BUILDING A FOUNDATION FOR RECONCILIATION
A New Vocation for Divinity House

IN THIS ISSUE: CLIMATE CHANGE AND YOU + INAUGURATION OF THE NEW SCIENCE LABS + CELEBRATION OF WOMEN IN SPORTS + LOTS MORE
My original plan was to create an endowment through a bequest. However, I awoke one day and realized that I had the financial stability to put my plan into action while I am still alive. Students could benefit from my bursary immediately and I could take advantage of substantial tax savings. It didn’t take long to create the Reverend Ray Jensen Bursary and to start helping Bishop’s students today. This is one of the best decisions I have ever made! — Ray Jensen ’50

Remembering Bishop’s in your Will is an excellent way to create a lasting legacy. A gift in your Will, big or small, is a gift to future generations... for generations to come.

Thank you for considering an Estate Gift to Bishop’s!
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Are you receiving our email updates? If you are not, please write to us at alumni@ubishops.ca so we can make sure we have your latest contact information. Also check your junk/spam mail folder, as our emails may sometimes end up there.
COLLEGE DAYS WILL LINGER EVER IN OUR HEARTS

“I also went to Bishop’s” followed by a smile and that warm feeling you get upon meeting a fellow BU graduate. Most of us have a few stories of realizing in discussion with someone that we share the same wonderful alma mater.

One of mine dates back to 2008 when I was working as a consultant on a fundraising campaign for a respite care facility for autistic children on the West Island of Montreal.

It was a tough sell, but the Chair of the campaign never gave up, and I admired his enthusiasm and tenacity. At some point the subject of our university education came up, whereupon Gary Whittaker ’69 and I realized we had both graduated from BU – 21 years apart.

And as always happens, questions like these ensued: What did you study? What residence were you in? Was Professor so-and-so still there? That’s too bad about ‘The G’ isn’t it?

I don’t think this happens much with graduates of larger universities. My friends who did not have the good fortune of attending BU have told me how university for them felt more like a job. Sure, they keep up with a couple of former classmates, but returning for their Homecoming is not at the top of their priority list.

June 2020 will mark the 30th anniversary of my Convocation. I completed my degree in December 1989 so the 1983–1989 reunion at Homecoming felt like “my” reunion I will carry with me forever.

I had three very close friends at Bishop’s (you know who you are) and almost every fond memory I have of university has at least one of them in it. They came back too.

While we have seen each other regularly since graduating, there was something about being together on campus again that made the experience extra special.

I know it was the same for many of you who enjoyed special reunions of your own at Homecoming.

So keep in mind, the next time you meet someone really engaging, chances are he or she went to Bishop’s!

—Jacqueline Scott ’90
WELCOME ABOARD

Lesley Kelly ’99 assumed the role of President of the Bishop’s Alumni Association at Convocation in June. We are pleased to welcome Lesley and thank her predecessor Mark Lawson ’09 for his loyal service to Bishop’s.

It is with great enthusiasm that I look forward to serving you as Bishop’s Alumni Association President.

I am excited to welcome our newest graduates, the class of 2019, who are receiving this magazine for the first time. I hope your connection to Bishop’s continues to grow and remains with you throughout your life.

My goal is to make the Alumni Association meaningful for you. More so than ever, I believe my job as your President is to appreciate your unique needs and priorities and to work to connect in a way that is relevant for you. In the last few years, the Association has prioritized revitalizing our chapters. Currently, there are fantastic chapter leaders in a number of Canadian cities, each working to bring you events that are tailored to your interests and specific to your geographic area.

This year, I encourage you to participate in the highly acclaimed Donald Lecture Series. Bishop’s provides worldwide access to all alumni so if you live outside the Townships, you can stream it from the comfort of your home or office. With the click of a link, you will be transported back to campus to witness an incredible lineup of engaging speakers.

We would also welcome you to share your time and talent with our current students; there are many ways to get involved. Opportunities like mentoring with JUMP, speaking on campus, or participating in chapter events, are all opportunities to bring your experience and insight to a new audience. In addition, any philanthropic gift, regardless of size, will always have a significant impact because together we hold the power to build an exceptional experience for the next generation of Bishop’s graduates.

Finally, I would like to personally invite each of you to reach out to me at alumpres@ubishop.ca or one of the social media handles listed here and tell me how the Alumni Association can work for you. And I also encourage you to think about how to bring Bishop’s into your life. In the next few years, I look forward to meeting and speaking with as many of you as possible.

—Lesley (McConnell) Kelly ’99

P.S. Flip to the “Through the Years” section at the back of this magazine, and see what is new with your classmates and other alumni. Don’t forget to reach out to us with an update – send us your promotions, unions and additions. Let us celebrate with you!
AN INDIGENOUS STUDENTS’ CENTRE
FOR BISHOP’S UNIVERSITY

On October 4, 2019 we announced the Quebec Government will provide $5.9M of the $6.9M needed to renovate Divinity House and transform it into an Indigenous Students’ Centre.

This is a significant moment in the history of our University and in our process of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples of Canada.

Divinity House, which is 127 years old, was vacated four years ago because it is structurally unsound. We had been facing the demoralizing prospect of having to demolish the building. This would have been an incalculable loss to the historical and architectural heritage of Bishop’s.

Fortunately, thanks to the determination of many Bishop’s people and the support of the Quebec government, the building will once again play a central role in the life of the University.

The Centre will not only provide a space for Indigenous students but will also be a place where Indigenous and non-Indigenous students and community members can gather to learn with and from one another.

Like most Canadians of my generation, I grew up with a superficial, limited and biased understanding of the history of the interaction between European settlers and the Indigenous peoples of what we now know as Canada.

I was only vaguely aware of the shameful history of residential schools which extended over several decades – a policy and practice which the Supreme Court of Canada has justifiably characterized as cultural genocide.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, and the Viens Commission, which recently tabled its report on relations between Indigenous peoples and certain public services in Quebec, have underscored how profound are the legacies of injustice and systemic discrimination that must be addressed.

The challenges faced by the Inuit in Northern Quebec have also been underscored at our annual Bishop’s Forums.

Bishop’s is an institution committed to the pursuit of truth and learning and we have an obligation to educate ourselves and our students.

We have a responsibility to play our part in building a relationship of respect, trust and friendship with the Indigenous peoples of Canada.

Over the last few years, Bishop’s has taken some first steps on this long and critical journey.

• We welcomed to our campus and conferred honorary degrees on: the Grand Chief of the Assembly of First Nations, Shawn Q-in-chut-Atleo; the Abenaki singer, painter and filmmaker Alanis O’Bomsawin; and Grand Chief Abel Bosum, of the Grand Council of the Crees of Northern Quebec.

• We invited the Chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Senator Murray Sinclair, former Member of Parliament Romeo Saganash and the Chief of the Abenaki of Odanak, Richard O’Bomsawin, to speak with us.

• We have included a land acknowledgment in Abenaki, French and English on our website and will erect a sign acknowledging that we are on traditional Abenaki territory in a prominent place on our campus.

• Our students have travelled to Odanak to learn about the Abenaki’s history, values and customs.

• We have hired a full-time staff person, Mélissa Poirier, to support our Indigenous students.

• This semester Dr. David Webster is teaching a course on truth and reconciliation processes.

• We are offering a Minor in Indigenous Studies.

• Our faculty have established an Indigenous research axis and a committee on reconciliation and decolonization.

The renovation of Divinity House is a new and significant step in the reconciliation process.

Stephen Lloyd ’89, who chaired the Divinity House Task Force, has agreed to lead the effort to raise the additional $1M required to complete the project. Our goal is to complete the renovations by September 2021.

I will keep you informed as this exciting project proceeds.

—Michael Goldbloom, C.M.
PLANTING THE SEEDS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Nestled in the rolling hills of the Eastern Townships, Bishop’s University presents a blend of historic architecture and bucolic rural life. Nature is omnipresent: the pine trees towering over Morris House, the sheltered paths meandering through campus and the big empty sky, unmolested by glass and concrete skyscrapers. Even the beautiful new Library Learning Commons is a classic effort at marrying outdoor splendor with indoor functionality.

As your eyes search outwards to the surrounding fields, it’s easy to imagine the realm of possibility that lies just beyond the heart of bustling campus life.

“We have 500 acres of beautiful fields and forests, as well as a 20-acre wetland,” says Dr. Darren Bardati ’94, a professor in BU’s Department of Environment and Geography. “This land is an ideal setting for sustainable agriculture.”

Sustainable agriculture. It’s a buzz phrase that’s been percolating in the media for a while now, and it seems as though the last few years have brought it more into the common vernacular. But what is it, and how does it fit into a realistic agriculture model?

“I would argue that the current agriculture model is not actually sustainable” says Dr. Bardati. “We think of farms and food production as an industry. But that sort of approach, with monoculture crops (the culture of single crop in a given area), doesn’t create and maintain a healthy ecosystem.”

“It’s not even a good economic model. With monoculture you need a large amount of land to make a profit from, say, corn. A field that grows only corn requires heavy fertilization and pest control. But with a diversified agro-biodiverse plan, modeled on nature’s own regenerative system, you can get a surprising amount of produce on even a modest area of land.”

Dr. Bardati knows whereof he speaks. He grew up on a small organic farm run by his father, though he never dreamed of following in his dad’s footsteps. “When I left home at 17, I said, ‘That’s it, I’m done with farming,’” he laughs. “I couldn’t imagine going back to it.”

He went on to Bishop’s, graduating in 1994 with a BA in Geography, then continued his studies at McGill in Geography and Natural Resources. He was thrilled to return to BU as a professor after obtaining his PhD. “I always loved Bishop’s community culture and teaching environment. And the area always attracted me.”

But it was not until after a two-year leave of absence from Bishop’s, setting up an Environmental Studies program at University of Prince Edward Island, that he and his wife decided to try their hand at farming. They cultivated 1½ acres of their 10-acre homestead and were thrilled at the results. This modest area produced enough food to sustain their family, and enough surplus to sell at the Lennoxville Farmer’s Market they started.

“Small farmers today can’t afford two or three million dollars for a big farm. By growing diverse crops and selling directly to the customer you can still make a decent living.”

Organic farming doesn’t necessarily follow sustainable farming practices, Dr. Bardati points out. There can be an automatic assumption that it’s better to buy organic, but he feels it’s also necessary to be informed as
to how the food is grown, where it comes from, and how much distance it has to travel to the local grocer.

“The industry is still driven by maximum profit and ease of transport, and that doesn’t necessarily mean we are cultivating fruits, vegetables, and berries adapted for the climate. I believe we need to move on to regenerative and agro-ecological practices the land can actually sustain.”

“One good model to follow is Jean-Martin Fortier in Saint-Armand, Quebec. His farm, Les Jardins de la Grélinette, turns $160,000 profit a year on just 1.5 acres of land.”

That’s an eye-opening figure, though Dr. Bardati is quick to point out that this level of operation is not for the faint of heart. “I don’t want to give the impression that this is easy-peasy,” he says. “That’s not the point. We’re not going to turn farming into apps and widgets.”

Okay, so you can’t run a farm from your smart phone. Mightn’t that make this lifestyle less appealing to kids who grew up watching the Kardashians agonize over eyeshadow?

“I believe young people today are much more in tune with their food and the environment,” says Dr. Bardati. “This is a really big, growing industry, focusing on an agro-ecological way of doing things and using scientific and ecological concepts to build healthy food. There’s nothing wrong with using appropriate technology to enhance the natural ecosystems.”

So maybe 5G wireless does have a role to play in this new way of farming. If the waiting list for the new Introduction to Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems course is any indication, we may be looking at a millennial generation of food producers.

“We put that course on the agenda in June. I asked for a big room, because I felt it was going to be a very attractive course. We have 48 seats, and the class is full.”

Local food producers play an important role in the class. Dr. Bardati has approached several area farmers with ideas to get students out of the classroom and onto a real working farm.

“The response was fantastic,” he says. “We have members of the farming community who are willing to hire students as interns, collaborate with us, give small talks and host visits to their farms.

“Students today want experiential learning. There are some programs where students never get out of the classroom, but this is not one of them. You’re going to actually go to farms, and once we get our own campus educational farm up and running students will be out there learning.”

Our own farm. It’s a goal that Dr. Bardati and others at the University have been working towards for some time. It is only a question of time, effort and, of course, finances. Background studies into soil and drainage conditions are underway, and a preliminary concept plan has been developed with the help of an agroecology consulting firm. The goal is to have a detailed plan and budget for the Campus Farm in place by 2020.

Money for the program has to come from external funding, which means attracting visionary donors with a passion for ecological and economical sustainability in farming. With those components in place, Dr. Bardati believes the Bishop’s farm could be up and running by next year.

“Money follows vision, and I believe this is a good vision. I believe the students will come, and that it will grow to be an important part of what Bishop’s can offer.”

It’s a big undertaking, certainly. But with the land already at our fingertips, a built-in resource of local farmers, and a generation of students eager to get their hands dirty, much of the heavy lifting has already been accomplished.

“When I look ahead 10 years, I hope to see a thriving program that is profitable for the University,” he says. “The farm would be fully engaged with the community thus honouring Bishop’s rightful place in the Eastern Townships. I think this program is a game changer in terms of its ability to better place Bishop’s on the map and to distinguish ourselves from other institutions.”
THE BEES HAVE IT

They can be fuzzy, buzzy and occasionally downright ornery, but without bees there would likely be no ‘us.’

In fact, our entire growing system revolves around these little insects. Their daily gathering of nectar and pollen for themselves and their larvae acts as a natural delivery system for plant propagation. The pollen is transferred from one plant to another, ultimately helping plants to develop seeds, which in turn create new plants from which the bees can feed. It’s a mutualistic relationship for both plant and insect, with the added bonus of keeping us humans alive.

“They really are an essential component of growing food,” says Dr. Jane Morrison, Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Environment and Geography. “These pollen gatherers are what keep the system moving.”

Dr. Morrison first became interested in bees while working with a research group that was studying the potential benefits of “weeds.” Though coming from an agricultural background, with no prior knowledge of entomology, she was fascinated by the role bees play in agricultural systems.

“There are over 20,000 different species of bees in the world, including wild bees, bumble bees and honey bees, which were actually imported into Canada,” she says. “Of all those species of bees, less than ten produce honey. Many bees are solitary, while some, like the honey bee, live in colonies.”

Monoculture agriculture has proven a hindrance to a thriving bee population, as it lacks a variety of plants. Dr. Morrison suggests that by restructuring common agricultural practices, we can ensure the health of these essential insects, while also improving the crops themselves.

“In sustainable agriculture we have mixed crops and encourage the maintenance of natural areas, offering a variety of resources for bees. Different bee species might prefer different types of flowers, so having that diversity everywhere is always very important. Bees are also supported by having plants which are in flower at different times of the year.”

“It’s all about creating biodiversity,” she says. “That is the cornerstone of good crop health, good bee health, and, ultimately, good health for us.”
A PROJECT THAT TICKS ALL THE RIGHT BOXES

Ticks are spreading fast – but fear not, eTick.ca is here to help. For the past few summers, communities across Canada have received escalating warnings of an increase in the tick population and its inherent risk to humans.

Ticks, for the uninitiated, are small, bulbous arthropods (little critters) that latch onto mammals and feed off their blood. They’re the ideal carriers for Lyme disease, which can cause serious damage to the brain and the heart. Given the recent uptick (forgive the pun) in this pest’s population, study, education and prevention have become more important than ever.

“The distribution of different tick species has changed rapidly over the last two decades,” says Dr. Jade Savage, a Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at Bishop’s. “This is due to a combination of habitat changes and climate change. In Eastern Canada, we are seeing increasing habitat fragmentation coupled to warmer winters and cooler springs, and this changes the distribution of certain tick species.”

Ticks thrive in wooded areas, shrubs, leaf litter and long grass, making them a risk for both wild and domesticated animals as well as humans. Given their miniscule size, it can take some time before noticing one is attached to your skin, and tricky to ascertain if it is indeed a tick.

Dr. Savage has come up with a way to make sure.

“I was inspired to develop eTick.ca by a colleague who had launched eButterfly.ca, a platform where people would submit pictures of butterflies to identify and track populations,” says Dr. Savage. I pitched the idea to some colleagues at the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) where, at first, I met some resistance. Many smartphone cameras at the time could not produce high enough quality photos of ticks, but I knew the technology would rapidly change. In the end, PHAC backed the idea and eTick.ca was born.

Dr. Savage did image-based identification separately. All the data was then collated and compared by another colleague at PHAC. “It was extremely successful,” she says. “We published a paper from the results that year, and then we went public in Quebec.”

In 2017 Dr. Savage applied for a three-year Climate Change and Infectious Disease grant from the PHAC and in the fall of 2018 she received the funding she requested.

Subsequently, the project was expanded to Ontario and New Brunswick, taking on a larger group of researchers and scientists. “We did a significant amount of work with the three different provincial health agencies, and when someone submits a picture of a tick we can identify it within 24–48 hours. We have people working every day to identify the pictures.”

Not only do submitters receive an identification, they also receive details about the species collected and public health information relevant to the province they are in. It’s a very active platform, and has seen an increase in activity thanks to the creation of a Facebook page and a Twitter feed.

“We are receiving a lot of submissions because we are doing a much better job at reaching people than we did in before,” Dr. Savage says. “We didn’t have enough money to work closely on dissemination of information before, but now we do.”
Dr. Savage stresses the importance of tracking ticks, particularly with the constantly changing environment. Following the different populations is crucial in identifying the ticks that can and cannot transmit Lyme disease.

“Right now, in Eastern Canada, there is only one species of tick that is considered a competent vector of Lyme disease,” she explains, “Some of the other species can transmit other diseases, and many are perfectly innocuous.” By tracking these populations, the general public can stay informed about what ticks are in their area, whether they should worry about possible disease transmission, and what to do should they encounter them.

Dr. Savage underscores the significance of having the general population participate in “citizen science” – the collection and sharing of data. University. Dr. Savage has also been training undergraduates since she started working at Bishop’s, hiring them each summer to work on research projects such as eTick.ca. This gives the students additional aptitudes for research in their respective scientific fields, as well as a leg up should they pursue graduate studies.

This demands a significant commitment of time from Dr. Savage’s already busy schedule, but she feels it’s a crucial investment. “We can provide good guidance and an exceptional educational experience for undergraduate students, and I think it is extremely important to pursue this model. Bishop’s University is the perfect place to do so!”

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Right now, in Eastern Canada, there is only one species of tick that is considered a competent vector of Lyme disease.

“It’s important because it not only gives them confirmed information, it also eases their anxieties about ticks in their area and allows them to better understand ticks and tick-borne diseases,” she says. “In the end, the population become contributors to a global effort.”

Supporting this initiative are academics, students, and public health representatives who can work on the project thanks to continued support from granting agencies and Bishop’s University.
GREENHOUSE GASSES, 
CLIMATE CHANGE, AND YOU

E
dy time you turn on the news, it seems the weather is just getting crazier. Heat waves, increased flooding, melting ice caps – it’s like a disaster film come to life. But as scientists strive to better understand the problem of climate change, new strategies are arising to ameliorate its consequences.

“From a scientific point of view, we know the main narrative,” says Dr. Matthew Peros, a professor in the Environment and Geography Department at Bishop’s and the Canada Research Chair in Climate and Environmental Change. “The earth is getting warmer and this is caused by people.”

It’s a position almost universally accepted by the world’s scientific community. Certainly anyone born more than twenty years ago will have noticed changes in weather patterns. But the wacky weather we’re experiencing now is actually the result of years of damage to our ecological system.

“Human-caused climate change is probably thirty or forty years old at this point,” says Dr. Peros, who points out that this damage is not always immediately evident. “There are different parts of the climate system that react at different speeds. Some are fast responders, while slower responders, like the ice sheets in Greenland, take longer to begin melting.”

They also take longer to regenerate. “Even if we were to drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions tomorrow or suck out huge amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere next week, it would still be decades before climate change would start to return to levels that are closer to the long-term average.”

It’s a sobering thought. But while the future looms large, there are some very real problems facing us in the here and now. Increased flooding in Quebec over the past decade has prompted the provincial government to redraw flood plains and crack down on housing development in these vulnerable areas. Coastal regions are seeing an uptick in the severity and frequency of hurricanes making landfall, and an increase in heat-related deaths seems to make the news every summer.

“We’re seeing a situation where the oceans’ surface temperatures are making water warmer, and that’s the main factor in things like hurricanes forming and sustaining themselves,” he says. “Now they’re more often further north and making landfall with more intensity. We saw that with Hurricane Juan in 2003, and just recently with Hurricane Dorian when it hit Atlantic Canada.”

These changing patterns can wreak havoc, but media coverage can help bring awareness to the public about the severity of the problem, and inspire them to demand action from elected officials.

“There are examples where legislation has improved the situation,” says Dr. Peros. “The switch from leaded to un-lead gasoline in the 1970s as a response to air quality, and in the 1990s, the hole in the ozone caused by chlorofluorocarbons, were both addressed.”

These days it’s largely greenhouse gasses causing the problem, with fossil fuels like coal, natural gas, petroleum and oil still the dominant form of energy production. The worst offender is coal. And while most Canadian provinces have been moving away from coal burning (Quebec uses mostly hydroelectric power), other countries have not.

“China produces a huge and increasing amount of greenhouse gas,” Dr. Peros says. “India is also reliant on coal. These are economies with billions of people, and a growing middle class that needs
energy. Unfortunately, fossil fuels are still the cheapest and fastest way to generate that energy.”

But amid the doom and gloom, Dr. Peros does see signs of a shift in thinking when it comes to energy production and consumption.

“I tend to be more optimistic. When I look at the youth today, I think that its much more ingrained in them to understand that we need to be more responsible with our resources.” Dr. Peros cites recent worldwide student climate change strikes as a sign of millennial engagement, adding that there are things anyone can do to mitigate further environmental damage.

“We have a responsibility as individuals to reduce our consumption,” he says. “We should better understand how we live and what we produce. We can take public transportation and reduce things like personal air travel. When you multiply these efforts throughout a population, it can make a great deal of difference.”

On September 4, 2019, a loose chain of tropical cyclones lined up across the Western Hemisphere. At the time of this image (17:10 Universal Time) Hurricane Juliette in the East Pacific and Hurricane Dorian in the Atlantic were both category 2 storms.

Meanwhile, Tropical Storm Fernand packed sustained winds of 45 miles (75 kilometers) per hour and had just recently made landfall over northeastern Mexico. Tropical Depression Gabrielle strengthened into a tropical storm on September 4 over the eastern Atlantic, and had sustained winds of 60 miles (85 kilometers) around the time of this image.

NASA Earth Observatory image by Joshua Stevens, using GOES 16 imagery courtesy of NOAA and the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS).
By Dr. Daniel Miller, Chair, Religion Department, Bishop's University

I am Jewish.

I first visited Israel in 1993, on a Middle East study tour. While our group was in Jerusalem, we toured the Holocaust remembrance centre Yad Vashem. After that searing experience, I recall conceiving, temporarily, of Israel as my country, a necessary refuge for my people. For this Diaspora Jew, it was a new feeling, a paradigm shift in my personal consciousness. I went back to Israel in 1996, 1998, 2006 and 2012, but did not experience that visceral impression of Israel-as-refuge. Even during 2006, when my wife Michele and I were living in Jerusalem while Israel fought a summer war with the Islamist group Hezbollah, I did not feel it. This past summer, I visited Israel once more. And, for the first time since 1993, I felt it again.

Since 2014, anti-Semitism has been on the rise globally, and the past two and a half years have witnessed an alarming surge in anti-Semitic rhetoric and assaults. Before I discuss the context in which this is occurring, however, it is necessary to provide some definitional parameters and historical background. In fact, “anti-Semitism” dates back only to the second half of the 19th century. Before that time, “anti-Judaism” is the accurate term. (The reasons for the development of anti-Judaism, which began in the first few centuries of the Common Era, are various, but a major contributor to it was early Christians’ animosity towards their parent religion for refusing to accept Jesus of Nazareth as the long-awaited Jewish Messiah.) To grasp the thrust of the concept of “anti-Semitism,” one must understand that “Semitic” does not refer only to Jews. The term is derived from the biblical name Shem, one of Noah’s three sons (first mentioned in Genesis 5:32). The “Semitic” peoples are found throughout the Middle East and the largest constituent group is Arabs. That some modern-day anti-Semitism has been directed at Jews by other Semites, notably Arab Muslims, is crucial with respect to how the term “anti-Semitic” should be understood.

The term was coined in Germany in 1879 by Wilhelm Marr, in his work Der Sieg des Judenthums über das Germanenthum (The Victory of Judaism Over Germanism). Following the 18th century western-European Enlightenment, it was considered uncultured to be seen as being anti-Jewish. Marr thus reframed antipathy towards Jews as “anti-Semitism.” This was not, however, merely cosmetic – Marr was also seeking to target explicitly the ethnicity of Jews – their very essence. Whereas anti-Judaism was focused as much on religion and culture as on ethnicity, “anti-Semitism” has had a markedly ethnic rather than a religious or cultural basis, and it has always applied only to Jews within the larger Semitic population group.

A scant two years after Wilhelm Marr published his prejudice-laden study, anti-Semitism was signally epitomized by mass killings of Jews that began in southern Russia and eastern Europe in 1881 and lasted until 1921: the pogroms. The response to the extreme anti-Semitism gripping Europe and Russia was the establishment in the late 19th century by Jewish activists of Zionism, a political movement seeking the creation of a Jewish state in which Jews could be safe from persecution. Global reaction to the even greater horrors of the Holocaust made this aspiration a reality. Beginning in 1942 Adolf Hitler’s Nazi regime established six large-scale extermination camps to carry out Die Endlösung (The Final Solution) – the eradication of all European Jews. By the time of the Nazi defeat in 1945, approximately six million Jews – half of all the Jews in Europe – had perished. A little more than three years after Hitler’s Third Reich had fallen, the state of Israel was founded in reaction to this genocide.

For several decades following the Holocaust, anti-Semitism was largely consigned to the political fringes. But no longer. As Patrick Kingsley has written in The New York Times (“Anti-Semitism Is Back, From the Left, Right and Islamist Extremes. Why?” Apr. 4, 2019):

“The spike is taking place in a context of rising global economic uncertainty, an emphasis on race and...
national identity, and a deepening polarization between the political left and right in Europe and the United States over the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians...”

“It is unsurprising to find a resurgence of anti-Semitism at a time of prolonged political and economic instability, historians and analysts say, when citizens from many different political and cultural traditions are grasping for easy explanations for sudden and complex injustices.”

“Just as Jews were a ready-made scapegoat during previous eras of anxiety about the pace of social change or global economic trauma, so are they again today,” said Stefanie Schüler-Springorum, the head of the Center for anti-Semitism Research in Berlin.”

As suggested above, the year 2014 can be pinpointed as the beginning of this resurgence. That was the year that Israel fought its most recent war, with the Gaza-based extremist Palestinian faction Hamas. In that conflict, Israel was accused of using disproportionate force in Gaza, and anti-Semitic incidents have been rising globally ever since.

It is, however, in 2017 that these levels began climbing even more alarmingly. In 2018, all of Germany, France, the United States and Canada witnessed a shocking increase in violent anti-Semitic incidents. While the complexities of a global phenomenon cannot be reduced to a single cause, there is one event that appears to have coincided disconcertingly with the escalation of anti-Semitic rhetoric and the spike in anti-Semitic assaults beginning in 2017: the presidency of Donald J. Trump. Trump has practiced the politics of hate and division, openly courting white nationalists and stoking the resentments of the far right against Jews, Muslims and non-white immigrants in general. He has emboldened those who hold similar views but have been heretofore afraid to voice them openly, and he has made such toxic morality appear a legitimate option to those whose political and social leanings are as yet inchoate. In his role as U.S. president, Trump has given the far right in the United States, and internationally, cover. It is members of this population group who perpetrated the worst killing of Jews in American history last fall in a Pittsburgh synagogue, and who attacked a synagogue in Poway, California, in April of this year.

Because of the Middle East policies of the Trump administration, which heavily favour Israel and disadvantage the Palestinians, right-wing Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has declared Donald Trump the greatest friend Israel has ever had (notwithstanding the fact that these policies are due primarily to Trump’s need to please his white conservative Christian evangelical base, who see an ingathering of the Jews in the biblical land of Israel as part of their apocalyptic roadmap). And, there are some powerful Jews surrounding Trump, primarily his son-in-law Jared Kushner and his chief immigration-policy adviser, the hard-liner Stephen Miller. Yet Jews can take but cold comfort from this. As Dorothy Zellner (Jewish Currents, Spring 2019) has warned: “Trump has Jews around him. And if anybody is naïve enough to think that is going to protect us, they’ve got another think coming. Because when his supporters finally realize that they have been hoodwinked, who do you think they are going to blame? That’s when the real antisemitism is going to start. When it falls apart, which it is going to do, they will blame the Jews.”

I fear that this ominous statement is all too prescient.
AN EXCEPTIONAL CAREER BREDD AT BU:
THE HON. MICHAEL A. KELEN ’69

We all know that kid. The one who is interested in any conversation. Whose arguments are compelling and considered. The kid everyone says should become a lawyer one day.

Michael Kelen ’69 was that kid.

“I actually didn’t know any lawyers when I was growing up,” Michael says. “But I was interested in debating and presenting arguments, and thought I’d like to become a lawyer.” He pauses and chuckles. “Even if I wasn’t quite sure what lawyers did.” He was soon to learn.

But first, Michael embarked on a degree in economics at Bishop’s in 1965. In addition to his studies, he served on student council. He was repeatedly elected the representative of his class of 1969. He also initiated the concert program for newly built Centennial Theatre, bringing in world-famous acts like Ian & Sylvia, Muddy Waters, and Chicago.

Following graduation Michael went on to study law at Queen’s University. His years there consolidated a natural aptitude for the legal profession, and a prestigious career was launched.

“Bishop’s gave me the confidence and the background to continue on to law school without any problems,” says Michael. “After that, I articled in Toronto and went on to work for the Department of Justice.”

After seven years, Michael decided it was time to strike out on his own.

“It was a risky thing to do as a young person,” he says. “My wife and I had also decided to start our family, but I had my background and my expertise. And I knew how to sue the government!”

It was a thrilling time. Michael specialized in litigation and his work yielded success and a reputation for excellence that brought him to a whole new level of challenge at the front of the courtroom.

“I was then appointed as Judge to the Federal Court of Canada. I was assigned to a different city across Canada each week, to hear cases in that city from Monday morning to Thursday afternoon. It was the busiest time of my legal career.”

“There was a huge volume of work including many immigration cases where people were applying for refugee status, and their life was on the line. There was a feeling of great responsibility.”

After forty years in the profession Michael retired but soon found many outlets for his prodigious energy. Guest lecturing at University of Ottawa’s Law School, committee work with the Rockcliffe Park Heritage Conservation District and volunteer legal work for the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies all keep him busy now. He also finds great joy in spending time with his family.

His son Andrew graduated Bishop’s in 2003. When visiting him Michael was surprised by how much Bishop’s was unchanged. “There were some new buildings, but what really struck me was the spirit of the students. We went to a football game, and it was much the same as in the 1960s.”

One memory from his own time at Bishop’s distills the essence of the University’s special sense of community.

“During our first semester at Bishop’s, the male students were all given appointments to meet the Principal, Dr. Ogden ‘Oggie’ Glass. He was very personable, just a lovely person, but it was a very brief meeting.”

“I was in Montreal for my Christmas break, walking down Sainte-Catherine Street. It was snowing hard, and I saw this distinguished gentleman wearing a raccoon coat. It was Dr. Glass. He crossed the street and said ‘Merry Christmas, Mike.’ I couldn’t believe he remembered my name. But that was Bishop’s, and I believe it is still the same today.”

If any of Michael’s old friends would like to contact him, he can be reached at michaelkelen@gmail.com.
APPRECIATION, INVOLVEMENT, COMMITMENT: DON MONTGOMERY '75

Donald Montgomery likes to say he grew up in a “know thy neighbour” community. Born in Sherbrooke, Don spent the first 26 years of his life in Lennoxville, playing intramural hockey, selling apples at Gaiter football games, and, of course, attending Bishop’s University.

He has many fond memories of his university years, and a deep appreciation for professors like Hewson Hickey and Stan Groves who served as friends and mentors throughout his studies. As a student, summer months were spent as Lennoxville’s Director of Parks and Recreation. In this role he oversaw summer sports offerings along with recreational and educational programming for local children. These are among the many reasons Don was inspired to create The Donald Montgomery Scholarship, for the benefit of local students to help them achieve a well-balanced education within Bishop’s cohesive community.

“There is great satisfaction in knowing that each year a local student will be able to further their studies, accomplish their goals, and hopefully carry forward the idea of giving in the future,” Don says.

After graduating Bishop’s in 1975, Don went on to work in the financial investment industry for forty years, bringing the same commitment to hard work and service that classmates and professors remember so well.

Community involvement has also been a cornerstone of Don’s life. In the past, as a coach, Don inspired youth to think like champions and to become champions. Over a 12-year period he led girls and boys hockey teams to 17 tournament, district and provincial championships.

Don is now semi-retired and living in the Gatineau region. He remains an active volunteer in his community, and often takes his dogs Monnaie and Toschi for visits to a retirement home to share lots of “doggie love, hugs and kisses” to a cherished centenarian and her elderly co-residents.

He also takes great delight in reading the letters of thanks he receives from The Donald Montgomery Scholarship recipients, and indulging a few happy trips down memory lane.

“The comments about the great professors and coaches always make me reflect on my own time at Bishop,” Don says. “The greatest benefit of a Bishop’s education is the opportunity to study in a community, within a community.”

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: MALOU MEROVITZ

A native of Sherbrooke, Malou Merovitz is in her 2nd year at Bishop’s, and is studying Computer Science. A midfielder on the Women’s Soccer team, Malou was awarded the Donald Montgomery Scholarship last year. Asked what this meant to her, she said, “I am so grateful for this scholarship! It allowed me to fully focus my energy on the soccer field and in the classroom, and to push myself to be the best I can. Thanks in part to this scholarship, I was awarded the Undergraduate Prize in Computer Science, and was named to the RSEQ (Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec) all-star rookie team. Thank you so much Mr. Montgomery for supporting me in pursuing my dreams!”
Claude Belleau has worked with the United Nations around the world, but he never forgot his roots in Sherbrooke, and the start that Bishop’s University gave him. Earlier this year Bishop’s recognized Belleau with an honorary degree in acknowledgement of his community service, both locally and globally.

As a francophone, Belleau’s elementary and secondary school education took place almost entirely in French. But when it came time to choose a CEGEP, young Claude’s trajectory took quite a dramatic turn.

“I played many sports at my high school, and Champlain came to recruit me.” Claude says. “Now, I didn’t speak a word of English, but I decided to take the plunge.”

It was a bold move yet Claude thrived at Champlain, and moving on to Bishop’s seemed a natural and exciting progression.

Claude remembers one Bishop’s professor who left a lasting impact on him. “Dr. Christian Kristiansen was one of the top guys in the Sociology department. He had long hair and a beard. He understood his capacity to challenge and support students.”

“He allowed me to think for myself instead of just learning the subject matter. Sadly, I lost track of him, but one day I would like to tell him what an influence he had on me.”

Graduating in 1985, Claude went on to complete his graduate studies in International Development at the University of Ottawa. He then landed a job with the United Nations Development program.

The job was stimulating, challenging and led to a 20-year adventure that took Claude to developing countries like Mauritania, Côte d’Ivoire, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Cambodia and Vietnam. He rose to become the chief of the Humanitarian Relief Unit (United Nations Volunteers), based in Geneva.

But in 2004, Claude and his wife Jackie decided on a life change, and moved back to Sherbrooke. It was like experiencing another culture shock, but this time in reverse.

“It was really tough,” he observed. “I was running around the world, operating in crisis countries, man-made disasters and conflict. I was constantly in high speed, pumped full of adrenaline, and then suddenly I’m back in Sherbrooke, on the streets where I grew up, but everyone has moved on.”

Claude decided to use this downtime as a chance to build a deeper connection with his children, Sevan and Camille. “I became a stay-at-home parent, and I got involved in school boards while re-inserting myself into my community.”

The most satisfying element of my work now is when someone comes to me and says they have found a better paying job, and they’re confident enough to take it. That is simply the best.
Claude soon found himself volunteering with the *Service d’aide aux Néo-Canadiens* to help arriving refugees acclimate themselves to life in Sherbrooke and Canada. “Some of them had never had the luxury of electricity, or even an apartment. It was beautiful to see them experience this for the first time.”

Then Claude learned about *Estrie Aide*, an organization that creates jobs for people who have been traditionally excluded from the work market. *Estrie Aide* takes in used clothes, furniture and household items, cleans and refurbishes them, then re-sells the items. Participants work in the shop, sort and price items, and refurbish salvageable goods.

In 2013, he became director of the organization. Fifty jobs have been created since Clause took the helm. “*Estrie Aide* provides an opportunity for people who may have been sentenced to do community service, or someone just out of prison. If you give someone the chance to wake up in the morning and do something productive, you’re giving them a leg up. There’s also a strong environmental aspect because we are diverting thousands of tons from the landfill. We are showing that an environmental conscience can give rise to a venture that is both economically sustainable and socially responsible.”

Claude says he doesn’t miss the excitement of his days with the United Nations as he enjoys applying the principles of economic, environmental and social sustainability that he learned in his work abroad. “The most satisfying element of my work now is when someone comes to me and says they have found a better paying job, and they’re confident enough to take it. That is simply the best.”

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At just over 11,000 feet in length, 200 feet wide and 500 feet high, the new Champlain Bridge is truly a marvel (not to mention a refreshingly smooth delight to cross). Construction was a mammoth undertaking, given its location spanning the St. Lawrence River between Montreal and its southern suburbs, Quebec’s epic winters and the fact that its predecessor was still in use just a stone’s throw away.

“There were over thirteen hundred oversized pieces coming in from all over Quebec and from Spain, but no way to get them to the site,” says Alex Demers ’07, who until recently was Director of Logistic and Material Management for construction company SNC-Lavalin, and Director of Procurement, Contract, Logistic and Asset Management for Signatures-sur-le-Saint-Laurent, the consortium that led the project. Unforeseen constraints surrounding the transport of materials and equipment to the site meant that Alex and his team had to devise new ways to move materials to the site and establish a multi-model logistic strategy.

“It was like assembling a giant Lego set,” he says. “We had to use boats, barges, trains, modified trucks and unique cranes. And once we finished with the big Legos, we had thousands of trucks coming in with the smaller pieces. We needed to build a team of crazy guys who could work with crazy ideas.”

And work they did. Alex and his team managed to pull off a transportation miracle, coordinating the concrete prefabricated deliveries from Drummondville with the steel structure from Quebec City, Trois-Rivières and Terrebonne whilst handling the massive pier caps and main span pieces from Spain, and ferrying materials across the river.

It was a grinding challenge. A seemingly never-ending series of mishaps and problems. And one of the highlights of Alex’s career.

“That bridge has brought me so much joy,” Alex says. “It’s a legacy I’m proud to be part of. My son was born halfway through the project. And now, as he grows up, every time he crosses that bridge it will be ‘Dad’s bridge.’ The amazing thing is that...
there were over 1,600 people working on this at one point in time, and for their families it will also be ‘Mom’s bridge,’ or ‘Grandad’s bridge.’”

Alex has always had a talent for getting things done. With a Bachelor in Business Administration (double major Management Information Systems, Marketing) and a minor in Economics, organization and foresight came naturally.

He returned to Calgary following graduation and began working in logistic and warehousing. A short time later Alex was managing the logistic and warehousing team, and as well as taking on other warehouses. “I think they recognized the skill set that Bishop’s had given me,” he says. “I learned how to adapt to changing situations, challenge the status quo and find a balance between work and personal life.”

It’s been a steep upwards trajectory ever since. Alex participated in projects in Australia and Turkey before settling in Montreal to tackle the Champlain Bridge project. After working grueling hours without much of a break for over two years, Alex recently moved to Florida with his family and is taking one year off while looking for the next big adventure.

“Just before moving, I was asked to assist on starting a project at the Montréal-Trudeau International Airport,” he says. “It’s essentially the construction of the Réseau express métropolitain (REM) airport station. The REM is a new integrated network linking downtown Montreal, South Shore, West Island, North Shore and the airport. It’s an interesting circle for me after the bridge, because it’s another entry point to the city.”

Alex remains connected to his roots at Bishop’s. He has fond memories of playing Gaiters rugby, and remains in touch with some of his former instructors. “It wasn’t just one professor who made a difference,” he says. “It was many of them. I’m still connected with them on Facebook or LinkedIn, and I know I could pick up the phone and reach them if I needed anything.”

“They’re still very much active, directly or indirectly, in my life. You never hear about something like that at other universities. Bishop’s is unique in that regard.”
THE SURPRISE OF OTHER PATHS:  
JENNIFER JONES ’95

Jennifer Jones ’95 graduated with a BA in Drama. She is now Head of Events Production and Official Visits at the Canadian embassy in Washington.

With a father Brian ’60 and brother Christopher ’94 who are alumni, attending Bishop’s was something of a family affair for Jennifer Jones. “I did look around at other small universities with good theatre programs,” she says. “But when we dropped my brother off, I visited the Bishop’s Drama Department and did a little tour – I fell in love with the town, the campus, the whole environment.”

The more intimate scale of Bishop’s was a factor in her decision to attend. “I wanted a school where I could have a relationship with my professors and feel comfortable approaching them with questions. I wanted professors who knew who I was.

“I look at Bishop’s as one of the best times of my life. I made lifelong friends there that have all gone on to do amazing things.”

She counts amongst those lifelong friends several of her professors, including George and JoJo Rideout, and Greg Tuck, all of whom she’s still in touch with. “George and JoJo were always so generous with their time,” she says. “I was always learning from them, whether inside or outside of class.” Greg Tuck not only introduced Jennifer to the man who would become her husband (James Milburn), but she credits him with teaching her many important life lessons – encouraging her to be brave, take risks, be generous with others and find joy in every moment. “And I’m still learning from him 25 years later!” she says, laughing.

Jennifer’s first job after Bishop’s was at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts in Vancouver, which she jokingly calls her “mini-Master in theatre administration.” But it was when a contact offered her an evenings-and-weekend role helping to organize a Canada Day event that Jennifer discovered a hidden love for event management. “I loved that deadlines-and-deliverables level of intensity that reminded me so much of the theatre.”

Jennifer continued working for theatre and event management companies while also acting in summer stock productions. She and her husband then took jobs with a company designing and building pavilions for the 2000 World Expo in Hanover, Germany. “We lived there for a year-and-a-half,” Jennifer recalls, “and that was where I realized that event management was something I could love doing as a career.”

The couple moved to Washington, DC, in late 2000 for her husband’s job. Unfortunately, the events of 9/11 meant it wasn’t until 2006 that she got her green card. She sent a résumé to the Canadian Embassy and got a contract position that turned into a five-year position, creating and managing a new section in charge of protocol, relocation, and visits.

She was planning to leave the embassy and return to the world of event management when the Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy approached her about creating and heading a new in-house events section to create consistently high-level events, branding Canada and helping deliver Government of Canada messages to American colleagues.

Her role currently includes not just Embassy-related events but coordinating visits to Washington by the Prime Minister and Governor General. She also consults and travels elsewhere in the U.S. to coordinate logistics when the Prime Minister visits areas outside D.C.

“I took a theatre degree at Bishop’s and at the time I expected I would have a career in theatre,” she says. “I didn’t recognize that there would be other paths that my education had prepared me for. It’s useful for people to know that the drama education you get at Bishop’s can prepare you for a variety of opportunities. Keep an open mind, and you never know how things might pan out.”
ENGAGING SIGHT AND SCENT IN ART: ALEXANDRA BACHAND ’97

Has a scent ever triggered an old memory for you? Perhaps an orchard blossom that conjures up recollections of a childhood picnic, or a perfume that makes you think of loved one?

Smell is the most powerful of our senses, and it could be said that Alexandra Bachand ’97 is an expert in this field. An independent perfumer and olfactory artist, both of which are rare professions, Alexandra is the in-house perfumer of La Grange du Parfumeur, the artistic perfume house that she co-founded in Magog with her husband Eric Delbaere in 2015. There she formulates, composes and produces new scents in her own laboratory; “In one formula, there are about 30-50 ingredients. So the process can take a year or two.”

A graduate of the Perfumery Art School in England, Alexandra’s journey to perfuming has been anything but typical. “I studied Fine Arts at Bishop’s,” she says, “so Chemistry wasn’t my gateway as it is for most in my profession.” Alexandra remembers the smells of the paints and solvents swirling in the air of the Molson Fine Arts building, and says that to this day, “those smells still plunge me back to that time.”

A love of history plays another huge role in her life. Her interests have married together perfectly in her work creating olfactory art installations, while combining visuals and scent to provide an immersive narrative for the public, most recently in July and August in an exhibit entitled Sfumato Invisible. This was part of the 2019 Orford Music Festival on the theme of Bella Italia.

This experience also brought back many memories of Bishop’s. “Some of my art history classes had a particularly significant impact on me. I was so in love with everything that was Italian art. So when the Festival’s Artistic Director approached me asking if I would be inspired to create an art piece to celebrate the 500th anniversary of Leonardo Da Vinci’s death, my excitement was renewed.”

Travelling to Italy, Alexandra went on the hunt for the fragrances of Mona Lisa’s life. “I recall taking a class about women in Western art at Bishop’s. It made a huge impact on my life and it all came together in this particular piece.”

Sfumato Invisible allowed visitors to experience Leonardo da Vinci’s most famous work more deeply. This immersive installation provided a very special opportunity to connect with the real person behind the famous Mona Lisa smile, and to explore notions of beauty that go beyond the visual, both during the Italian Renaissance and today.

Recently, Alexandra returned to campus to show her children where she studied. “I was really emotional because I was on this little journey connecting the dots,” she laughed. “It’s amazing when intuition and the creative process finally find their way, completing their own circle, and everything comes together.”

Alexandra believes Bishop’s provided her with a springboard into artistic learning. “In the most beautiful way, I’m really proud of my alma mater.”

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CRITICAL THINKING:
THE HEARTBEAT OF A LIBERAL EDUCATION
FROM BISHOPS UNIVERSITY TO INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

By Grant LaFleche ’97

As it turned out, I didn’t really know what I thought I knew.

A single, blistering sentence from Bishop’s University political philosophy professor Gerald Tucker seared that lesson into my mind, and it became the lighthouse beacon that has guided my two decades as an investigative journalist.

“Your problem is that you don’t know how to think,” Tucker said to my freshman self in 1991. Some 27 years later, with several national newspaper awards under my belt, I’d like to believe Tucker would be happy to know I’ve put his instruction to good use.

Investigative journalism depends entirely on a reporter’s ability to gather and assess information (often on unfamiliar subjects about which one must quickly obtain a working knowledge), question one’s own conclusions and analyze data and people.

In other words, it depends upon your ability to think.

There is a direct line between that day in Tucker’s cramped office and my career in newspapers. In my time, most of it working at the St. Catharines Standard in Niagara, Ontario, I have earned 27 Ontario Newspaper Award nominations, (winning journalist of the year in 2018), five National Newspaper Award nominations (including winning the 2018 George Brown award for investigative journalism), nominations from the Canadian Association of Journalists and the Canadian Journalism Foundation and a nomination for the 2018 Michener Award, the Canadian equivalent to the Pulitzer Prize gold medal for public service journalism.

I’ve covered organized crime and outlaw bikers, reported from the mountain jungles of Guatemala, followed a missing person case along the Alaska Highway and sat in press row at historic boxing title fights.

The road that got me here, however, started with Tucker’s unflinching rebuke.

I arrived at Tucker’s office after a few weeks of my freshman year knowing, as most freshmen believe they do, everything I really needed to know.

A towering wall of a man (at least, that is how he appears in my memory) with a Jamaican accent with just a hint of a lisp, Tucker taught political philosophy as part of the overall political studies program. Like the man himself, his teaching method was unique. Alongside our core course work – Aristotle, Plato, Machiavelli and others – Tucker assigned unrelated works of literature. Chinua Achebe’s Things Fall Apart. A Confederacy of Dunces by John Kennedy Toole. Joseph’s Heller’s Catch 22.

Tucker, who began teaching at Bishop’s in 1972, opened a door to a vast universe of ideas for his students, although I doubt a number of my fellow freshmen appreciated it at first. Certainly, I did not, particularly when faced with my first of Tucker’s literary assignments: The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer.

For an uninitiated Chaucer is a bewildering kaleidoscope of anachronistic language, unfamiliar metaphors, and opaque themes.

After a few hours, the book beat me into submission and it all seemed irrelevant. At the time, I was focused on playing football and eventually, graduating to become a lawyer. (Of the first, I had more guts than talent and spent my two years with the Gaiters on the practice roster. Of the second, a few weeks later I realized I had no real interest in going to law school.)

So with my just-past-teenage years’ hubris, I marched into Tucker’s office to announce that I did not have to learn this pointless, ancient text in Middle English. Chaucer did not fit into my career plans, you see, so could the professor not find his
way to let me drop the book?

Tucker watched me from under his hooded eyelids, listened in silence and sat back in his chair so far it appeared he might teeter over. All the while, his fingers were laced and resting on his chest with his thumbs twiddling furiously.

Then came the lesson.

"Young man, you see, your problem right now is that you are just a little peasant person who doesn’t know anything," he said in a steady tone. “Your problem is that you don’t know how to think.”

"If you can read and understand Chaucer," he said, “you can read and understand anything”. It was a cold splash of reality that demolished my unearned arrogance. I returned to my room in Munster Hall determined to conquer Chaucer.

I would later learn I was not the only freshman to have such an experience with Tucker. His Socratic ability to set his students straight was the stuff of legend on campus. Tucker assigned difficult literature to his students precisely so we could learn to think. So that we could exercise our minds in the midst of new and challenging ideas.

Along with professors Andrew Johnson, Andrew Stritch, Ivan Myhul and Andy Knight, Tucker armed his students with intellectual tools designed to help you think through complex problems. The facts, figures, and theories they taught were all important, but their collective strength - the strength of a liberal arts university like Bishop’s - was in teaching modes of thinking, problem-solving and analysis.

My relationship with Tucker improved vastly over my four years at Bishop’s. When I began writing columns for The Campus student newspaper – my first foray into newspapering – he was a helpful, if sometimes bemused, critic and mentor.

More than once I wished Tucker, who passed away in 2011, could see the fruit of his instruction today, particularly a two-year-long investigation into corruption at Niagara’s municipal government - an investigation which ultimately resulted in the electoral defeat of most of the key political actors and triggered an Ontario Ombudsman’s probe in 2018, the results of which are expected soon. It’s the same work that earned The Standard National Newspaper Awards and a Michener Award nomination in 2018.

In the course of that work, we dealt with politicians attempting to undermine and discredit the newspaper, partisan agents attempting to foist a steady diet of misinformation on the public, and increasingly complicated attempts to hide the truth.

Our newsroom got through it the way journalists always have – a dogged determination to hunt down and expose the facts. The success of any such hunt relies on the intellectual tools a journalist brings to an investigation. Fortunately, in my case, I was able to acquire many of those tools from a cadre of Bishop’s professors who doggedly passed them onto their students.

We live in an era of untruth, alternative facts and “fake news.” Reality TV stars can ascend to the highest office in the world, conspiracy theories dominate social media where nonsense can become accepted as fact at near the speed of thought.

A grounding in practical critical thinking skills – of the sort that allows you to navigate Chaucer, or Plato, or the latest policy platform from a political party – is the best possible disinfectant.

Bishop’s, as a liberal arts university, can play a critical role in arming students to face these problems by, if nothing else, teaching them how to think.
RECONCILING WITH THE PAST

As our digital age continues to expand, so too do the tools available to both teachers and students. Dr. David Webster, professor of History at Bishop’s, is one of many instructors who have kept pace with changing technology, both in the classroom and online.

Dr. Webster’s “Memory, Truth and Reconciliation” course employs traditional research, but with a digital twist: students are required to create Wikipedia pages based on what they learn about countries emerging from traumatic events like conflict, war or dictatorship.

“These countries often set up truth commissions to look at human rights violations in the recent past, and to look at the role of memory in the building of future, more peaceful societies,” says Dr. Webster. “It’s generally a country that students don’t know much about, like Bolivia or Nigeria, but the issues are often similar across borders.”

Wikipedia has a mixed reputation among teachers and scholars, given it represents somewhat of a shortcut from using proper research and independent thinking. But Dr. Webster has turned this notion on its head, seeking to improve rather than avoid the popular online resource.

“We have to accept that students are using Wikipedia,” he says. “Instead of fighting against it, they are making solidly researched contributions to Wikipedia to enhance its quality. To date, they’ve contributed strong new articles on truth and reconciliation in 28 countries.” These have been compiled in a textbook being used by this year’s students.

The course offers Dr. Webster a chance to work independently with each student as they explore their country of choice – something he acknowledges is only possible given Bishop’s generous teacher/student ratio.

“Having ten or fifteen students per year really helps us take advantage of the small class format,” he says. “It allows a lot of interaction and feedback between the professor and the students, and between the students themselves.”

“That’s important, given that they’re not simply writing a paper that will be read by the professor and then discarded. They’re writing for a wider readership of potentially thousands of people on Wikipedia, as well as future students that might be starting their own research essays.”

“It’s a real contribution that offers a lot of pride in their accomplishment.”
DEGREES OF ACHIEVEMENT
2019 CONVOCATION HIGHLIGHTS

The Bishop's community celebrated Convocation 2019 in morning and afternoon ceremonies on June 8, 2019 in the Denver Gymnasium.

The 649 members of the Class of 2019 graduated not only with a strong base of knowledge in their field of study, but also with skills that will allow them to meet the challenges and opportunities of the future. The sense of pride and accomplishment was evident in their faces, as well as the family and friends who came to support them.

Class valedictorians Molly Sweeney '19 and Tyler Smith '19 gave heart-warming and motivational speeches to their classmates.

In addition, four remarkable individuals were awarded the degree of Doctor of Civil Law honoris causa: film and television actor Colm Feore, O.C.; award-winning author Kim Thiây, C.Q.; Co-President of Groupe Germain Hotels Christiane Germain, C.Q.; and Director General of Estrie-Aide and Bishop's graduate Claude Belleau '85 congratulated the new graduates and shared memorable words of advice for the future.

Two professors were made Professor Emeritus. Dr. Nelly Khouzam of the Computer Science department was recognized for her more than 30 years at the University and her work in shaping and advancing the department during her tenure.

Dr. Greg Tuck of the Drama department was recognized for his many contributions, having directed over 50 productions at Bishop's and mentored many students who went on to pursue careers in a variety of roles related to the performing arts.

Last but not least, Dr. Jason Rowe, of the Department of Physics and Astronomy, and Canada Research Chair in Exoplanet Astrophysics, was presented with the Bishop's Senate Research Committee's 2019 Emerging Scholar award. (Another Emerging Scholar Award was presented to Dr. Osire Glacier of the Departments of History, Religion and Politics and International Studies in October.)

Congratulations to the Bishop's University Class of 2019 and welcome to the BU Alumni Association!

ALUMNA OF THE YEAR
JO-ANNE RYAN '83

Whether as Vice-Chair of the Bishop’s Foundation Board, or as one of the founders of Bishop’s JUMP national mentorship program, Jo-Anne Ryan ’83, Vice President, Philanthropic Advisory Services at TD Wealth and Executive Director of the Private Giving Foundation, has made an
extraordinary contribution to the life of our university.

As an early leader in JUMP, Jo-Anne helped to launch a program that paired young graduates with seasoned mentors, to develop their networks and skills. Since its founding in Toronto, the JUMP mentorship network has expanded to assist graduates across the country.

But Jo-Anne doesn’t just lead the program. She participates as a mentor to young graduates. You can ask Robyn Clark ’09. Robyn graduated from Bishop’s with a passion for the non-profit sector. When she was paired with Jo-Anne as a mentor in Toronto, she wondered why she was matched with someone who, as she put it “worked in banking”.

But as with everything she does for Bishop’s, Jo-Anne put in an incredible effort to help Robyn grow her career in Toronto. She connected her with people. She provided advice and guidance. And when Robyn was seeking to continue her studies with graduate school, it was Jo-Anne who helped her to realize her dream to complete a Master in Non-Profit Management.

Robyn credits Jo-Anne for believing in her, pushing her, and helping her to grow her skills and network at a time when she was looking for a champion.

That’s why this year’s Alumna of the Year is an example to us all. She embodies the kind of leadership we learn at Bishop’s. The belief that by giving back, and giving of ourselves, we continue to make our community better.

WILLIAM AND NANCY TURNER TEACHING AWARD

Students voted Dr. Mike Teed, Professor in the Williams School of Business, this year’s winner of the William and Nancy Turner Teaching Award. The award recognizes a faculty member who has demonstrated exceptional educational leadership and commitment to students.

Dr. Teed was previously recognized with the Turner Award in 2013.
“If you are as lucky as I have been, you will find yourselves in some dead ends at times. But trust me, you are well prepared. You have a first-class education. All I would wish to add to it is kindness. I mean kindness generally of course, but most importantly, kindness to yourselves. As you learn to live, learn to forgive.”

—Colm Feore, O.C.

“I know that you will start working … and that literature will be the last thing on your mind … But literature and arts give this power to us to see beauty in everything in our daily lives. So I hope that you always have a book somewhere not far from you, and read maybe a line, a paragraph, or just a poem, because a poem will tell you a whole story in just thirty seconds: the beginning, the end, and all the pain in the middle.”

—Kim Thúy, C.Q.

“Je parle de rester branché sur ce qui vous allume. Je parle de prendre conscience de votre unicité, de ce qui vous définit réellement. Développez vos compétences humaines encore plus que vos compétences techniques car un jour, c’est ce qui fera toute la différence. Écoutez ce qui nourrit votre feu sacré. L’avenir va prendre un chemin que vous ne pouvez pas soupçonner aujourd’hui. Si vous demeurez authentiques à ce qui vous fait vibrer, le trajet risque d’être extraordinaire, parce que c’est dans l’action que vous allez vous réaliser.”

—Christiane Germain, C.Q.

“I f you are as lucky as I have been, you will find yourselves in some dead ends at times. [This will be an opportunity] for you to look deep inside yourself, and to look for answers elsewhere than on Google or Facebook. What does your GPS tell you when you make a wrong turn? ‘Recalculating’, right? Well it is the same thing when you reach one of life’s dead ends! You will learn to listen to that little voice inside of you, like [with a] GPS, and learn to rely on it more and more. In other words, gain appreciation for the unexpected advantages of having to cope with a little mess! There will always be a way out, a solution ahead if you commit yourself to not always taking the most travelled or easiest way.”

—Claude Belleau ’85
STANDING TOGETHER IN OUR SUPPORT OF SCIENCE

Bishop’s has seen some remarkable renovations over the last decade or so. The Abbott, Kuehner and Munster student residences have been beautifully refreshed, the John H. Price Sports & Recreation Centre excels in form and function, and our beautiful Library Learning Commons was unveiled last year to much acclaim.

This year marks yet another step forward in our continuing evolution, with a $9.3 million renovation of BU’s natural sciences facilities.

“We actually put in the request for government funding at the same time as the Library Learning Commons application,” says Dr. Kerry Hull, Biology Professor and Interim Dean of Arts and Science, for Natural Science and Mathematics and Social Science. “We were thrilled to learn that it had been approved. The facilities really did need upgrading.”

Dr. Hull served as Project Director for the renovations, liaising with the architects and engineers as well as with the faculty and students who would be using the space. It was a significant undertaking, but less than two years later, Dr. Hull and her team unveiled a truly remarkable transformation in September 2019.

“The old greenhouse was small and awkwardly shaped,” she says. “It wasn’t well ventilated, so it was too cold in the winter and too hot in the summer. And it smelled fairly unpleasant.”

“Now it’s a place that’s full of light, even on cloudy days. It’s warm and humid, there are tomatoes you can taste, herbs and flowers everywhere. It smells like summertime.”

The new greenhouse features 15-foot ceilings, allowing for cultivation of a wide variety of species and providing for many experimental learning opportunities. There are even hops growing for the Brewing Sciences graduate certificate. It’s all designed with sustainability features in mind, like water recuperation systems for irrigation, opaque curtains...
to limit light pollution, and a thriving population of beneficial insects such as lacewings and ladybugs. The larvae eat unwelcome pests, and the adults act as pollinators. These systems help keep the greenhouse entirely organic.

The greenhouse is only one part of the 700 square metres of renovated space in the facility. Chemistry teaching labs have been renovated and upgraded to current safety standards, and now feature a centralized equipment room. This change enables students and staff to move through the facilities without having to cross into common hallways – a smart precaution for those wearing lab coats that have been exposed to chemicals.

There are also renovated student study rooms for biology and chemistry, allowing students to work together or individually in a comfortable and functional space. Researchers in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics are benefitting from renovated research laboratories, and Dr. Jade Savage now has a dedicated storage space for her invertebrate collections. *(See the profile on Dr. Savage’s work on pages 8–9.)*

And while Dr. Hull readily admits to the challenge of directing such an expansive project, she feels it offered new insight and experience. “It was a maelstrom, for sure, but I now know a lot more about ventilation systems and how to incorporate the needs and requests of many different people into a cohesive result.” “And with the countless inconveniences of renovating an occupied building, I also learned the art of apology, which I did a lot, but it was worth it!”

Dr. Hull credits the support of the following individuals for the successful completion of the new labs: project managers David Lacroix and Jules Lacroix, as well as departmental liaisons Karl Gagnon and Dr. Alex Drouin from Chemistry, Geneviève Levasseur from Biology, and Giovanni Venditti from Brewery Science.

**BISHOP’S GRADUATE ACCEPTED AT THE PERIMETER INSTITUTE**

Last March, Jeremy Côté ’19, who majored in Physics and Astronomy at BU, learned that he was one of the few Canadians to be accepted to the Perimeter Scholars International Program in Waterloo, Ontario. This is a one-year Master level course in theoretical physics designed to bring highly qualified and exceptionally motivated graduate students to the cutting edge of the field in an intense, interactive training environment.

This internationally-renowned institution is, according to Bishop’s Professor of Physics and Astronomy Dr. Valerio Faraoni, “a dream come true, a place of genius and inspiration. It is hard to imagine a better place for a young scientist interested in fundamental questions to study, to do research and to be inspired and transformed.”

Admission to this program is a privilege that very few scholars get to enjoy; indeed, only 30 students are chosen among the hundreds of applications received annually from around the world. For Jeremy, studying at the Perimeter Institute is a unique opportunity because it will allow him to sample various fields of physics without having to specialize too early on in his career.
On September 20-21, Bishop’s Athletics held its inaugural “Celebration of Women in Sport” event. Highlights included all six female Gaiters sports teams competing over the two-day period, and special guest speakers that included Kate Beirness from TSN, as well as Laura Crack ’17, who spoke to our current female student-athletes about her own experiences as an athlete.

Laura is now completing a PhD in the Faculty of Kinesiology at the University of Calgary, and was recently awarded an Eyes High Doctoral Recruitment Scholarship valued at $104,000 over four years to pursue her research on the physiological response of cortisol and progesterone that go along with stress.

As part of the celebration of Women in Sport, golfer Alison Murdoch ’71, skier Kim Hubner (Bonnell) ’00, and soccer player Erin Patrick ’02 were inducted into the Gaiter Athletics Wall of Distinction.

Alison Murdoch ’71
Alison’s career as an amateur golfer began in Quebec where she won the Quebec Junior Girls Championship in 1967 as well as numerous regional championships. Her national success came to fruition in 2002 when she won her first of four Canadian Senior Women’s Championships. Since that time, she has won internationally, capturing the British and Irish Senior events, two Pacific Northwest Golf Association (PNGA) Senior and Mid-Amateur Championships as well as the British Columbia, Alberta and Washington State senior titles. She was inducted into the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame in 2013.

In her remarks after the ceremony, Alison said: “My first thank you today is to Bishop’s University.
I really appreciate this honour and will treasure it always. Whether in sports or in life it is a team affair – no one achieves success without the help of family, teammates, and friends. And whatever you do, stay active-you owe that to yourself.”

Kim (Bonnell) Hubner ’00
Kim was one of the most decorated skiers to compete for Bishop’s. She was a three-time Bishop’s University Female Athlete of the Year. During her time at Bishop’s she went to the World University Games twice: In 1997, she represented Canada in South Korea; and in 1999, she donned the red and white in Slovakia. Additionally, she spent many years competing among the world’s best at high level Fédération internationale de ski (FIS) events, including the NorAm circuit.

For three straight seasons, 1997-98-99, Kim topped the Quebec University individual women’s ski standings. That helped Bishop’s win titles both on the women’s side and combined in 1998 and 1999.

Kim commented: “I am deeply honoured to be receiving this recognition today and am truly humbled to be included with two remarkable female inductees. I feel completely indebted to all at Bishop’s (professors, coaches, administrators) who challenged us on a daily basis to take risks and who pushed us to test our boundaries both academically and athletically – all the while in a safe and supportive environment.”

Erin Patrick ’02
Erin is one of the best female soccer players ever to play at Bishop’s. She was a two-time CIS 2nd-team all-Canadian and a four-time FQSE all-star. At Bishop’s she was Female Athlete of the Year twice and the Female Newcomer of the Year in 1999. She was also a three-time women’s soccer team MVP.

Asked about her feelings about being inducted, Erin said: “It was truly an immense honour to be inducted into the Wall of Distinction. My four years as a student-athlete at Bishop’s developed many important life skills including leadership, respect for others, working hard under time constraints and the value of teamwork. The school spirit, especially for the various athletic teams, makes me proud to be part of the Bishop’s community then and alumni now. The lifelong friends and experiences are something I cherish and will never forget.”

In honour of her induction, Erin and her husband Matt Sanderson ’01 have established the Patrick Sanderson Soccer Award to recognize an outstanding female soccer player. Thank you Erin and Matt!

The Wall of Distinction induction ceremony was the perfect complement to the Celebration of Women in Sport as the current women student-athletes were able to envision where their life in sports might lead them after graduation.

Attention Gaiter fans!
The Boutique Gaiters Store is now online and open for business!

In partnership with Montreal-based supplier Campea, the Bishop’s Athletes online store offers exclusive apparel from Russell, Champion, Under Armour, New Era, Barbarian, Gongshow, Spartan and more.

Visit gaiters.ca/store
Raffi Sossoyan ’92, Geoff MacDonald ’92, Billy Zimmer ’96, Jeremy Moore ’94, and Derek Tucker ’94. They are among the “Golars” who endowed the Golar Scholarship in 2014 to honour Bishop’s 170th birthday and their time in Kuehner Hall.

Sandra Miller ’90 is joined by the Gaiter, Alexandre Charbonneau ’19 and his family. Alexandre was the 2018 recipient of the Barbara and O’Kill Miller Memorial Scholarship that Sandra endowed in 2008 in honour of her parents.
1983–1989 REUNION CLASSES HELP TODAY’S STUDENTS MIND THEIR MENTAL HEALTH

For some members of the 1983–1989 reunion classes, Homecoming was about more than visiting old haunts and reminiscing with old friends. Upon learning about the BU’s latest mental health initiative, they made financial donations toward our objective of $25,000 to make it a reality. We hope others in this cohort will follow suit in order to enable the University to launch a Peer to Peer Support Centre.

Much of the Bishop’s experience is the same as it was decades ago.

What has changed is the mental health of students today. There is a crisis facing university students in Canada. Evidence suggests that this group has greater levels of stress than at any time in history. Rates of anxiety and depression affecting a student’s ability to function have skyrocketed.

Not surprisingly, the Bishop’s University Student Services counselling team has seen an increase in the demand for services over the past few years. The department often has a waiting list for non-emergency clients that can stretch anywhere from two weeks to a month.

In order to address needs during the wait, the University wishes to develop a Peer to Peer Support Centre, where students can seek support from a hired team of Peer Helpers: fellow students who will be trained to actively listen, offer encouragement, provide resources and build hope. This is now a best practice strategy that is working at universities across the country.

This proposed pilot project will allow BU to build a service that will benefit students while securing the long term operating funding required to address these growing needs into the future.

The cost to get all this started is $25,000 for one year, and we are pleased to report that as of October 15, over $13,000 had already been donated.

Thank you Jo-Anne Ryan ’83, Sterling Mawhinney ’88 and Linton Carter ’89 for leading the charge to encourage 1980s graduates to give back!

MIKE LEWIS ‘83, ALEX PATERSON ‘83 AND KEN IRVING ‘84 HONOURED FOR EPITOMIZING BISHOP’S ESPRIT DE CORPS

Just before the football game at Homecoming, Mike Lewis ’83 and Alex Paterson ’83 were presented with the Bishop’s Alumni Association’s Esprit de Corps award. Ken Irving ’84 was also honoured, but unfortunately could not be present.

This accolade recognizes Bishop’s graduates who continue to demonstrate the values and lessons learned at Bishop’s related to compassion for others, community spirit, responsible citizenship, lifelong learning and friendship. Mike, Alex and Ken were honoured for their performance of Jan Ericsson’s comedy The Men’s Room at the Crow’s Theatre in Toronto last February. All benefits went to the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health as 1980s Bishop’s alumni, from as far as Tokyo and the U.K, reunited to reminisce about their days by the mighty Massawippi shore.

This play could not have happened without Director Robb Paterson who was acknowledged and presented with a Bishop’s ball cap. Following the presentation, Alex and Mike performed the ceremonial kickoff.

Mike would like to dedicate his award to Bob Egan ’80, Blair Capes ’76 and the Norton Helmets.
1960s REUNION: REMINISCING ABOUT THE “SWINGING SIXTIES”

The Sixties” is a term to describe, in most cases nostalgically, the counterculture and revolution in social norms regarding clothing, music, drugs, dress, sexuality, formalities, and education. The emergence of a wide range of music, from folk revival to the Beatles revolution, not only gave credence to the shift in norms, but also gave students of that era a diverse listening experience that has stood the test of time. Life at Bishop’s, with annual enrolments in the early 60s that seldom exceeded 400, was a true reflection of the changing times in Canadian society.

On October 4–6, nearly 50 members of the Classes of 1962–66 returned to the Eastern Townships and campus for a reunion, to play some music, and to reminisce about that special time. Throughout the weekend, the group enjoyed the exquisite surroundings and dining experiences at Hovey Manor in North Hatley, as planned by reunion co-chairs Stephen Stafford ’64, Peter Welch ’64 and David Moore ’65.

Friday night saw the entire reunion group perform a rendition of a parody called The Grate Escape, a play that was first performed during their time at Bishop’s. Principal Michael Goldbloom was on hand to enjoy the performance. He also provided an update on the University, including the news of the day, announcing the Quebec Government would provide $5.9M of the $6.9M needed to renovate and re-equip Divinity House into an Indigenous Students Gathering Space and Resource Centre. This development was met with vigorous applause.

On Saturday, following a tour of the Webster Gardens, the group congregated at Bishop’s for lunch at Dewhurst Dining Hall and a campus tour. Even an afternoon-long power outage did not dampen the group’s enthusiasm as they dined in a “no-tray, no-line, no-gown” Dewies.

Interestingly, five Alumnus of the Year recipients were in attendance at the reunion and five additional members of the Classes of 1962–66 also hold this distinction. This is a testament not only to quality of the graduates Bishop’s produced in the 60s but also to the affinity they hold toward their alma mater. Many members of these classes have reached the epitome of their professions in law, medicine, education, politics, science, the arts, and business. They have made superb contributions toward a better Canadian society while their affiliation with Bishop’s has indeed made the University a better place.

In summary of the weekend, Steve Stafford ’64 remarked, “I was having so much fun with my friends and classmates I almost forgot I was also the host.” Based on comments he heard from reunion attendees he added, “The Bishop’s campus is in great shape and the University is in very good hands.”

A special thanks is extended to Roy Cullen, from the Class of ’65, who met with Politics and International Studies students. His expertise on money laundering and corruption in foreign governments provided for some interesting discussion, and advice on becoming a politician was well received.
A NEW MISSION FOR DIVINITY HOUSE

The Report of the Task Force on Divinity House was tabled on 17 September 2017. It did not provide a clear course to save the dilapidated historic structure, constructed in 1891 on the Bishop’s campus, but it did recommend that if a solution was not found within six months, a demolition permit be filed with the City of Sherbrooke. The dossier was a highly complicated one, entangled among the regulations of three levels of government regarding flood zones, renovation or restoration restrictions, and patrimonial considerations. The future of the “Shed”, as it was affectionately known to the hundreds of Divinity students who had studied there, loomed grim.

Fast forward to 4 September 2019. The line of dignitaries is long: Principal Michael Goldbloom; Quebec’s Education Minister Jean-François Roberge; the M.P. for Saint-François, Geneviève Hébert; Chief of the Abenaki Band Council of Odanak, Richard O’Bomsawin; President of the Borough of Lennoxville, Claude Charron, and Chair of the Bishop’s Board of Governors, Robert Hall.

Principal Goldbloom takes the microphone and begins his address to a crowded audience in the Library Learning Commons, “Thank you for joining us for this significant moment in the history of our University and in the process of reconciliation and healing with the Indigenous peoples of Canada.” He continues and then introduces Minister Roberge.

Mr. Roberge’s opening words literally stunned the audience, “Dans le but de transformer le pavillon Divinity en un espace de rencontres et un centre de ressources pour les étudiants autochtones, une aide financière maximale de 5,9 millions de dollars a été accordée à l’Université Bishop’s.” This one sentence, announcing the Quebec government’s generous financial commitment to restore Divinity House, represented the culmination of four years of intensive effort to save the treasured structure. The bricks and mortar will be restored but more importantly Divinity House will have a new life: the renovated building will include space exclusively for Indigenous students at Bishop’s and Champlain and provide these students...
Reena Atanasiadis was appointed Dean of the Williams School of Business, effective August 1, 2019. She earned her MBA with Distinction from the John Molson School of Business (JMSB) at Concordia University in 1995 and brings over two decades of wealth management and finance experience to the classroom. Her areas of academic interest include Behavioural Finance, Corporate Finance, Portfolio Management and Financial Institutions Management.

Prior to her arrival at Bishop’s, Dean Atanasiadis was Director of the JMSB’s MBA in Investment Management, the world’s first MBA program fully integrating the Chartered Financial Analyst® Candidate Body of Knowledge™ into its curriculum. She was also a senior lecturer in Finance and recipient of the Dean’s Award for Teaching Excellence at the Graduate Level in 2012. She served as Director of the Kenneth Woods Portfolio Management Program, an innovative initiative through which undergraduates actively manage a $2.85-million portfolio. In addition, leveraging her wealth of experience from coaching podium-finishing undergraduate Finance student teams for national and international case competitions, she directed the Van Berkom JMSB Small Cap Case Competition. With vast expertise in the areas of AACSB accreditation, student-led portfolio management programs, case competition coaching, faculty development, online/hybrid learning and executive education, she has acted as a consultant to universities, organizations and businesses in Canada and abroad. She was Chair of the Chartered Professional Accountants Research Centre at Concordia for five years.

Before her career in academia, Dean Atanasiadis had held multi-provincial licences as a discretionary investment counsellor/portfolio manager, handling assets valued at a total of several hundred million dollars. We’re pleased to welcome her to BU.

with a place to call their own, a place to connect with one another. Principal Goldbloom described it as, “a space that stands as testimony to the respect that our institution has for our Indigenous students.”

Chief O’Bomsawin’s philosophical remarks to the group were captivating. He spoke of a different time, “You look at this project, and it’s a great project of today, but don’t kid yourself for one moment. This project started over 300 years ago. My people ran this land, and many of our ancestors have left many things hidden, many stories, many legends, many secrets. We were told at that time that there would be many battles, there’d be much trouble for our people with the newcomers. But we were also told that there would come a time where we’d all come back together.... So I am honoured here today to see that this is starting to come together and that your people are listening to our ancestors, and that we are listening to your ancestors.... There’s a lot to be learned in this case, and there’s a lot to be learned as to where this project is coming from and where it is going. There’s a lot to be learned from all of this and as a great man once said, ‘The past does not need us, the future does’. This is the future.”

Thankfully, one major step in the process of Divinity’s restoration is complete but there remains much work to do. The actual estimates to complete the project total $6.9 million so a fundraising campaign has been initiated to raise the $1 million shortfall under the leadership of Stephen Lloyd ’89. We are pleased to report, as of press time, donors have already pledged $150,000.

The construction phase is scheduled over the next two years with a proposed opening date in the fall of 2021.

Principal Goldbloom’s leadership and vision cannot be overstated throughout the crusade to save Divinity House and to resurrect a purpose for this building that is beloved – perhaps more than any other on campus – by generations of Bishop’s students, alumni, faculty and staff.
The last couple of years have seen several key figures leaving the University. These include Dr. Michael Childs and Dr. David Seale whose combined years of service total more than 80 years.

**DR. MICHAEL CHILDS**

In 1994 when Dr. Michael Childs was honoured with the Chancellor’s Teaching Award one nominating student wrote, “Dr. Childs is an exceptional professor, he is not only respected but also very popular, and he is unquestionably among the most accessible professors at the University.” After 30 years of incredible service to Bishop’s University and his students, July 2018 marked the beginning of a new chapter in the history of Dr. Michael Child’s life.

A good historian would look at Michael’s retirement as a time for reflection. During his tenure at Bishop’s, whether he was teaching, mentoring, advising or managing, several common themes emerged from Michael’s many and varied contributions. And reflection reveals that he is a man of integrity, an effective leader, an enthusiastic teacher, a scholar of history, and a marvelous advocate of liberal education.

Dr. Childs career at Bishop’s has been storied. His progression up the ranks, from Professor to Dean, and from Dean to Vice-Principal Academic were achieved because of his belief that he could make Bishop’s a better place. Michael’s voice of reason has contributed to the resolution of many difficult issues at Bishop’s; enrolment issues, massive cuts in government funding, union disputes, and collective bargaining challenges to name a few.

His long-time friend and colleague, Dr. Jamie Crooks, who spoke at Michael’s retirement celebration had the following observations. “As I look back now over the 28 years of working life I’ve shared with Michael, I see his approach is grounded in a deeper kind of belief—not so much a believing that as a believing in. What made Michael an effective leader and an irreplaceable colleague was his belief in the wondrous, fragile project of liberal education. I’ve walked a long way with him at this point—through some exciting times of growth, but also through some harrowing periods where the very existence of Bishop’s seemed in peril. I 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.”

Michael ended his career at Bishop’s where he began – back in the classroom doing what he loved most – teaching history to fresh-faced youth who had the good fortune of experiencing his gift. Michael and his wife, Danielle, are still enjoying life in Lennoxville, but in a different capacity now.

**DR. DAVID SEALE**

In 2018, as Bishop’s University turned 175 years old, Dr. David Seale also reached a milestone of his own. He arrived at Bishop’s in 1964, from Wigan, England, and began a teaching career in the Classics Department (now called Classical Studies) that would span over five decades – 54 years to be exact. His tenure represents over 30% of Bishop’s existence, so it is no surprise he ranks #1 among the longest serving faculty in the University’s history.

The winds of educational change in the late 60s along with the Parent Commission’s recommendation to introduce the CEGEP system in Quebec proved to be a severe and divisive crisis at Bishop’s. The Bishop’s University Faculty Association (BUFA) was eventually accredited in 1976 as the Association of Professors of Bishop’s University (APBU) under the province’s labour laws. David Seale’s
role in faculty union matters, since his arrival at Bishop’s, cannot be understated and throughout his career he championed the idea of strong debate between the University’s administration and the faculty union.

In fact, Dr. Seale served as President of the APBU a total of seven years over four mandates: 1984–85; 1988–90; 1996–98; and 2001–13. He also served in many other executive capacities for the faculty union advocating for professor’s rights and contributing to the collective bargaining process. David loved nothing better than a good debate, probably in some subliminal way to applaud the Greek teacher Protagoras of Abdera, also known as the “father of debate”. Some of David’s fondest memories include his interactions with students in residence as Dean of Abbott and the weekly Principal’s Dinner with Dr. Glass and the faculty.

Dr. Stuart McKelvie’s observations at David’s retirement celebration were met with some chuckles. He spoke of playing soccer with David and about David’s role in founding the Golden Lion Pub. “I think it is fair to say that Dave is ‘old school’ in many ways – for 54 years he came to the job attired in shirt, tie, and jacket, perhaps a reflection of the British tradition. And he used pen and paper – no computers and no e-mails!” For those who have ever visited Dr. Seale in his office, the memory of that setting will never be forgotten.

Other Faculty who have retired from Bishop’s include Dr. Louis Harvey (History) and Sandra Ward (Education). On the Staff side, Rocky Chrétien and Elsie Rouillard are enjoying their free time after long careers at the University.

Upper left: Tara Hurst ’99 welcomed Sophie Grace on March 2, 2019 in Birmingham, U.K.

Upper right: Natalie Barnes ’09 and Joel Lefebvre ’09 welcomed Nicholas Lefebvre on December 24, 2018 in Kingston, ON.


BIRTHS

Alex Paterson ’09 and son Kennedy Albert Alexander Paterson, born on May 29 in Ottawa, ON, are joined by great-grandparents Joan and Alex K Paterson ’52 and great-aunt Angie Arndt ’80.
1. Daniela Szary '08 and Aaron Turecki were married in Vancouver, BC in 2017. From left: Natalie Marcinew, Saskia Moraghan, Emily Gann '08, Daniela Szary Turecki '08. Saskia Henry '08 was also in attendance. • 2. Amy Freed-Burns '12 and Anthony Manouk '08 were married in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, QC on July 28, 2018. From left: (front) Mitch Gibbons, Jaime Wardinger '08, Katie Lemoine '14, Laurie Fletcher '13, Kelcy Wutt '13, Melissa Lagaut '09, Katrina Moaher '09, Valerie Manouk '08, and Alex Manouk '15; (middle) Saan Gross '08, Alaena Wanless '14, Ryan French MacDougall '09, Andrew Manouk '13, Eric Mia '13, Rob Vitols '15, Simon Henderson '14, Patrick Lamontagne '14, and Michael Dytko '08; (back) Sarah Cayley '15, Adam Peabody '13, Michael Wighton '08, Jeffrey Farrell '10, Alex Comerma '08, Erik Johannesson '09, Caitlin Johannesson '09, Brad Gorski '08, and Kevin Gagnon '13. • 3. Erin Wallace '08 and Tyler Johnson '07 were married in Fredericton, NB on August 5, 2018. They are expecting their first Bishop’s baby in December 2019. From left: Megan Sharpe '09, Catherine Collier '08, Erin Wallace '08, Tyler Johnson '07, Stephanie Craft '08, and Taylor Gray '05. • 4. Mikaela Eng '17 and Bradley Toogood '16 were married on August 10, 2019. From left: Shawn Dubuc '17, Phillipppe Wilson '17, Steve Filion '18, Allison Roberts '17, Mikaela Eng '17, Bradley Toogood '16, Kelly Bradbury '17, Christian Fournier '16,
3. Trent MacPhail '11 and Pascale St-Pierre '13 were married in St-Anne-des-Plaines, QC on October 27, 2018. From left: (front) Trent MacPhail '11, Pascale St-Pierre '13, Keegan Sewell '13, and Richard Lavole '16; (back) Monica Noll '10, Adam Noll '10, Braydon McLean '10, Harrison Maloney '12, Jade-iris Lafleure '11, Liz Cooen '14, Nate Moyse '15, Krithin Crowell '14, Shane McDonald '15, Bruce Swinden '13, Ben McPherson '13, Alex Lau '12, Amy Gallant '09, Kyle Handy '14, Melissa Rowe '21, and Stéfanie Lemairier '13. • 5. Trent MacPhail '11 and Pascale St-Pierre '13 were married in St-Anne-des-Plaines, QC on October 27, 2018. From left: (front) Trent MacPhail '11, Pascale St-Pierre '13, Keegan Sewell '13, and Richard Lavole '16; (back) Monica Noll '10, Adam Noll '10, Braydon McLean '10, Harrison Maloney '12, Jade-iris Lafleure '11, Liz Cooen '14, Nate Moyse '15, Krithin Crowell '14, Shane McDonald '15, Bruce Swinden '13, Ben McPherson '13, Alex Lau '12, Amy Gallant '09, Kyle Handy '14, Melissa Rowe '21, and Stéfanie Lemairier '13. • 6. Heather Hunter '13 and Rory Hughes were married in Kelowna, BC on July 20, 2019. From left: (front) Rachel Stevenson '12, Rory Hughes, Heather Hunter '13, Christina Dimich '13, Melissa Scott, and Emily Staal '13; (back) Shana McDonald '14, Mark Hargraves '13, Brett Conway '14, Lella Ponsford '13, Julien Matwawana '15, Jessica Poudrier '11, and Angela Chicco '14. • 7. Xavier R. Dubé '10 and Emille Oualllette '10 tied the knot at Toronto City Hall on January 12, 2019 after nine blissful years of living together (dating back to their last two years at BU)
IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Curtis Lowry DCL ’38 in June 2019. Father of Dieter ’79 and Brigitte ’86.


William Rowe ’48 in April 2019. Father of William ’82.

Walter Sudar ’53 in May 2019.

George Crossgrove ’64 on September 29, 2019. Brother to Mary Timms ’66.

Kenneth Livingston ’65 in May 2019.

Clifford Goodwin ’68 in April 2019. Brother to Dorothy ’70.

William Aird ’69 in May 2019.

Peter Davidson ’77 tragically succumbed to post-surgical complications on June 23, 2019. An avid sports fan, his love for football was lifelong. During his three years playing Gaiter Football he is fondly remembered as “Frank” (#63, defense tackle). It was Bishop’s University life, culture and community that spurred Pete on to be a dedicated volunteer alumnum for over 30 years. During that period, he served as president of the Alumni Association, member of the Bishop’s Corporation, and Chair of the Finance Committee. In 2006 he was recognized as Alumnus of the Year for his long-standing contribution to the University. In his professional life, Peter successfully managed institutional equities trading for Lombard-Odier (Trans-Atlantic Securities) where he became compliance officer. His drive to live the past ten years, while suffering from multiple health challenges, was beyond compare and the epitome of courage. Pete was a source of genuine kindness, generosity, goodwill and humour. He will always be remembered as a loyal Gaiter fan who left this world a better place.

Craig Harris ’82 in July 2019. Brother to Tony ’88 and husband to Kathleen ’82.


Lori Ann Duclos ’88 on August 26, 2019.

Edson Warner ’91 in August 2019. Father to Chester ’82 and Susan ’84 and husband to Edith ’74.

Professor Dan Patridge in August 2019. Dan began teaching at Bishop’s in 1959 in the formative years of the Business division. Affectionately known by the students as “Deeky” Dan, he also served as Dean of Residence in McGeer Hall. A Harvard graduate, Dan always brought a rigorous level of analysis to his accounting classes and his popularity was earned through his reputation as both tough and fair. Many would agree it was not a good idea to go to his classes unprepared. Dan’s example of being a good person and making a difference in the world lives on through countless students he mentored who later became leaders in their fields. He will be missed but not forgotten.

Professor Gil Ross in October 2019. Husband of Anne Maclver Ross ’72. Gil was a graduate of Ashbury College, the Royal Military College of Canada, McGill University and Cambridge University. In 1961 he founded the Department of Geography at Bishop’s and was named Professor Emeritus in 1992. Gil was an outstanding teacher to several generations of Bishop’s students in whom, during a career spanning four decades, he instilled a love of learning, intellectual curiosity and academic integrity. A true Renaissance Man, Gil was an all-around athlete, an avid skier, an accomplished photographer, a scholar of international repute, an authority on Arctic whaling and exploration, an Eastern Townships historian, and a prolific author. His last book was published just four months ago. Gil was also a latter-day golfer, a sometime maker of honey and maple syrup, and a connoisseur of fine rums.
THROUGH THE YEARS

Vic Suthren ’65 has been a prolific wordsmith.

A special thanks to Louise and Mark Saykaly ’72 for hosting a donor reception at their home in Montreal in June. Former Foundation Board Chair George Hendy ’68 was recognized for his generous support and many years of service to the BU Foundation.

Rod Tilley ’72 and Ben

Rod Tilley ’72 has retired after 35 years of teaching accounting and business administration at Mount St. Vincent University in Halifax, NS. His colleagues will miss his generosity, his smile and his devotion to his students. And maybe even his notoriously messy desk. When teased about it he always said it was the best way not to lose anything. He just kept everything on his desk. Now that he has some free time on his hands, Rod is looking forward to travelling with his wife Rona, spending more time with his dog Ben and not having to mark anything ever again! He also continues to be an amazing and supportive father to James and Mieka ’01, stepfather to Geoff and Daniel, father-in-law to Angella and Jennifer and a fantastic grandfather to Lachlan.

Rick Bougie ’76 wrote: “My wife Peggy is a Bachelor of Nursing grad from McGill. My three brothers, Don ’77, Steve ’82 and Bob ’86 are also BU grads as is our son Michael ’03. Our daughter Joanna Bougie (PhD Neurology from McGill) and her husband, Alex Duruisseau (BEng McGill), celebrated the first birthday of our grandson Tristan in July.”

R.G. (Rob) Richardson ’78 has now authored, edited and published over 230 Interactive City Guides and Brochures. His books are available on Amazon, Google Play, Google Books, Rakuten, Kobo, Chapters, Walmart and Indigo and are available in 190 countries in over 10 languages. New for 2019, a new series of Economic Interactive Notes and Glossaries, Financial Market, Money and Banking terms and definitions with over 1,100 quick links!

Ann Lambert ’79 recently published her debut murder mystery, The Birds That Stay, set in the Laurentians of Quebec and the West Island of Montreal. It is receiving excellent reviews and favourable comparisons to Louise Penny’s books. It is slated to be the first in a series entitled A Russell and Leduc Mystery.

Doug Paul ’79 wrote: “My daughter Genny graduated in 2017, and my son Andrew graduated in 2018. Andrew had a tough time getting into Bishop’s because he was one of those gamers who was very intelligent, but who didn’t fancy courses that didn’t attract his attention. But Bishop’s gave him a chance and he tackled a BA in Political Science. Well, he loved the program and ended up graduating with distinction! He took a year off to make some money while waiting for his girlfriend Joelle Frappier ’19 to graduate and enrolled in a Master of Political Science at Carleton University this fall. I love this Bishop’s real-life-story! It’s so much who we are and how we contribute in most powerful ways at Bishop’s.”

Genny ’17, Andrew ’18 and Doug Paul ’79
THROUGH THE YEARS

YOUNG ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

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’15 (BSc), Head Brew Master at 19-81 Brewing Company, Cayman Islands, was named Young Alumnus of the Year at the Chancellor’s Dinner on the eve of Convocation.

Jordan found brewing through Bishop’s. He remembers how he started at BU, a young scientist with his sights set on Doctors Without Borders, but it was through Bishop’s that Jordan found a path that allowed him to marry the creative and scientific sides of his brain. He was introduced to brewing at the Arches Brewery and fell in love. Thanks to his knowledge of brewing and networking with other Bishop’s graduates, he landed his dream job of being the head brew master at the 19-81 Brewing Company. The first craft brewery on the island, it is named after the coordinates of the Cayman Islands. Jordan embodies the idea that life doesn’t always go as planned, but gets you exactly where you need to be. He challenges and pushes himself every day to create new, exciting and locally focused beer to tourists and Caymanians alike.

Although the brewery is gaining popularity and keeping Jordan extremely busy, he is always looking for ways to improve and stay true to himself, one being a summer mentorship program he started at the brewery. This program takes in a local high school student for the summer to work directly with Jordan. From the beginning, Jordan has also partnered with local farmers. He gives them his spent grains to use for feed, in exchange for local fruit he uses in his next brew to make a one of a kind community focused beer.

His nominator Silken Jasiuk ’18 commented, “I am positive that Jordan’s initiatives are fueled by the green and local focus that Bishop’s has through and through. He works harder than anyone I know, and will not walk away from a job until it is done to his incredibly high standards. I believe that all this perseverance and hard work comes from his years spent at Bishop’s and the confidence and support he received there.”

Johanne Villeneuve ’80 is now Director Alliances at DLT Labs.

Wai-Ming Wong ’83 is working at BMO Financial Group in Toronto. Early this summer, his family celebrated the graduations of two of his children from medical school. His youngest daughter recently received a substantial scholarship from the University of Toronto, and she will continue to study there on full scholarship for the next three years.

Marie Gendron ’85 was appointed Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Culture and Communications of Quebec in February 2019.

Bruce Peever ’86 is now Partner at KPMG.

Karl Morel ’89 retired from the Canadian military (for the second time) in 2015 and now lives in Eastman, QC. Also a graduate of Champlain College (Lennoxville), Karl is thrilled to have returned to live in the Eastern Townships permanently after a 30-year absence. He is looking forward to walking around campus and browsing the Library Learning Commons from time to time.

Juanita Bramucci ’90 is now Chief Financial Officer at Collectif Santé Montréal.

Cindy Finn ’92 is now Director General of the Lester B. Pearson School Board, a K-11 school district of over 20,000 whose territory extends from Verdun QC to the Ontario border. (Cindy was inducted into Bishop’s Top 10 After 10 in 2009.)

At their June meeting, the Bishop’s Board of Governors honoured retiring members James Sweeney ’94 and
Nadia Martel ’90 for their service to the University. Thank you Jim and Nadia!

Melanie Kennedy ’95 was recognized with a Certificate of Achievement for her work at Auburn Drive High School, Cole Harbour, NS in the Drama Department.

The sons of Buddy Herold ’96 and Eric Pickering ’03 respectively, faced off against each other in the Canadian Little League Championship in Ancaster, ON.

Kerri Martin ’96 (née Breadner) is working at Halifax 4 Pillars Consulting Group, a debt restructuring company and often enjoys evenings by the ocean and road trips to the Bay of Fundy.

Geneviève Dubois ’97 has recently been hired as the Residence and Conference Financial Officer at Bishop’s University.

Mike Crichton ’97 is Senior Vice President – Global Therapy Head – Specialty & Primary Care at GSK in Singapore.

Laura McElwain ’98 is now Head of Institutional Investments at HSBC Global Asset Management (Canada) Ltd.

Johnny Reid ’98 hosted an eight-day cruise for Avalon Waterways along the Danube River from Nuremberg to Budapest in June 2019.


Jennifer LaPlante ’00 has started a new role as Executive Director of DeepSense, using data to grow the

ETHAN POHL ’19 AWARDED 3M NATIONAL STUDENT FELLOWSHIP

Prior to his graduation, Ethan Pohl, a Sociology major from Boston, was awarded the prestigious 3M National Student Fellowship.

This fellowship honours up to ten full-time students at Canadian post-secondary institutions who have demonstrated outstanding leadership.

He is the third student from Bishop’s to receive this award, joining Jason Earl ’15 and Chloé Soucy ’18.

During his time at Bishop’s, Ethan was the Station Manager at BU Toast Radio and helped design and facilitate “ENG454 Podcasting”, one of the experiential learning opportunities offered through the English Department.

As part of this project, he co-published a peer-reviewed article on student-faculty partnerships and presented at international conferences.

Ethan is a wonderful example of a student who has benefitted from Bishop’s educational model that values collaboration in building capacities for new ways of thinking, doing, and learning through an individualized approach to undergraduate education.

As Dr. Jessica Riddell, his 3M nominator, said, “Ethan was a leader on campus throughout his time at Bishop’s. He regularly sought out colleagues and collaborators to broaden his knowledge. Ethan has always been very open about his own struggles: because he knows how hard it is to find your voice, he has committed himself to helping others find theirs.”

Ethan is now pursuing a Master of Sociology at Queen’s.
economic potential of the ocean economy in Nova Scotia. She is doing this while also nearing completion of her second Master degree.

**Isabelle Phaneuf ’00** is now Directrice des services personnalisés de retour au travail et des solutions administratives at the Commission des normes, de l’équité, de la santé et de la sécurité du travail.

**Jared Kligerman ’07** is President of The Think Tank, a marketing agency in Toronto working with brands across North America. Last year was the most exciting yet, as he became a dad! His daughter Sofie Olivia Kligerman-Short was born in October 2018, and has already met many BU alumni in Toronto and Ottawa.

**Mark Lawson ’09** was appointed Deputy Chief of Staff – Policy in the Office of the Premier of Ontario in August 2019. He was also recently engaged to Jessica Lippert.

**Valerie Manouk ’09** is the Director Annual Programs at the Jewish General Hospital Foundation.

**Melissa Wright ’09** has been promoted to Senior Analyst Estates at Scotiabank.

**Elizabeth Morin-Lessard ’11** wrote: “I received my Ph.D. in Psychology from Concordia University in June 2019. I am now a Post-Doctoral Researcher at the University of Calgary. My academic journey began not too long ago at BU, where I completed my B.A. Hon. under the supervision of Dr. Stuart J. McKelvie!”

**Aaron Ries ’12** was on campus in July to film a short video about John Donald ‘60, DCL ’12

**Melissa Roy ’12** wrote: “Driving back to the Eastern Townships and seeing my favourite colour painted at every corner of LennoxVegas always triggers fond memories of my time at the library and other fun places. I’m thankful for the friendships and professional connections that I was able to make at Bishop’s as they continue to influence my career path, and have increased my professional opportunities. After graduating, my first teaching position was in Seoul, South Korea. I taught English as a second language alongside many Bishop’s graduates who, like me, were taking a leap of faith in wanting to explore new parts of the world to learn about different curriculums and teaching methods. Now back in the Montreal region, my passion for education abroad remains, as I am a proud member of the Fondation du Haut-Saint-Laurent pour l’éducation en Haiti. This non-profit foundation aims to improve access to education and provides educational resources to communities in need.

**Katie LeClair ’13** led the Ottawa Chapter in welcoming the Class of 2019 to the alumni family and reconnecting with fellow Gaiters living in...
the city in June at Playback Ottawa. Thanks to Alex Cook ’13 for hosting a ‘Welcome Home’ event in Vancouver in July for all our Vancouver alumni with a special invite to our Class of 2019.

Felicity Burns ’17 is pursuing a Master of Arts (MA) at McGill University in the Department of Integrated Studies in Education. Her MA thesis will explore teachers’ willingness to teach sexual health education before and after receiving a training intervention, while exploring the role of individual characteristics such as personality. In fact, she has been awarded $40,000 in scholarships from three different agencies: the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Fonds de recherche du Québec and McGill University – to fund this research and her studies.

Thanks to Laurie Tanguay ’17 for organizing a ‘Welcome Home’ event in Montreal in June at Loïc in Saint-Henri.

Gabrielle Lesage ’18 started her Master in English in September 2019 at McGill. She will focus her research on Jane Austen.

Emily Liatsis ’18 was featured in The Hamilton Spectator on March 4, 2019 for her unique fashion sense.

Florence-Olivia Genesse ’19 has started a Master degree at The Johns Hopkins University.

In April 2019, Leroy Street Theatre, an independent theatre company based in Toronto, presented C’mon Angie!, a play confronting questions related to intimacy and consent, written by Amy Lee Lavoie ’06, directed by Cristina Cugliandro ’06, starring Anne (Brown) van Leeuwen ’06, and produced by Melissa Wright ’09. They came together from across the country, from Vancouver to Montreal, to present this critically-acclaimed drama that My Entertainment World said, “is not just a plea to an assailant: it’s a message to audiences … and society at large.”
I met Camille Trollope, an exchange student from South Africa, during my first semester at Bishop's in September 2014. Unfortunately, Camille went back to South Africa after only one semester. We kept in touch over the next four years and for my graduation trip I decided to visit her in South Africa and Mozambique, where she currently lives.

On March 15, tropical cyclone Idai struck Mozambique and its neighbours, Malawi and Zimbabwe. It is recorded as being among the worst tropical cyclones to hit Africa, and devastated thousands of villages including Metuchira, where Camille had been collaborating on an agroforestry project. Together, we started a GoFundMe campaign to raise $3,000 to rebuild two classrooms. Within 30 days, we had raised $6,283 achieving 209% of our target thanks not only to our family and personal networks, but also friends and teachers from Bishop’s. Thanks to the generosity of these 62 donors, the community was able to rebuild not two, but four classrooms! This project truly empowered the community: the men built the classroom structures after long days at work, and the women added the mud to the walls, often after walking miles to fetch water. It was a remarkable story of a community coming together and inspiration.

Camille and I are firm believers that education is the most important tool that a child can have. The new buildings now provide 500 children with access to basic schooling in Metuchira. After the cyclone, the lack of educational resources was enormous so the improved facilities are truly a blessing for future generations.

In the coming months we will be building more classrooms in another province destroyed by Idai. Camille and I are very grateful to have met in such a special place as Bishop’s. To us, the University epitomizes the power of a community, and through our education and friendship we have been truly fortunate to help play a fundamental role in many young lives. We hope that one day at least one of these kids will meet their best friend, and then reach out within their community to empower others.
Nine Bishop’s graduates from the Ottawa Chapter were proud to represent the University as part of Habitat for Humanity – Greater Ottawa’s Women Build program.

Together they raised $7,420 that will go directly toward the cost of constructing new homes for deserving families in the Greater Ottawa area.

As part of the Women Build, the team donned work boots and hard hats and participated in a build day on September 13, 2019.

The build day included clearing construction debris, installing ribboning on foundations, and fitting strapping on exterior walls. What made the experience even more impactful was working alongside two future Habitat homeowners who were putting their own sweat equity into the process.

“It was a great experience, and I think we all went away with a sense of pride in helping people move to safe and happy homes, as well as appreciation for those who work in the construction industry on a daily basis,” said Cathy McLean ’82. “We wore our purple T-shirts with pride, and we were pleased to spread a bit of BU spirit and goodwill within our own community.”

“We felt incredibly empowered as women to come together and make a difference. Representing both women and Bishop’s University in this program was an experience we’ll never forget,” added Rachel Newcombe ’17.
• Getting mental health support • Mastering new technology •
• Bringing Shakespeare to life • Tackling climate change •
• Receiving scholarships • Scoring the winning goal •

These are all experiences made possible by donations from Alumni, Parents, Faculty, Staff and Friends of Bishop's University.

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