Siber '66

For the first time in its history, Bishop's University conferred an honorary doctorate to a group. In the fall of 2023, after the Government of Quebec announced a tuition reform that put our future at great risk, the **Eastern Townships Community** came to Bishop's defense. Among them were multiple Francophone leaders, including former Mayor of Sherbrooke, **Jean Perrault DCL '10**, as well as **Claude Belleau '85, DCL '19**, Louise Bourgault, **Chantal Lessard '00**, and Yannick Crack. The five individuals accepted the honorary degree on behalf of the *Estrie* mobilization community, whose actions, Principal Lebel-Grenier affirmed, ultimately lead to the exemption from the tuition increase for Bishop's. As **Jean Perrault** addressed the Class of 2024, he asked that they remember an important lesson from this experience: "A community which stands together and a group of individuals with convictions and determination can bring about changes that make a real difference for our collective future."



Dr. Jamie Crooks,
Dr. Micheal Childs, and
Chancellor Daniel Fournier

PURPLE RUNS IN THE FAMILY



Rob Allatt '93 &
Grant Allatt '24



Barb Wilkinson '89, Sophie Blair '24
& Andrew Blair '90



Steven Benoit '90, Tracy Boggay '93,
Ava Boggay '24 & Stephen Boggay '93



Chiara Bondi '24 &
David Laberee '65



Annika Bradley '24 &
Sue Meesen '91



Christine Rinaldi '93 &
Vanessa Catena '24



Christine Dylong '93, Amelia Digaletos '24
& Michael Digaletos '90



Jason Mills '04 &
Raya Droppo '24



Sarah Fowler '24 &
Dwayne Fowler '86



Zoe Gandey '24 &
Mark Gandey '89



Sandra Huddleson '86 &
Sarah Hepworth '24



Eric Hudon '24 & Paul Hudon '95



Devin Keenan '24 & Maria Enright '96



Natalie Fisher '95 & Sienna Longo '24



Marius McKinnon '92, Delaney McKinnon '24 & Nancy Cox '92



Mandy Osborne '24 & Elizabeth Cox '12



Andrew Blanchard '90, Kyla Pascale-Blanchard '24 & Mia Pascale '91



Trevor Scott '20, Micah Scott '24, Eleanor Wright-Scott '79, Peter Scott '82 & Amaliya Louis '14



Don Simpson '94 & Regan Simpson '24



Sandrine Tousignant '24 & Marc Tousignant '23



Jiri Tucker '91, Lysander Tucker D'Hollander '24 & Mieke Koppen Tucker '74



Virginia Cope, Chris Wright '91, Emma Wright '24, Tara Cope '92 & Angus Wright '26

Have a family member
graduating in 2025?

Come see us at the
Alumni Convocation
Photo Booth!

SUSTAINABILITY BLOOMS AT CONVOCATION

At Convocation 2024, family and friends had the opportunity to offer Bishop's graduates fresh flowers grown by local producers Emilie Turcotte-Côté, co-owner of Les Jardins d'etc (Bury, QC), and Robin Lang, owner of Wild Thing (Stanstead, QC). Through this remarkable partnership with *l'Association des productrices et producteurs des fleurs coupées du Québec*, Bishop's has reached an important milestone as the first higher education institution in Quebec to offer ecologically grown flowers. This collaboration allows Bishop's to engage the community in improving its sustainable performance and operate in an increasingly ecological and responsible manner, critical parts of the University's Sustainable Development Plan. The project was supported by the Sustainable Development Office, Doolittle's Co-op, and the Convocation organizing committee.

Most cut flowers imported to Canada come from distant locations including Colombia, the Netherlands, and California, meaning they travel a minimum distance of 5,000 km to arrive here. By buying local, Bishop's reduces its greenhouse gas emissions by substantially lowering the transportation distance of the flowers. This partnership also encourages a sustainable agriculture system that promotes ecological farming practices and ethical conditions while supporting local businesses run by women in the Eastern Townships. Furthermore, buying local gives us access to unparalleled freshness.

Those of you who attended Convocation surely noticed the many purple flowers within the floral arrangements. These flowers, specially grown for B.U. to honour the University's official color, were yet another unique option thanks to our local producers. Not only are purple flowers a rarity within the market, but the timing of the graduation ceremonies (early in the growing season) can be risky; if the weather is not cooperative, the flowers might not bloom on time. Luckily, our partners were ready to assume this risk,

and it was well worth it—many expressed their enthusiasm about the quality of the flowers and the delightful aroma that permeated the halls.



Robin Lang and Emilie Turcotte-Côté



HARVESTING KNOWLEDGE IN BISHOP'S COMMUNITY GARDEN

This year, a new project came to life at Bishop's: our very own Community Garden. It is the perfect place for gardeners to exchange with others, reconnect with nature, and grow their own food.

Open from March to October, this garden is part of the University's Sustainable Development Plan to promote the well-being of the community through ecological initiatives. Students, faculty, and staff are prioritized for the allocation of 70 plots, ensuring the project benefits the Bishop's community primarily.

The Sustainable Development Office aimed to bring the project to life in the most environmentally sustainable manner possible. Wood saved from an on-campus event was reused to create a shed for tools, compost bins, and decorative flower pots. To conserve resources, water is sourced from a nearby pond to nourish the plants.

One of the main goals behind the Community Garden is to increase food security on campus, especially among our students. With access to plots and free tools, students, staff, and faculty can grow their own food. During growing season, a walk around the garden reveals a variety of plants, including tomatoes, cucumbers, sweet peas, and more.

Community members are also gardening for special projects and cultural reasons. People from diverse backgrounds can cultivate ingredients for traditional dishes that may not be easily found in grocery stores. For instance, one member grew okra (lady's fingers) this summer, which is native to East Africa. In another example, the Indigenous Student Support Centre grew vegetables and made pickles for the students. Their long-term goal is to teach gardening skills to as many Indigenous students as possible and grow culturally relevant foods, helping them to achieve food sovereignty and reconnect with traditional knowledge. Finally, the Fine Arts Department grew flowers to create dye for artistic projects and make paper with plant fibers.

Long-term plans include building a gazebo, and we are actively seeking donations to make this \$25,000 project a reality. The gazebo will be a gathering space for more than just the gardeners; the hope is for students and community members to host lectures, workshops, and more.



Dress rehearsal of *The Importance of Being Earnest* production

CURTAINS UP ON EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

This summer, a small but dedicated group of Bishop's students, faculty, staff, and alumni put on the production of Oscar Wilde's famous comedy *The Importance of Being Earnest*. The plan, first proposed by current student and Production Manager Michael Gearey, was to perform at The Piggery Theatre in North Hatley at the end of August.

However, unfortunate miscommunications about venue bookings and a surprise roof leak meant the show had to be moved to Bishop's own Turner Studio Theatre mere days away from the performance dates. While challenging and unexpected, these circumstances provided the cast and crew, especially the students, with valuable experience in facing real-life challenges in the world of live theatre.

Current student, Stage Manager, and Co-Producer Tomas Peck saw this production as an opportunity to explore different roles: "During my time at Bishop's, I have been curious about stage managing, and this was the opportunity to see whether it would suit me. In all honesty, I do not think it does, but I liked the challenge. Producing, however, was something I thoroughly enjoyed and would like to do more of in the future!"

The change in venue proved to be a multifaceted challenge with pros and cons. Going from 246 seats to 100 meant a loss in ticket sales, which were to help pay for the production. The team also had to inform patrons who had pre-purchased tickets about the venue change, which proved more difficult than anticipated. However, the silver-lining was that all cast members had performed at Turner Studio before, meaning they were familiar with the space and technical resources. As such, prop setup and set construction went quickly and allowed them to save time.

The effort was certainly well worth it! All shows were sold out, and the audiences thoroughly enjoyed themselves. In fact, several viewers emailed the cast and crew to praise their performance.

The play was directed and co-produced by Bishop's Music Tutor, Louise Thibault, and the cast included current students as well as alumni **Morgan Doke '24**, **Laura Fernandez '24**, and **Sterling Mawhinney '88**.

Chancellor Daniel Fournier, former Principal **Michael Goldbloom, C.M.**, Chair of the Bishop's University Board of Governors **Murielle Lortie '91**, Principal **Sébastien Leber-Grenier**, former Chair of the Bishop's Board of Governors **Robert Hall '79**, and former Principal **Dr. Hugh Scott DCL '99**

A SPECIAL CELEBRATION IN TRIBUTE TO LEADERSHIP

A multipurpose and unique event took place in Hodder Hall on September 25 to honour former Principal **Michael Goldbloom, C.M.** and former Chair of the Bishop's Board of Governors, **Robert Hall '79**.

The highlight of the luncheon was the unveiling of Michael's portrait by renowned artist **Tony Harris '88**, who described in detail the elements of the portrait. The former Principal,

who was very moved, was at a loss for words, a rarity to be sure, after the veil was removed. However, he quickly composed himself and delivered a heartfelt speech congratulating and thanking Tony on the work, remarking in a comedic way his joy to be included with six all-star Montreal Canadiens, all of whom have had their portraits painted by Tony.

His speech also served as a tribute to Bob Hall, with whom he worked for close to a decade during periods of challenge and opportunity for Bishop's. "Bob was my mentor, sounding board, trusted advisor, constructive critic, supporter and, the nicest thing of all, he became my friend," Goldbloom commented.

Principal Leber-Grenier concluded the luncheon with his remarks on Michael and Bob's many achievements and on the sound state of affairs at Bishop's upon his arrival. He also thanked Michael and Fiona Macleod for their generosity in creating the newly endowed *Goldbloom-Macleod Fund* that will support the *Michael Goldbloom Women's Hockey Scholarship* and *The Fiona Macleod Campus Beautification Fund*, as well as provide support for the B.U. Singers.

Following the luncheon the group proceeded to the Peter Curry Marsh where a black walnut tree was planted in recognition of Bob Hall's volunteer contributions to the University during his tenure as Chair. A fitting end to a wonderful gathering of Bishop's finest.



Tony Harris '88 and **Michael Goldbloom, C.M.**



GROWING SUPPORT FOR THE COMMUNITY CUPBOARD

Launched in 2020, the Community Cupboard (CC) is a resource designed to combat food insecurity on campus and provide students in need with immediate access to free food and toiletries. While the rising cost of groceries has

been difficult for many, it has been especially trying for the student population. In the past two years, from October 2022 to 2024, the CC has handed out over 13,000 items. These range from non-perishable foods to bedsheets and pillows to personal hygiene products.

Bishop's and Champlain students can place up to four orders of up to 75 items per semester and can trust that their information remains completely confidential. Although the CC's primary goal is to relieve financial

stress by providing essentials in times of need, it is not intended to be a permanent solution for any one student. As such, there are counselling resources available to guide students and help them discover more sustainable and long-term food security and financial options.

In early 2024, the CC announced the grand opening of a new campus Thrift Store where students can find affordable clothing and promote sustainable practices by donating their used garments for reuse by others in need. This expansion is impressive considering the CC and Thrift Store are entirely run by staff and student coordinators and volunteers.

As this community knows well, it takes a collective effort to make a difference, which is why alumni and friends were invited to donate non-perishable goods and hygiene products during Homecoming 2024. With your help, over 235 items were donated to the CC in one weekend!

If you would like to donate to this crucial initiative from afar, you can do so online at ubishops.ca/give or by scanning the QR code on the left*. Thank you to everyone who has helped keep this resource up and running to support students in need.



2024 Homecoming Donations



A FRESH FIRST IMPRESSION

In May 2024, the University announced major renovations on the main entrance to campus in accordance with the Campus Master Plan. The project's main goals included creating a safe and comfortable pedestrian network, adding more greenery, and modernizing the underground infrastructure (water, sewage, and electrical).

The renovations were completed in time for the Fall Open House on November 3, and the difference is undeniable. The freshly paved road is flanked by sidewalks on each side as well as a series of elms and red maple trees. One sidewalk extends from the path near the *CPE Panda* daycare to the end of the Kuehner Residence, allowing Bishop's and Champlain students to safely walk across campus from the back parking lots. The pathway also includes additional lighting for extra security come nightfall. These alterations bring the University one step closer to becoming a fully pedestrian campus.

As the main entrance to campus, this roadway receives heavy traffic. It was therefore crucial for the renovations to transform this area into a more functional and safer route for all users. "Since the elaboration of the Campus Master Plan in 2012, the University had a vision of transforming the campus into a safer and more pedestrian-friendly site. The renovation of the main entrance was a strategic project in this conversion," says Céline Jury, Manager of Capital Planning and Projects in the Buildings and Grounds Office.

The construction also provided the perfect opportunity for campus beautification. "The integration of plant cover and trees was another key choice to minimize the visual presence of vehicle traffic in this busy area while creating a dignified approach to the University," affirms Céline. The upgraded look will undoubtedly leave a great first impression for prospective students and the next incoming class as they first arrive at their new home.

For more information on the Campus Master Plan, visit ubishops.ca/masterplan.

*If you donated to the CC during our annual Giving Tuesday Campaign—while the magazine was still on its way to you—thank you for your support!

SONOMA BRAWLEY: 3M NATIONAL STUDENT FELLOW

Sonoma Brawley, a third-year student in the Bishop's Music and Musical Theatre program, was named one of the 2024 *3M National Student Fellows* for her astounding leadership and involvement within the Bishop's community. The *3M National Student Fellowship* is the highest national recognition of student leadership in Canada; it is awarded to up to ten full-time students at Canadian post-secondary institutions each year.

Sonoma, a recipient of the *Chancellor's Excellence Scholarship* (now the *Michael Goldbloom Excellence Scholarship*) and a *Stephen A. Jarislowsky Student Fellow*, has been heavily involved at Bishop's since the early days of her higher education journey. As an Executive Member of the competitive dance team and Co-Lead of the Bishop's University Music Society, she is an active and valuable participant within Bishop's arts community. Sonoma has served as the Humanities Senator for the Bishop's University Students' Representative Council for three terms and was recognized for her contribution with the *Academic Impact Award* in 2023. Sonoma was also a recipient of the *Bishop's Exceptional Student Talent Project Fund*, which allowed her to pursue her passion for theatre and study Shakespeare in London.

In addition to her community involvement, Sonoma was selected as a *3M National Student Fellow* for her participation and research in projects that aim to reshape the classrooms and universities of today, such as the *Hope Circuits* project led by **Dr. Jessica Riddell**, which aspires to re-wire universities for human flourishing. Sonoma also joined the Online Learning Technology Consultant program, where she directly contributed to the design of 21st century classrooms. Sonoma's desire to amplify student voices and embody community-centered leadership is an inspiration for all.



DR. HEATHER LAWFORD: 3M NATIONAL TEACHING FELLOW

Dr. Heather Lawford, Full Professor in the Department of Psychology, is a Canada Research Chair in Youth Development and a leading thinker in generativity, a field that explores the human

ability and desire to benefit society in a positive way. A cherished transformative educator, Dr. Lawford has earned the distinguished 2024 *3M National Teaching Fellowship*, which offers the highest level of recognition for educational leadership and teaching at the post-secondary level across Canada for up to 10 Fellows annually.

Viewing her students as collaborators and encouraging them to have significant impact on their community is central to Dr. Lawford's approach to teaching. Indeed, the many awards she has received at Bishop's, such as the *William and Nancy Turner Teaching Award* in 2021 and the *Social Sciences Division Teaching Award* from the Students' Representative Council, are a testament to her successful student-centered methodology.

For over a decade, Dr. Lawford has been a supporter of the Students Commission of Canada, a non-profit whose goal is to amplify youth voices and help bring their community-centered ideas to life. She has also secured over \$8 million in research funding, much of which has been used to compensate students and young individuals fairly for their work, which may include co-designing conferences, participating in STEM research labs, or running student-led research in the field of Preventing Violent Extremism.

Dr. Lawford's latest project continues to help build generative and supportive youth spaces. She and **Dr. Jessica Riddell**, also a *3M National Teaching Fellow* (2015), are co-writing a new book titled *Unlocking Superhero Powers: Metaphors and Mentorship in the Marvel Cinematic Universe*, which is scheduled for release in 2025. The aim is to help readers recognize generativity traits as superpowers to ultimately make the world a better place.

PRINCIPAL'S TOUR

P.S. We were so excited to be back in Oakville after over 25 years that we forgot to take a photo. We'll make up for it next time!

Earlier this year, **Principal Lebel-Grenier** went to Oakville, Kingston, Montreal's West Island, Quebec City, and the Maritimes to meet more Bishop's alumni and friends with **Jacquie Scott '90**, AVP Alumni Relations and Philanthropy, and **Sterling Mawhinney '88**, Alumni Relations Coordinator. The chance to hear stories from your days at B.U. and to discuss the new and exciting things to come for current and future students is an opportunity the Principal deeply appreciates. See the next tour dates on the back cover of this issue.



On June 13, 2024, our chapter volunteers hosted seven **Welcome Home Reunions** across Canada to bring together our newest alumni in their post-graduation homes. These gatherings provided a great opportunity for young alumni to meet fellow graduates of all ages in their area and begin building a supportive network of like-minded individuals. Thank you to everyone who joined us!



A HISTORIC MILESTONE IN LEADERSHIP: WELCOMING JANE BRYDGES '95 AS THE FOUNDATION'S FIRST WOMAN CHAIR



Jane Brydges '95

The Bishop's University Foundation, established in 1971, is pleased to announce the appointment of **Jane Brydges '95** as Chair of the Foundation Board of Directors for a two-year term. Jane's appointment marks a significant milestone, as she becomes the first woman to hold this important role.

Jane is the Chief Executive Officer of Brydges and Associates Inc., an independent consulting firm she founded in Ottawa in 2010. With over 25 years of experience as a trusted Executive Advisor, Jane is known for her ability to lead global corporate and operational transformations. Her strategic, holistic approach consistently turns challenges into opportunities, delivering measurable results that drive growth and innovation.

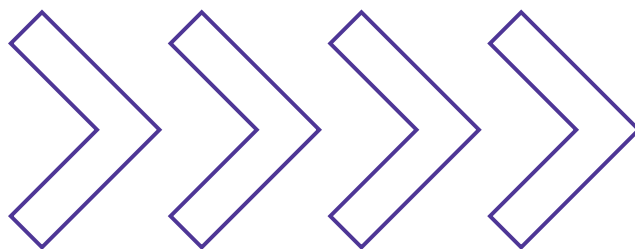
A proud Bishop's graduate with a B.A. in Political Studies, Jane furthered her education at M.I.T., earning a Master in City Planning, Environmental Technology, and a Master of Science in Technology and Policy. Since then, she has remained deeply connected to Bishop's, serving on the Board of Governors for nine years, being honored as one of the *Top 10 After 10* in 2013, named *Alumna of the Year* in 2023, and contributing as a Director on the Foundation Board. Jane's dedication to her *alma mater* also extends to mentoring young alumni through JUMP's Ottawa Chapter and volunteering during the *Leading the Way* capital campaign.

We are excited to welcome Jane into this new phase of leadership and look forward to the vision, expertise, and energy she will bring to the role.

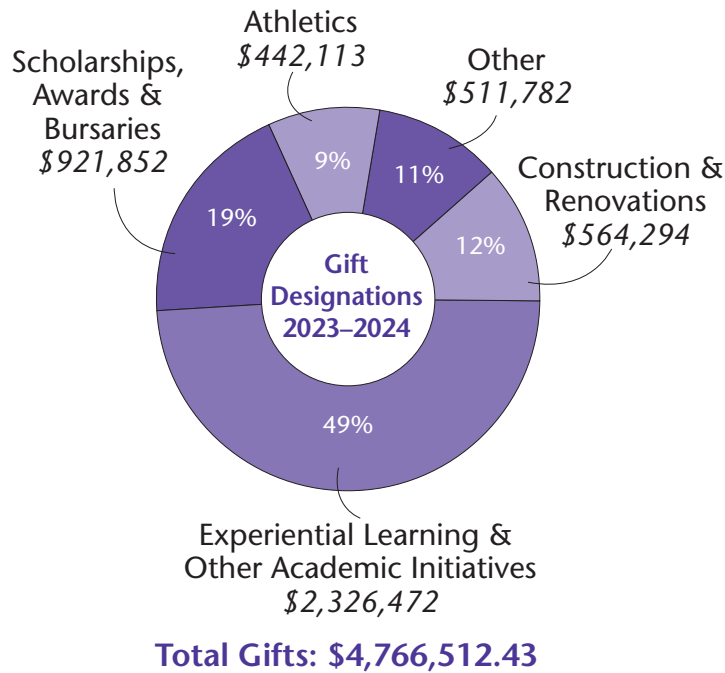
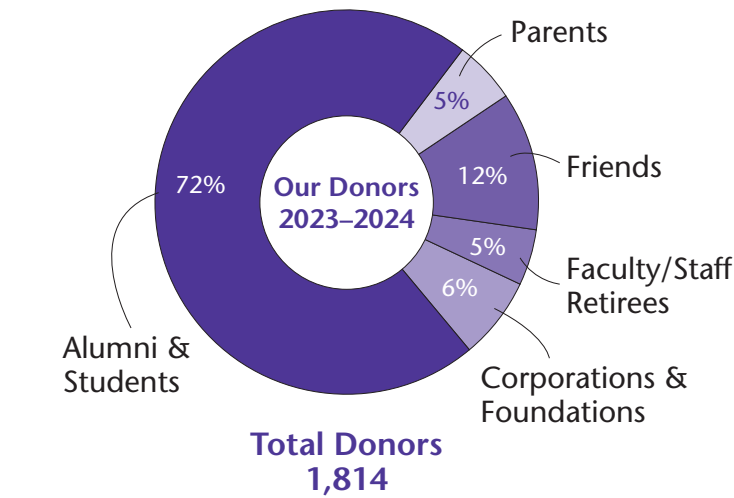
Bob Goldberger '79 retired from his professional career in June 2024 and stepped down as Chair of the Foundation Board in October. On behalf of the Bishop's community, we extend our best wishes to Bob and his wife Linda for their well-deserved retirement and express our heartfelt gratitude for their incredible generosity over the past three decades. Be well, Bob! See page 40 to read about Bob's commitment to Bishop's.

The following alumni joined the Board in October 2024 for a two-year term:

Michael Crichton '97
Louis Ialenti '06
Tyler Jensen Smith '19
David McBride '93
Tova White '92



2023–24 DONATION HIGHLIGHTS



2023-24 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIR

Robert Goldberger '79

VICE-CHAIR

Jo-Anne Ryan '83

DIRECTORS

Lynne Bridgman '89

Jane Brydges '95

Peter Dunn '66*

Robert Dunn '76*

Tim Griffin '71

Roger Hardy '93

Stephen Lloyd '89

Ronald Loucks '74

Tara Marsh '94

Marie Olney '83

Mark Saykaly '72*

EX-OFFICIO DIRECTORS

Daniel Fournier

Robert Hall '79

Dr. Sébastien Lebel-Grenier

Jacqueline Scott '90

HONORARY MEMBERS

George Hendy '68

Sydney McMorran '60, DCL '04

Dr. Hugh Scott DCL '99

David A. Williams '63, DCL '96

* Peter Dunn, Robert Dunn, and Mark Saykaly stepped down from the Board at the October 2024 AGM. We thank them for their service.

Bishop's Endowment at a Glance

\$79,128,151

Market Value
as of
April 30, 2024

\$4,534,544

Growth
During
2023–2024

9.95 %

Rate of
Return for
2023–2024

\$2,941,661

Contribution from the
Endowment to the
University in 2023–2024

THE DREAM OF AN ARBORETUM TAKES ROOT

The Bishop's University campus is a wonder to behold. Its prized location in the beautiful Eastern Townships, its stunning architecture, and its abundance of greenery and nature create a dream setting. But campus beautification does not just happen. The grounds Bishop's students walk on daily are attentively cared for by several dedicated groups at B.U., and like all projects and initiatives at the University, this is achieved with a commitment to sustainability.

The Buildings and Grounds Office (B&G), the Sustainable Development Office (SD Office), and the Tree Care and Biodiversity Working Group (TCB Working Group) collaborate to care for and maintain the existing trees and plants on campus while also working on initiatives to increase

the number of plants and introduce new flora to campus.

Mapping the Trees on Campus

Earlier this year, Dr. Elisabeth Levac, Full Professor and Co-Chair of the Environment, Agriculture, and Geography Department, launched an exciting project to take inventory of all trees on the Bishop's University campus.

Student interns Eva Corriveau, Biology Major, and Henry Mitchell, Geography Major, spent the summer identifying and photographing over 950 trees across campus, including those at the Old Lennox Golf & Ski grounds. In doing so, they helped establish a digital inventory of the campus trees while also identifying trees with underlying problems or unique specimens worth special

attention. Although they did not have time to cover all the zones they planned, the project will continue next year. The goal is twofold; first, Dr. Levac wishes to document the canopy areas to limit heat islands on campus, areas like parking lots or buildings that absorb and re-emit the sun's heat more than neighbouring natural landscapes; second, to eventually create a website with an interactive map of all the trees identified.

This project has already proven helpful for B&G, the SD Office, and the TCB Working Group. An accurate inventory of the campus trees allows for diseased trees to be treated and dangerous limbs or dead trees to be trimmed or cut down. Likewise, the list provides direction in their selection of new trees to be planted.

The most common trees in the central part of the Bishop's campus

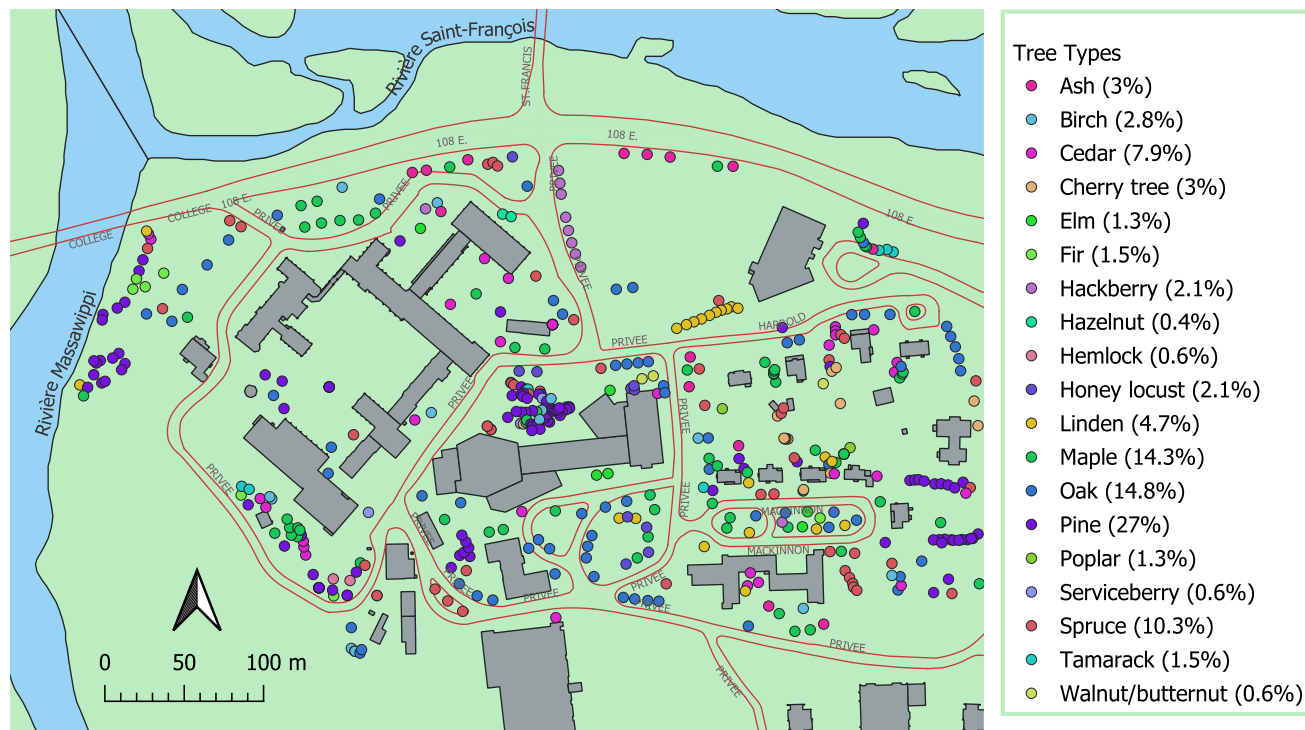
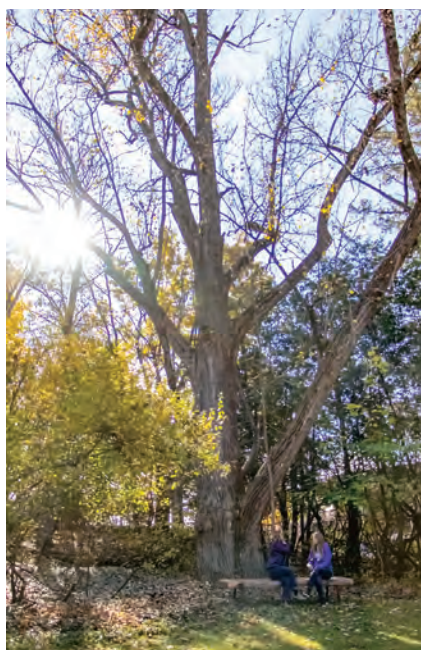


Illustration and information by Dr. Elisabeth Levac, Richard Noel, Eva Corriveau, and Henry Mitchell



One of the largest trees on campus, an Eastern Cottonwood behind Griffin House

The TCB Working Group would like for the Bishop's campus to become a recognized arboretum. Former Principal **Dr. Hugh Scott DCL '99** has supported campus beautification for many years and is passionate about expanding the biodiversity on these grounds. He brought forward the idea of planting each of Canada's Arboreal Emblems (a tree representing each province and territory), and the Working Group is hoping to procure a Western redcedar, the emblem of British Columbia, next. Dr. Scott says "An arboretum is our connection to the past, a delight in our present, and our commitment to the future. Some towering white pines can be seen in the earliest known lithograph of Bishop's from 1846, and they are still there. Since then, the planting and maintenance of trees has been a constant preoccupation as the campus has grown from 40 to over 550

acres. There are now over 60 species of trees, but the arboretum will never be 'complete.' Instead, like a tree, it will grow and branch out to provide peace and tranquility, to produce oxygen, and to sequester carbon—and to create memories for all!"

Last year, the three groups revived an old tradition by inviting the graduating class to plant 23 trees in honour of their time at Bishop's. The Class of 2024 followed suit and planted 24 trees near the new Community Garden (*read more on page 12*). These trees will take root and flourish over time, marking this spot as a special place to visit when these alumni return to campus for their 50th anniversary and see their trees fully matured.

Cultivating Sustainability

In addition to caring for and increasing the number of trees on campus, B&G and the SD Office have been working hard to continuously expand sustainable development efforts at Bishop's. One initiative has been the creation of pollinator gardens, areas of unused land where native wildflowers and vegetation have been planted to attract pollinators like bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. The benefits from these garden beds do not stop there—they reduce grass maintenance on campus and help control water fluctuation from heavy rain. So far, pollinator gardens cover about 9,000 square feet on campus.

Other initiatives include using electrical machinery whenever possible and attempting to reduce the use of salt on roads in the winter. B&G has also been careful to make good use of any viable trees that need to be

cut down for safety or construction by repurposing them into practical campus furniture. Some of these pieces have already been dispersed around campus while exciting new concepts are being developed. For example, B&G is working with the Students' Representative Council to create beer flight paddles for The Gait. They also plan on making more wooden benches with backrests and a bar with live edge slabs in the Hodder Hall pool room.



Pollinator Garden

Nature at Bishop's has taken root far beyond the soil; it is part of the University's identity and mission. It is this institution's responsibility and desire to care for and nurture this land for current and future generations of students on their educational journey. With groups like B&G, the SD Office, and the TCB Working Group cooperating to preserve and increase the number of trees on campus, as well as continuously introduce new sustainable initiatives, this vision is sure to flourish.

THE ART OF TEACHING

Dr. Serge Chalhoub '98, Associate Professor (Teaching), Small Animal Internal Medicine in the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Calgary, was named one of this year's *3M National Teaching Fellows*, an achievement he claims would not have been possible without Bishop's University.

Serge's university journey actually began at McGill. However, after his first class with over 600 students, a teaching assistant, and no professor in sight, doubt settled in. Having thrived at Centennial College in Montreal, where the teacher to student ratio was much smaller, Serge was unaccustomed to this impersonal environment. Despite his best efforts, he struggled in his classes and was failing by the holidays. Serge, who had always excelled in school and earned the *Governor General's Academic Medal* at CEGEP, now felt discouraged and unintelligent.

Not wanting to give up on his studies, he contacted Bishop's, and he was welcomed with open arms. The difference was undeniable; Serge found the friendly and positive atmosphere he was searching for. He joined the Biology Club, became a Residence Assistant, and worked for the Conference Office in the summer. Not only did he thrive socially, but his academic performance was back on track. The small class sizes, the responsive faculty, and the variety of learning experiences at B.U. made all the difference. Serge told us, "My time at Bishop's gave me the opportunity to gain confidence in myself and have the time and space to realize what made sense for me."

He recalls the kindness and expertise of several professors but

especially that of Dr. Kerry Hull, current Dean of Natural Sciences & Mathematics – AVP Research. When Serge graduated and decided to study veterinary medicine, the only



Dr. Serge Chalhoub '98

option in Quebec was the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at *l'Université de Montréal (l'UdeM)*. Although his average was in the high 80s, the program was incredibly competitive; he applied and was twice rejected. Dr. Hull then suggested he continue at B.U. as an Honours student and join one of her research projects. Serge believes this extra experience led to his acceptance, and he obtained his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 2004. Although the program was fast paced and demanding, Serge adapted thanks to his experience at Bishop's: "It taught me how to be resilient and provided me the tools to better study and approach new things."

His career path then led him to an internal medicine residency at the prestigious Schwarzman Animal Medical Center in New York where

he discovered his love of teaching. Shortly thereafter, he heard of a new veterinary school at UCalgary. Serge applied and was hired in 2012—he has taught there ever since.

Today, Serge models his teaching based on how he was taught at Bishop's—reflection and constant interaction with his own students. He also creates opportunities for them to better serve the local community. Inspired by the *Clinique des animaux des jeunes de la rue* when he was at *l'UdeM*, where students provided free veterinary services to the pets of youth living in the streets, he launched a similar clinic for disadvantaged Calgarians via the Calgary Urban Project Society. His third-year students offer free physical exams, vaccines, and other services they would otherwise only practice in their fourth year, encouraging them to use clinical reasoning with limited funds and gain real-life experience.

He also offers clinical rotations to the Alberta Animal Rescue Society and the Stoney Nakoda First Nations. These initiatives are hugely successful; the clients are extremely grateful, and the students can test their knowledge, improve their communication skills, break down biases, and gain deeper empathy.

Serge's commitment to listening to his students, to integrating community service into experiential learning, to breaking down barriers to veterinary care, and to teaching with compassion proves that he is truly deserving of the prestigious *3M National Teaching Fellowship*. His story should serve as a reminder that a solid foundation and a genuine passion for learning can go a long way towards mastering the art of teaching.

PURSuing NEW HORIZONS



Monica Li '23

When Monica Li '23 decided to change career paths from business to computer programming and robotics, Bishop's University was one of the few institutions in Canada that would accommodate her desire to pursue an M.Sc. in Computer Science.

After obtaining her B.B.A. at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Monica worked at PricewaterhouseCoopers where she discovered an interest in the more technical parts of her job, such as advanced techniques in Excel and Visual Basic for Applications (VBA), a programming language developed by Microsoft. She wisely chose to explore this passion and enrolled in a couple of Python programming language classes at her local community college, while also joining an online data camp to expand her knowledge of statistics and machine learning.

Once at Bishop's, Monica benefitted greatly from the expertise of her professors, especially that of her supervisor, Dr. Madjid Allili, Full Professor of Mathematics & Computer Science. He and Dr. Russell Butler, Assistant Professor of Computer

Science, were instrumental in shaping her research, and she is especially thankful for the many ways in which Bishop's faculty positively impacted her career path. Dr. Allili said, "I was very impressed by Monica's high level of motivation and dedication to hard work. She not only addressed her background gaps but also excelled in all her courses, consistently ranking among the top students. She showed great ability in carrying out research work, and her master's thesis provided valuable insights into the field."

Monica also seized numerous chances to engage in student life and enhance her practical work experience, serving as a Residence Assistant in Paterson Hall and as a Coordinator in the Computer Science Help Centre.

Bishop's opened the door for her to further engage with her areas of interest: the collective behaviours of decentralized robots (those without a central authority or single point of control) and the ways in which they interact and collaborate to solve problems or complete tasks. Now, she continues to delve into this research as a Ph.D. student in Computer Engineering at Polytechnique Montréal where she is part of the Making Innovative Space Technology (MIST) Lab. The MIST Lab's goal is to explore space using collaborative robots with arms mounted on unmanned ground vehicles like the one pictured here. These are designed to execute industrial tasks, such as smart warehouse management and collaborative assembly with humans. Monica's mission is to develop the algorithms enabling these robots to perform precise grasping and handling movements for a variety of scenarios.

It was at Polytechnique that Monica learned of the Vanier Canada Graduate

Scholarship (Vanier CGS), which offers the highest level of funding for graduate studies across Canada. She applied in October 2023 and was announced as one of the recipients in June 2024. Monica is both grateful and honoured to have been selected. Not only does this scholarship reinforce the validity of her work, but it also provides her with the support needed to advance her research and contribute meaningfully to her field.

Monica's positive experience has encouraged her to pay it forward, and she has chosen to do so by giving back to the Bishop's community. This fall, she helped students prepare for different scholarship applications by reviewing their application materials. Given the process she underwent for her recent award, she was well-suited to guide students on the timeline involved and the documentation needed for a successful application.

Clearly, Monica possesses the main characteristics the Vanier CGS program looks for in their candidates—academic excellence, research potential, and leadership—but her desire to give back and share her knowledge with the next generation of students further proves that she is incredibly deserving of this prestigious recognition.

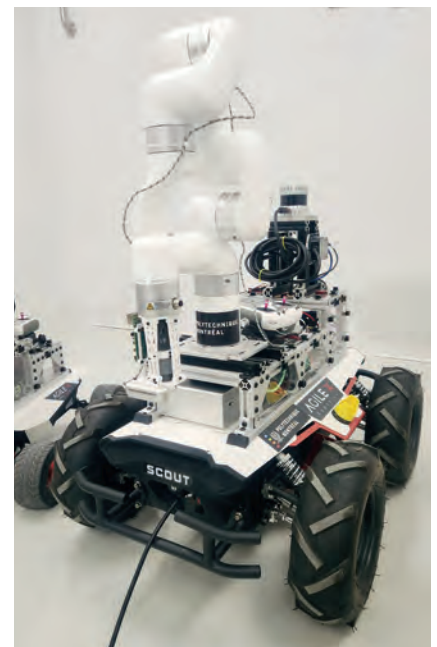


Photo: MIST Lab, Polytechnique Montréal

SOARING THROUGH EUROPE IN MEMORY OF WORLD WAR II

Dixon Kenner '82 has built an impressive career as a public servant with the Canadian Federal Government for over 30 years. Despite leading a busy life, Dixon still finds time to explore his passions: history and flying. Ever since his Bishop's days, Dixon has been interested in historical events, and as of late, has been concerned with a prevailing lack of knowledge of said events among the general population, which he believes can lead to dangerous precedents for our society. So, what better way to marry a passion for history with raising awareness on its importance than by joining the Board of Directors of the Tunison Foundation?

The Tunison Foundation, founded in 2017, is a non-profit flying museum whose goal is to educate the public about World War II and the sacrifices made, as well as preserve military aviation from this period. The Foundation accomplishes this goal by performing airworthy memorial flights to commemorate significant historical moments from WWII.

As a director of the Tunison Foundation, Dixon takes part in many flights and jumps as a crew chief on *Placid Lassie*, the 1943 Douglas C-47 Skytrain. This warbird is no replica; it is a military transport aircraft with actual World War II combat history at D-Day, Operation Market Garden, and the Battle of the Bulge.

From May to June 2024, Dixon and other Tunison members toured with *Placid Lassie* in England, France, and Germany for the *Legacy '24* tour to honour the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings and the 75th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift—defining moments of World War II and the Cold War, respectively. They began the journey



Placid Lassie and other D-Day veteran aircraft
over the White Cliffs of Dover

Photo: Dixon Kenner '82

by crossing the North Atlantic, an experience that Dixon described as long and cold. Additional D-Day related events were held in both Old Warden and Duxford, England.

Next, and perhaps the most memorable stop of the tour, was the Normandy Operations (June 1–10). The location of the D-Day Normandy landings 80 years ago provided the prime setting to plan a series of flights and activities. Almost 1,000 re-enactors and military took part in the jump operations from *Lassie*, and over 30 sorties were organized—an impressive feat! Accompanied by the D-Day Squadron and All Airborne Battalion, Dixon and Tunison members organized dedicated sorties, which included drops for the US Rangers and the Round Canopy Parachute Team. During the Normandy Operations, *Placid Lassie* also flew in formation with USAF C130s, other types of World War II aircraft—an amazing spectacle to witness from the Normandy beaches.

Next on the agenda was Wiesbaden, Germany for the 75th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift. Both *Placid Lassie* and *That's All Brother*, another D-Day veteran plane, dropped American and German paratroopers with parachutes of candy bins, a complex yet successful challenge. A stop in Tannheim, Germany, and a last-minute addition in Sywell, England completed this leg of the tour.

Dixon's passions are fulfilled through these airworthy memorials which help to create unforgettable exhibitions, while simultaneously reminding people of the importance of our shared history.



Placid Lassie

THE LEROUX SISTERS: A FAMILY OF STRENGTH, DEDICATION, AND SHARED SUCCESS



Photo: Jessica Ford Photography

Savannah Leroux '22, Ceilidh Leroux '24, Zenith Leroux

In the halls of Bishop's University, the Leroux sisters have made a lasting impression not only as standout athletes but as individuals who balance the demands of sports, academics, and careers with grace and determination. Originally from the West Island of Montreal, twin sisters **Ceilidh '24** and **Zenith**, and their eldest sister **Savannah '22**, have all had and continue to have an impact on B.U. athletics.

Ceilidh Leroux may have left the playing field behind, but her ties to athletics remain strong—she is working in the Sports Information Department at B.U. A graduate now forging her path in the professional world, she recalls, “I’ve always been there to cheer on Zenith and Savannah. Even when I couldn’t attend in person, I’d make sure to catch their games on livestream.” Having shared many sporting experiences with Zenith, Ceilidh now channels her supportive energy from the stands.

For Zenith and Savannah, the athletic journey continues. Zenith, a talented rugby player, emphasizes the importance of balancing sports and academics. “Planning and organization are key,” she shares. “Staying on top of due dates and starting assignments early has really helped me manage both worlds.” Despite the occasional injury, Zenith’s dedication to rugby has not waned. Her resilience in bouncing back from setbacks reflects her strong will, something she carries with her both on and off the field.

Savannah, also a rugby player, completed her master’s degree overseas and chose to return to Bishop’s and play out her eligibility as a Gaiter. By coming back, Savannah has been able to adopt a more laid-back approach to competition. “Sports are fun,” she says simply, but beneath that casual statement lies a foundation of discipline and commitment. Like Zenith, Savannah understands the rigors of managing both her athletic and academic responsibilities, a juggling act she has mastered through experience and careful time management.

Despite their busy schedules, the sisters remain connected. Whether it is through grocery shopping together, movie nights, or cheering from the sidelines, Ceilidh reflects on their relationship, saying, “It’s funny how people on campus react when they find out we’re all related. With Zenith and I being twins, it always catches people off guard.”

The Leroux sisters’ paths may be different—Ceilidh in her career and Zenith and Savannah on the rugby pitch—but their shared values of discipline and ambition unite them. Their story is one of perseverance, growth, and the enduring strength of sisterhood—a story that will continue to inspire those around them at Bishop’s University and beyond.

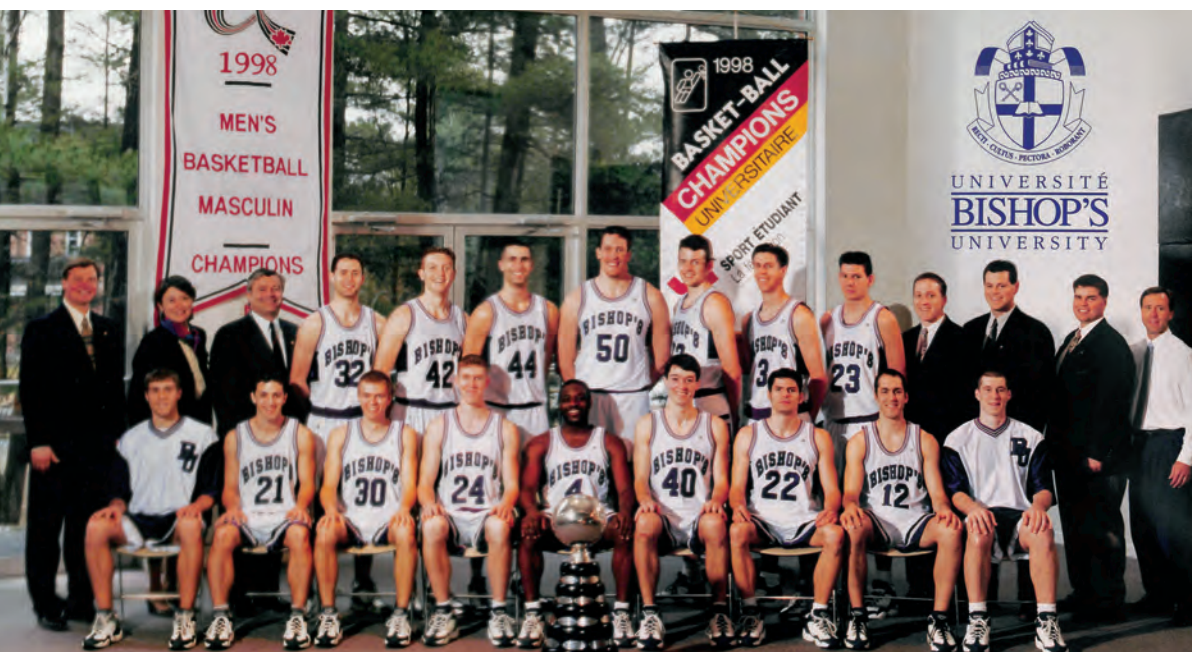


Photo: Francis Quinon

On November 9, the Bishop’s Gaiters Football team became the AUS Champions for the very first time! This is the first Football Championship since 1994! Congratulations Gaiters! Unfortunately, while the Gaiters fought hard, they ultimately fell short against the Laurier Golden Hawks in the Uteck Bowl, the U SPORTS national semi-final.



Held on Friday, June 14 at the Dufferin Heights Golf Club, the **2024 Gaiter Classic** set a record with net proceeds of over \$75,000 in memory of **Bernard Hamel '82** for our student-athletes. Led by co-chairs **Chris Forsythe '99** and **Mike Bresee**, the tournament welcomed 173 golfers in support of this great cause. Thank you to all who participated, contributed, and donated. The next edition will return to Dufferin on June 13, 2025. Stay tuned!



The 1997-98 Bishop's Gaiters Men's Basketball team was inducted into the **Sherbrooke Sports Hall of Fame** in the team category in September 2024 in recognition of the talent, teamwork, and dedication that led them to win the **W.P. McGee Trophy** at the National Championship Game in March 1998. They are the first and only team to earn a national title for the Gaiters Men's Basketball program.

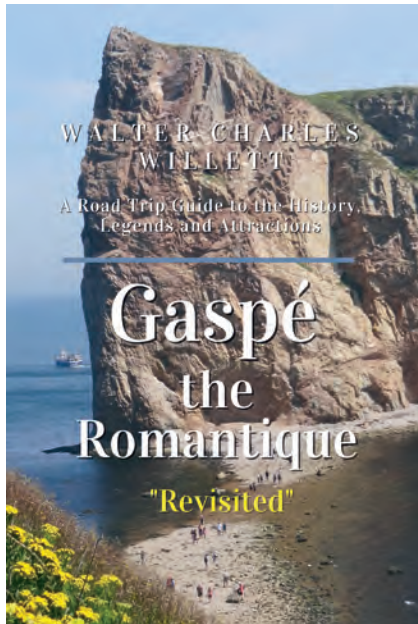
Standing (left to right): Eddie Pomykala – Head Coach; Janyne Hodder – Former Principal; Tom Allen '69 – Former Director of Athletics; Patrice Lemieux '99; Sam Rogers '00; Brian Woods '01; Andrew Carter '01; Robert Burns '99; Joel Sherbino '99; Markus Rodousakis '00; Chris Forsythe '99 – Student Assistant; Jeff Harris '91 – Assistant Coach; Tom Sutton '99 – Student Manager; and Steve King – Athletic Therapist.
Sitting (left to right): Shawn Craik '02, Sam Menard '00; Remi Aucoin '00; Stewart Clark '98 – Co-Captain; Ryan Torne '99 – Co-Captain; Kris Ruiter '99 – Co-Captain; Greg Southward '98; Jamie Woods '99; and Dwayne Ells '02

Matt McBride '96 – Director of Athletics and Recreation, Steve King, Remi Aucoin '00, Greg Southward '98, Eddie Pomykala, Patrice Lemieux '99, Robert Burns '99, Jamie Woods '99, Stewart Clark '98, and Ryan Torne '99

Photo : Yves Longpré/Panthéon des sports de Sherbrooke



ALUMNI BOOKS



In this loose narrative recounting a family road trip in the summer of 2021, author and native Gaspesian **Walter Willett '94** and his family embark on a quest to discover his Gaspé roots. His journey uncovers the authentic story of Gaspé, its folklore, myths, and modern tourist attractions. The story begins with a question: does the romantic Gaspé described in his ancestor Olive Willett's book, *Gaspé the Romantique*, still exist? Eighty-five years after her "love letter" to the Gaspé was published, Walter and family hit the road on a quest to retrace and reimagine Olive's journey. *Gaspé the Romantique Revisited*, a nonfiction travelogue-style guidebook, is ideal for anyone planning the famous road trip or seeking Gaspé's authentic history.

In the Shadow of War is **Adrienne Chinn's '82** latest novel and the third of four books in The Fry Sisters historical fiction series. In this installment, sisters Etta, Jessie, and Celie Fry face hardships in the years following the Great War. Etta heads to Hollywood to escape her painful past, whilst Jessie trains as a doctor to help others. On the plains of the Canadian prairies, Celie and her family are on the brink of losing everything. As whispers of a new war begin, each sister must face the possibility of the unthinkable happening again...



Madeleine Stratford '99, literary translator and Professor at l'École des arts et cultures at l'Université du Québec en Outaouais, recently translated Sarah Polley's novel *Run Towards the Danger* to French (*Cours vers le danger*). An impressive accomplishment that becomes even more interesting when you consider that she has previously translated Réjean Ducharme's *L'avalée des avalés* from French to English (*Swallowed*). It is incredibly rare and difficult for someone to translate both ways, but Madeleine's talent does not end there—she also professionally translates from German and Spanish to both French and English as well. By exploring and nurturing her love of languages and literature, Madeleine has developed an incredible set of skills and created an exciting career path for herself.

HOMECOMING 2024 MEMORIES

It was a pleasure to see so many familiar faces back on campus for Homecoming Weekend! Between the Jeff Cannon Memorial Golf Tournament, the Griffin House Pancake Breakfast, several Gaiters games, and the Tailgate, there were plenty of opportunities to catch up with old friends and make new memories.



In fact, Saturday's Football game saw the biggest crowd in over ten years with 2,500 fans supporting the team. We also welcomed a record-breaking 200 guests to the Pancake Breakfast, and we were pleased to see so many alumni, friends, students, staff, and faculty mingling over delicious homemade pancakes. Thank you to everyone who participated, and see you next year!





SHARE YOUR LEGACY

Did you love your time at Bishop's? Help us spread the word to your loved ones! Share your experience with your children or family members, and if they attend Bishop's University in the upcoming years, they will receive an exclusive gift to celebrate their Bishop's legacy.

**FOR
MORE INFO**



recruitment@ubishops.ca

Bishop's University

A Gem to Discover

● An English-language institution in a charming francophone region.

● A liberal education model that encourages you to explore your passions and think critically.

● Intimate class sizes and personalized educational experiences unlike anywhere else.

● Numerous hands-on experiential learning opportunities.

● A tight-knit community with multiple clubs and events, making it easy to get involved and feel at home.

● Five faculties with something for everyone: Business, Natural Sciences & Mathematics, Humanities, Social Sciences, and Education.

Barrie Wilson '61, Professor Emeritus of Humanities and Religious Studies at York University, has become Vice-President at the Academy for Lifelong Learning Toronto. The latter is a leader in adult education through peer-to-peer learning and offers workshops, talks, and walks for seniors who wish to remain fit intellectually and socially.

Justice Brian Stevenson '61 is retiring later this year after a remarkable 50-year career as a member of the provincial court, now the Alberta Court of Justice. His service began in 1974, even before the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms became law in 1982. He has undoubtedly made a profound impact over five decades, and we wish him well in his much-deserved retirement.



Justice Brian Stevenson '61

Tony Pacaud '61, David Williams '63, Winn Oughtred '64, and Jim Currey '65 came back to the Eastern Townships for the classes of 1962–66 reunion. While in town, they came to see us at Griffin House and enjoyed a tour of campus.

David Williams '63, Jacquie Scott '90, Winn Oughtred '64, Jim Currey '65, Bruce Stevenson '76, and Tony Pacaud '61



Photo: Emery G. Photography

Justin Quirion, Trevor Lovig '96, Xavier Gervais, John Milligan '63, Jordan Heather '14, Head Coach Cherif Nicholas, Will Mitchell '68, Mason McGriskin, and Tony Harris '90

Former Bishop's Football quarterbacks **John Milligan '63, Will Mitchell '68, Tony Harris '88, Trevor Lovig '96, and Jordan Heather '14** got together with current Gaiters Football players for a special photo op at Homecoming 2024.

Stu Henry '63 recently hosted some of his classmates to lunch in Cobourg, Ontario.

The **Rev. Gene Ross '71** and the **Venerable Dean Ross '74** have retired in Ottawa to be close to family. They were both teachers in the Eastern Townships and ministered over 50 years in the Anglican Diocese of Quebec. Best wishes for a long and happy retirement!



Stu Henry '63, Rodney Smith '64, John Hambly '63, Dave (Lefty) Ewart '64, Glen (Higg) Higginbotham '64, and Gord Ewart '64



Fred Partington '71 welcomed the cast from this summer's production of *The Importance of Being Earnest* to his home for a lovely dinner. The cast and crew included B.U. alumni, faculty, staff, and students.



Standing: Fred Partington '71, Julien Novak, Louise Thibault, Tomas Peck. **Seated:** Laura Fernandez '24, Carly Wagschal, Kasimir MacDougall, Morgan Doke '24

Michael '72 and Tania Cahill had the opportunity to meet **Allyson Sirois '24**, last year's recipient of the *Cahill Study Abroad Award*. They had a lovely discussion about Ally's experience as a student at Monash University in Australia and the impact this support has had on her career path.



Tania Cahill, Allyson Sirois '24, Jacquie Scott '90, and Michael Cahill '72

Don '71 and **Liz Mills '72** caught up with **Principal Sébastien Lebel-Grenier** and AVP Alumni Relations & Philanthropy **Jacquie Scott '90** over lunch in Halifax in May.



Don Mills '71, Jacquie Scott '90, Liz Mills '72, Sébastien Lebel-Grenier

Several Bishop's alumni participated in the Rocky Mountain Adaptive ForeAbility golf tournament held at Silvertip Golf Resort in Canmore in June, including **Monica Olney '74, Jocelyn Comtois '75, Christopher Olney '79, Marie Olney '83, Alexandre Bourque-Labbé '21, and this year's Olney Intern, Juliana Mantila-Orbegozo '25.**



Alexandre Bourque-Labbé '21, Jocelyn Comtois '75, Juliana Mantila-Orbegozo '25, Andrew Olney, Marie Olney '83, Monica Olney '74, and Christopher Olney '79

John Bood '78 came back to campus in June after more than 40 years and visited us at Griffin House with his spouse, Ellen.



Ellen Baran, John Bood '78, and Alumni Relations Coordinator, Sterling Mawhinney '88

Marshall Button '80 has been named the 2024 *Visual Arts Award's Laureate*, one of four awards from the *Lieutenant Governor's Awards for High Achievement in the Arts*, which recognize the outstanding contribution of New Brunswick artists.

After an inspiring 42-year career championing the benefits of amateur sport, **Sue Hylland '81** has retired from her latest position as Senior Director of Recreation and Varsity Sports at the University of Ottawa. Sue was also awarded the *Woman of Distinction Award* at the 2024 Ontario University Athletics Honour Awards Banquet in recognition of her impact and contributions within the OUA community. Congratulations on your retirement, Sue!

Adrienne Chinn '82, author of *The Fry Sisters* historical fiction series, is now hard at work on her sixth novel and is developing a new Certificate in Historical Fiction Writing for West Dean College in London, launching next year.

Sarah Perry Spencer '87 returned to campus with her daughter, Jemima, and proudly helped her settle in for her first year at Bishop's.



**Sarah Perry Spencer '87
and Jemima Perry-Spencer**

Mark Gandey '89 was appointed Interim Dean of the Williams School of Business at Bishop's.

Linton Carter '89 started her new role as Chief Development Officer at the Trans Canada Trail in November 2024. The Trans Canada Trail is the largest recreational trail in the world, spanning over 28,000 kilometers on land and water.

Rob Crysdale '91 and his father, William Crysdale, started a fundraiser for Parkinson's seven years ago when his father was diagnosed. To date, they have raised over \$300,000 for Parkinson's research and programs. This fall, they held a golf tournament to raise funds for *Living Better with Parkinson's*, an organization that runs programs for



*Back: Christopher Irwin '90, Jay Rosenfeld '90, Michael (Pudge) Ride '90, Alastair Griffin '90, Phil Frappier '92, Andrew (Ziggy) Fraser '91, Chris Vaughan '91, Will Boake '90, Marcus Hulton '92, and Rahul Paul-Chowdhury '90
Front: Clifford Brown '04, Ian Cleghorn '91, Rob Crysdale '91, Ken Blakely '90, John Spencer '91, and Lynne Bridgeman '89*

people with Parkinson's, improving their quality of life, in the greater Georgian Bay area. A great number of Bishop's grads attended in support of their friend and this great cause. They plan to host another golf tournament fundraiser in the fall of 2025.

Abraham Blair '91 successfully earned his Ph.D. from the Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning at the University of Toronto/Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. His dissertation was titled "Factors Contribution to Mathematics Success in Grade Eight Black Males." He plans to teach at the university level in the future.



Abraham Blair '91

Raffi Sossoyan '92, Chief Financial Officer at Vision Marine, was named among the *Top CFOs of Montreal* for 2024.

Pasquale Salvaggio '98 was appointed High Commissioner of Canada in Nigeria and Permanent Representative of Canada to the Economic Community of West African States.

Stewart Clark '98 visited campus for the first time in 15 years. He had the chance to visit Griffin House and catch up with his friend and past basketball teammate, **Robert Burns '99**.



Robert Burns '99 and Stewart Clark '98

Tara Hurst '99 has started a new role as a stipendiary lecturer in Biochemistry at St Edmund Hall, University of Oxford for one year. This is in addition to her current role as Nipah Virus Programme Manager in the Pandemic Sciences Institute, University of Oxford, where she has been since January 2023. Prior to that, she spent four years as a lecturer and senior lecturer in Biomedical Sciences at Birmingham City University.

Erin MacWilliam '04, Tory Emery '04, Eliza McKnight '04, and Christine Adams '04 enjoyed a weekend in Magog and on the Bishop's campus to celebrate their 20th graduation anniversary and 20 years of friendship.



Eliza McKnight '04, Tory Emery '04, Christine Adams '04, and Erin MacWilliam '04

Alexandre Demers '07 has been appointed to the Bishop's University Board of Governors.

Lyssa Paquette '14 received the 2024 *Young Townships Leader Award* from the Townshippers' Association, which is presented annually to select Townshippers aged 15 to 35 who have demonstrated leadership within the Eastern Townships' English-speaking community through their actions at school, work, or in the wider community.



Sasha Zinovich '17 and Sean Smallwood '17

Sasha Zinovich '17 and Sean Smallwood '17 visited campus in July. Having always left campus in the spring while they were students, they had never seen the beauty of Bishop's during the summer. It is safe to say they were in awe!



Virginie B '18

Virginie B '18 released her new hyperpop album, *Astral 2000*, in September.

James Hanoomansingh '18 has begun law school at the University of Alberta.

Florence-Olivia Genesse '18 has been awarded a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Doctoral Fellowship of \$120,000 for her Ph.D. research project in Criminal & International Law at Durham University in England.



Florence-Olivia Genesse '18

Kassandra Johnson-Desnoyers '21 received one of the 2024 *You Shine Awards* granted by the Western Québec School Board in recognition of her work with the Black Student Alliance in the high schools where she works.



Kassandra Johnson-Desnoyers '21



Pascale Desmarais '22

As a Games Coordinator, **Pascale Desmarais '22**, organized the arrivals and departures for Team Canada at the Paris 2024 Olympics.



**Georgie Lapierre '23 and
Jeremy Audet '22**

Jeremy Audet '22 won the University of Lethbridge's nationwide *Bridge Prize*, a short story contest that awards

over \$10,000 in prizes to the winner and three finalists. He has also been named a finalist for the 2024 *Montreal International Poetry Prize*. When visiting family in the area, **Jeremy** and **Georgia Lapierre '23** stopped by Bishop's to re-explore campus and come see us at Griffin House.

Amelia Digaletos '24 has been awarded the *Marjorie Gawley Award* from the Association of English Teachers of Quebec. This award is given to a pre-service teacher in their final year of the B.Ed. program who has demonstrated exemplary teaching in the field of English Language Arts. This is the first year in at least nine years that a B.U. student has been awarded this prize.

HIKING FOR MIRACLES: BECOMING A TRAILBLAZER FOR FUNDRAISING



Laurie Gagnier's '92 story is a testament that giving back not only helps others but can also lead to personal fulfillment. In the early days of the Covid-19 pandemic, Laurie was battling breast cancer. One day, while doing her radiation treatment, she saw a young boy on a hospital bed who was about

to receive his treatment in the adult hospital since the Children's hospital treatment centre was full that day. As someone who has always championed children, as a camp counsellor and coach and as a parent and grandparent, this particular scene broke Laurie's heart.

For 25 years she has donated a portion of her income to the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, but Laurie believed she could do more. She wanted to make a difference while doing something challenging and out of her comfort zone to honour the difficulties faced by those young patients. That's when Laurie decided on backpacking. Laurie thought to herself, "Well, I can walk...

but if I'm going to walk, it needs to be hard. Carrying everything you need to live on your back—food, water, tent—that's hard."

After a successful backpacking trial that raised \$30,000 for her local hospital, Laurie is now taking on an even bigger challenge: hiking the Appalachian Trail. She will hike 3,536 km from Georgia to Maine for six months in hopes of raising \$50,000 in support of the 170 Children's Miracle Network hospitals throughout North America.

Evidently, giving back is important to Laurie, and she encourages everyone to find a way to make a difference, big or small. As for choosing the best cause to get involved in, Laurie says it's important to choose one that

speaks to your heart while creating fun for yourself.

To follow along visit Laurie's Instagram page @HikingForMiracles. To learn more, feel free to reach out to Laurie at canadianbaconhikes@gmail.com.



Bishop's was pleased to welcome three new members to the Executive Team this summer. Each will be essential in shaping and advancing the University's mission and strategic vision. We wish them the best of luck in their new roles!



Danai Bélanger,
Vice-Principal Student Affairs

Having worked as Director of Student Experience at Mount Allison University, Danai Bélanger comes to Bishop's with a wealth of experience and knowledge.

In her previous role, she provided strategic, financial, and administrative direction on student affairs as well as student support services and programs. She likewise worked on the development and implementation of anti-racism, sexualized violence, and student conduct policies.

Danai has also supervised internationalization initiatives as well as campus food security, alcohol and harms reduction, student safety, and engagement programs.

As the new Vice-Principal Student Affairs at Bishop's, she is responsible for the continued enhancement of the quality of student life. She oversees the coordination of Student Services, ensures respect for the Charter of Student Rights and Responsibilities, and works closely with the Students' Representative Council as an active listener, advisor, and partner.

Danai holds a B.A. in English Literature from Memorial University, an Immigration Consultant Certificate from Humber College, and a Master of Education in Diversity Education from the University of British Columbia. Danai is also a Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultant.



Geneviève Gagné,
Secretary General

Before coming to Bishop's, Geneviève Gagné served as Interim Secretary General at *École nationale de l'administration publique* in Quebec City. Prior to this, she held various management roles at *Université du Québec à Montréal*, mainly within the *Faculté de science politique et de droit* and the office of the *Vice-recteur à la vie académique*. Geneviève's extensive experience in university administration and governance will undoubtedly serve her well in her new position.

As Bishop's new Secretary General, her duties include supporting and coordinating services required to assist the work of the governing bodies of Bishop's University, ensuring the University is in compliance with government policies and legislation, coordinating access to legal services, and implementing and interpreting regulations and policies adopted by the Board of Governors and Senate, among others.

Geneviève holds a law degree from *Université de Montréal* and an M.B.A. from *Université du Québec à Montréal*. She is a member of *l'Ordre des comptables professionnels agréés*.



Annick Lambert, Associate Vice-Principal, Recruitment, Marketing and Communications

Annick Lambert comes to Bishop's from the private sector, where she has held a number of senior leadership roles in Marketing and Communications in the technology, aerospace, and pharmaceutical industries, including in large multinational organizations like CGI, Novartis, and Pratt and Whitney.

Annick has extensive experience in reputation management, marketing and communications strategies, and business and stakeholder engagement. Her business background will help bring to life new and unique strategies to best position Bishop's in the coming years.

In her new role, Annick oversees both the Recruitment and Marketing/ Communications Departments at Bishop's. She and her teams are focusing on developing new plans to market the University to prospective students, harmonising communications within the B.U. community (both on and off campus), and guiding projects essential to Bishop's branding and reputation.

Annick is a certified Corporate Director and holds an Executive M.B.A. and a B.B.A. from *Université de Sherbrooke* and a graduate diploma in Commerce from *École supérieure de commerce et de management* in Poitiers, France.

We remember the following alumni and friends with fondness and sorrow. (Compiled from information sent to the Alumni Relations & Philanthropy Office before October 7, 2024.)

ALUMNI

Sylvia Burt Smith '55 on October 4, 2024. Predeceased by her husband, Garth Smith, and her siblings, **Audrey '48**, **Marion '50**, **Robert '57** and **Ralph '60**, Sylvia was heavily involved in the Bishop's community, both as a student and an alumna. In 1991, she was inducted into the Bishop's University *Wall of Distinction* in recognition of her dedication to Bishop's Athletics. As a student, she captained the Women's Basketball team and was named *Most Valuable Player* from 1953 to 1955. After graduating, she proceeded to coach the team for two years. She was also an excellent golfer and won the Quebec Provincial Senior Ladies Championship in 1987.

Sylvia was a strong supporter of the Gaiters Basketball and Golf programs. She is fondly remembered by many athletes from the 70s and 80s for her famous chili dinners. She is survived by her brother, **John '66**, her children, **Kimball '85** (**Lisa Welden-Smith '82**), Jocelyn, and Vicki (**Andy Ochman '94**), and her many grandchildren, including **Andrew '13** and current Gaiters Men's Golf Coach, Ryan Smith.

Ed Shane '61 on July 23, 2024.

Peter Gordon '62 on June 27, 2024. He is remembered by his Bishop's family members and cousins, including **Scott '60**, **Ian '63**, **Peter '70**, and **Tim Griffin '71**.

Gordon Bennett '67 on November 2, 2021.

Charles MacLennan '70 on May 30, 2024. He is survived by his spouse, Sylvie Boivin, his sons Stephen and **Robert '98**, and his brothers-in-law, Steve and **Victor Newton '76**.

Bruce Durrant '72 on July 11, 2024. He is survived by his spouse, **Wendy Durrant '70**.

Jeff Salvis '75 on March 30, 2024.

Wenda Bailey '79 on May 20, 2024. She worked in the Library Learning Commons in the position of Library Shelves & Special Projects.

Barb Custeau '84 on May 12, 2024. While many students and community members knew Barb as a Library Assistant in the Library Learning Commons, a position she held since 2001, her career at Bishop's actually began before that. After graduating, Barb began working full-time at Dewhurst Dining Hall as Headwaitress. A special career milestone was her involvement with the preparation of the Royal Visit of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, who visited the campus in 1989. Barb leaves behind her husband, Doug, and her sister, Judy, who also worked at Bishop's.

Viktors Trencs '85 on April 21, 2024.

Louise Gendron Dougherty '11 on April 20, 2024. She is survived by her spouse Peter Dougherty, and her children, **Alyson '15**, **Erin '24**, **Liam '20**, and Peixuan.

FRIENDS

Arnold "Rodney" Bray on April 20, 2024. Arnold began working at Bishop's in 1984 as a part-time labourer and became a full-time employee in Shipping and Receiving at the Bookstore in 1989. He retired in 1999. He is survived by his spouse, Marilyn King, his children, **Jeffrey '89** (**Shelley Gardner '06**) and Donna, his siblings, Norma and **Gary '66**, and his grandchildren, including **Alyssa '20**, **Joshua '19**, and **Lynsey '18**.

Dale Kinder on May 1, 2024. Dale was a most beloved bartender at the Golden Lion Pub for many years.

Dr. Harvey White on May 5, 2024. Dr. White was a professor in the Department of Religion at Bishop's for 42 years and an indispensable member of the B.U. community. He was the co-founder of the Liberal Arts Program, a devoted fan of the Gaiters Football and Basketball programs, as well as a great supporter of the arts, particularly the St. Mark's Chapel Choir and the B.U. Singers.



Dr. Harvey White

Ronald Mills on May 14, 2024. He worked for the Buildings and Grounds Department at Bishop's from 1989 to 2007. His Bishop's family includes his sons, **Marc '03 (Amanda '03)** and **Jason '04**, and his granddaughter, **Raya Droppo '24**.



Pamela Eby

Pamela Eby on August 9, 2024. Pam was an organist, a staunch supporter of the St. Mark's Chapel, and an organ tutor to many students. She also taught courses in the School of Education and was awarded the *Certificate for Teaching Excellence* by the Students' Representative Council in 2003. In addition, she worked in the Writing Proficiency Centre from 2010 to 2018 and helped many students improve their writing skills.

Pam had a passion for art and took several Fine Arts courses at B.U.; she also participated in multiple vernissages at the Uplands Cultural & Heritage Centre. In fact, both Lennoxville's official logo and Bishop's sesquicentennial logo were created by Pam. The Bishop's logo is prominently displayed as a stained-glass window at the entrance of McGreer.

She is survived by her spouse, Dr. Jack Eby, retired Professor from the Music Department, and their children, **Merran '10** and **Michael '12**. If you would like to make a gift in Pam's memory, please visit ubishops.ca/give and type "Pam Eby Memorial Fund" in the "other" designation option.

Maria Bandrauk on August 24, 2024. Maria spent many years at Bishop's, first as the Coordinator of Continuing Education, then advancing to Director, while also serving as an English instructor.

Frank Smith on September 17, 2024. Frank was a dedicated employee at Bishops for many years. He began as a janitor in the Building and Grounds Department, then became a maintenance worker in the boiler rooms, and eventually became a stationary engineman until he retired in 2007. He worked alongside his twin brother, Edward Smith, who passed away last year. He is survived by his wife, **Merrylou Smith '97**.

Dr. Dieter Riegel on September 17, 2024. Dr. Riegel started working at Bishop's in 1968 and stayed until his retirement in 1999. He was instrumental in forming the Bishop's University Faculty Association and helped establish the first collective agreement. The Professor of German Studies loved teaching and interacting with his students. He often attended services at St. Mark's Chapel, was named *Professor Emeritus*, and was an active member of the Association of Bishop's University retirees.

Gordon "Beef" Ross on September 18, 2024. He was head coach for the Bishop's Gaiters Football team for six years and coached the 1954 championship team, which was inducted into the Bishop's University *Athletic Wall of Distinction* in 2009.

WEDDING BELLS



Maghen Eisan '14 married **Alexandre Fournier '14** on July 13, 2024.

Samatha Wall-Provost '15 married **Payton Lemieux '15** on October 4, 2024. **Alex Millin '15** was their guest and witness.



Courteney Magwood '18 married **Nicholas Cumby '19** on September 15, 2023.



Alex Millin '15, Samatha Wall-Provost '15, and Payton Lemieux '15

BIRTHS

Hilary Keats '16 and Josh Roberts welcomed Colson Roberts on October 25, 2023.



Colson Roberts

Anna Clark '11, Matthew Pereira '11, and big brother James welcomed Faye Kimberley Pereira on February 20, 2024.



Faye Kimberley Pereira

A LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP AND GENEROSITY: BOB GOLDBERGER '79 STEPS DOWN AS FOUNDATION CHAIR

*Few names are as deeply connected to Bishop's University as **Bob Goldberger**. In 1979, Bob received his B.B.A. from B.U., then completed his M.B.A. in Finance at McGill. He built a successful career in financial services while maintaining a lifelong dedication to philanthropy and support for the institutions that played pivotal roles in his life. Bob and his wife, Linda, have supported numerous causes and projects at B.U., such as their Goldberger Athlete Leadership Awards (GALA)—in support of student-athletes excelling in the classroom, community, and athletics—the Women's Soccer program, the Goldberger Football Team Room, upgrades to the Women's Basketball team room, and renovations to Griffin House, to name a few.*

My journey with B.U. began in 1976 when **Bruce Coulter DCL '98**, the football coach at the time, found a \$1,000 per year scholarship for me. That scholarship helped me afford to come to Bishop's, my dream university. I played on the team for three years, and my fondest memories of Bishop's are from my association with football. Not just the games, but the practices, the teamwork, and the relationships. When you are part of such a large team, you can quickly develop numerous friendships that will last for years.

About 20 years after graduating, it dawned on me that I was able to go to Bishop's because someone donated the money for my scholarship. It was then I decided I wanted to do the same. My wife Linda, although not a Bishop's graduate herself, supported my choice, and we have been funding the *GALA Awards* since 1998. This year, 15 student-athletes have received financial aid from these awards. As a former Gaiters Football player, I know how much time and dedication are required of student-athletes. It brings Linda and me great joy to know that we can relieve some of their financial stress and help them stay focused on their classes and their sport.

This year, I retired from both my professional career and as Chair of the Bishop's University Foundation

Board of Directors. While I worked for a total of 44 years, I have been an Investment Advisor for the past 32 years. I have always championed the importance of sustainable growth and the preservation of wealth, which I believe allowed me to properly counsel my clients and earn their loyalty.



Bob Goldberger '79

It is also this logic that has guided me in my commitment to supporting Bishop's. I have been a member of the Foundation Board of Directors for the past 20 years. I was Chair for seven years, Vice-Chair for six, a member of the Investment Committee for 18 years, and a member of the Executive Cabinet for the *Leading the Way* campaign that raised \$44.5 million.

I joined the Foundation Board to help provide students the best Bishop's experience possible. This has always been our mantra.

Linda and I strongly believe in the importance of philanthropy, which means the desire to promote the welfare of others. This is why we have supported both the education and healthcare sectors by donating to Bishop's, McGill, and The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. Every year, we receive letters from recipients of the *GALA Awards*, whom we lovingly refer to as "our kids." It is our great pleasure to read them all. When they tell us how our support has made it possible for them to attend Bishop's, and how they want to give back to the University one day, the universe makes sense. Our wish is that our support is helping to graduate good people dedicated to sport, education, and community. Linda and I look forward to hearing from "our kids" for many years to come.

Be well,

Bob Goldberger '79

Former Chair
of the Bishop's University
Foundation Board of Directors

Your Gift Today, Their Success Tomorrow

~ Empower the Next Generation of Students ~



Adam '00 and Marnie Jezewski '00

*Establishing
a scholarship,
award, or
bursary is a
wonderful way
to support
Bishop's students
and give back to
your alma mater*

Meet **Marnie '00** and **Adam Jezewski '00**, proud Bishop's alumni who value giving back to the next generation of student-athletes.

Inspired by her older sister's positive experience at Bishop's, Marnie chose B.U. because of its small class sizes, the opportunity to play multiple sports, and the chance to study abroad. She immediately found all this and more; she joined the soccer team, played field hockey and intramural volleyball, went on exchange to Amsterdam, and formed life-long connections with her residence friends.

Much like Marnie, Adam was keen on finding a tight-knit community for his university experience. When then Coach Ian Breck recruited him for the football team, and he visited campus for the first time, he knew that Bishop's was the right fit for him. From playing football and multiple intramural sports, to working at BCS and the Pub (now known as The Gait), Adam is grateful for all the opportunities Bishop's offered him.

Bishop's brought Marnie and Adam together in their last year of university, and they got married three years later. Thankful to B.U. for a gratifying university experience, the young couple decided to give back by establishing the *Jezewski Family Award*. This award encourages student-athletes to reach their full potential while getting involved in the community. Hearing from the recipients is truly meaningful for Adam and Marnie; they are honoured to know they are making a difference and to continue being a part of the B.U. world.

Establishing a scholarship, award, or bursary is a wonderful way to support Bishop's students and give back to your *alma mater*. Your gift will help students flourish and inspire them to pay it forward.

2025

ALUMNI & FRIENDS RECEPTIONS

Central

Oakville, ON – May 5
Kingston, ON – May 6
Pointe-Claire, QC – May 7
Quebec City, QC – May 8

Maritimes

Charlottetown, PEI – April 7
Fredericton, NB – April 8
Halifax, NS – April 9
Moncton, NB – April 10