Bishop’s Alumni Magazine No. 54 Summer 2020

IN THIS ISSUE: TOP 10 AFTER 10 + HOW B.U. SUPPORTS MENTAL WELLNESS + THE CORONAVIRUS AND CLIMATE CHANGE + LOTS MORE...

Bishop’s and COVID-19: Apart, Together
Leaving a gift in your Will to charity turns the ordinary Canadian into an extraordinary philanthropist. Yet only 5% of Canadians do this. In fact, only 50% of Canadians have a Will, and many are due for a revision. The Bishop’s University Estate Giving Program encourages alumni and friends to think about charitable bequests for the betterment of future generations of Bishop’s students.

The will to give starts with making a Will; and where there is a Will there is a way.

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CONTENTS

BISHOP’S AND COVID-19 5
The Bishop’s family tackles coronavirus challenges

TOP 10 AFTER 10 6
Introducing the 2019 Top Ten After Ten inductees

KEEPING MENTAL HEALTH TOP OF MIND 16
How B.U. is supporting mental wellness on campus

THE CORONAVIRUS AND CLIMATE CHANGE 24
An opportunity to reconsider our relationship with nature

MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION CHAIR 31
How your donations are making a difference

REGULAR FEATURES
AVP Advancement’s Note 2
Principal’s Note 3
Campus News 11
Student Profile 20
Athletics 21
Faculty Perspective 23
Alumni Profiles 26
Wedding Bells 36
Births 38
Through the Years 39
In Memoriam 44

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.
UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN

This magazine initially was scheduled to go to press in early April, but with Bishop’s ceasing in-person classes on March 13, and most students going home, we decided to put on the brakes. The spread of the coronavirus significantly impacted university operations, just as it impacted the rest of the country and the world. How could we send out a magazine that made no mention of the pandemic?

We were also in the very early days of the “new normal”, and still held up hope that events like Homecoming could proceed. While “Hoco” is one of Bishop’s most cherished traditions, we have made the difficult decision to cancel this and other planned gatherings in the fall.

If it is possible to come together in the spring, we will let you know. But ensuring the safety of the Bishop’s community is of paramount importance to us.

In this issue, you will read about Bishop’s efforts to support the mental health of its students. With reports of Canadians having experienced despair or depression as a result of the pandemic – in far greater numbers than normal – this has taken on even more importance.

We’re also delighted to share profiles of alumni, faculty, students and student-athletes, including examples of members of our community supporting friends and strangers in these challenging times.

This is not the first time a health emergency has impacted university operations. The Christmas 1918 edition of The Mitre reported: “Our University, like many others, was affected by the epidemic of Spanish ‘flu.’ Several of the students contracted the disease, and were promptly isolated in the Shed, and placed under the tender care of a trained nurse. Fortunately, all of the invalided patients regained their former health, and the College was reopened again after being closed for about a fortnight. The prompt action on the part of the College authorities in taking the matter in hand immediately upon the outbreak of the disease deserves commendation.”

Humanity survived those circumstances and people never lost their wish to be together. Sheltering in place and restricting our movements has been hard, but today we have ready access to food, electricity, running water, and many comforts that did not exist in the day such as Wi-Fi and Netflix.

At the same time though, I have classmates who have lost either a job or a relative as a result of COVID-19. This puts into perspective the scope of the invisible enemy and the range of distress it has caused.

There continue to be unknowns, but we are rallying together as members of the Bishop’s family to weather this storm. That’s just the Bishop’s way.

And to the Class of 2020, while you missed out on several “last times” on campus, know that we join you in celebrating your accomplishments. Nothing can take that away from you. Now is the time to take what you have learned at Bishop’s and move forward with pride into the next, exciting chapters of your lives.

To all of you, stay safe, stay strong, and keep in touch.

—Jacqueline Scott ’90
Associate Vice-Principal, Advancement
I hope that you are healthy and safe and that all is well with you as we confront these unprecedented circumstances. I am writing this four months after Bishop’s transitioned to remote operations on March 13, 2020. As I have walked to my office each morning, the campus has been eerily quiet. It has been lovely to see the occasional deer, but I have missed talking to our students and feeling the energy they bring to Bishop’s.

I am very proud of our students. They adapted quickly to unique circumstances and demonstrated the resilience necessary to succeed. I am grateful to our employees who rallied to get our students home safely, and to our faculty and staff who embraced online teaching in order to ensure that our students could complete their academic terms.

As you may know, we initially postponed Convocation to the end of August in the hope of being able to hold an in-person ceremony. Unfortunately, that will not be possible. Several graduating students told us how important it would be to them to cross the stage in their academic gowns to receive their diplomas in the presence of their family, friends and classmates. While others indicated that they would like to mark the end of their time at Bishop’s before going onto new jobs or new universities.

So, we decided to hold a two-part Convocation beginning with a virtual ceremony on August 29th and concluding with an in-person ceremony next June.

While several Canadian universities will offer their courses in the fall primarily through remote delivery platforms, we have chosen another approach. We intend to welcome as many students as possible on campus in September. However, we are also preparing to deliver courses remotely for students who may not be able or who may not wish to travel here.

We believe that there are several factors that will make in-person classes possible. First, the COVID-19 situation in the Eastern Townships is under control. There is very limited spread of the virus and local health care institutions have ample capacity. Second, our average class size of 36 students will allow us to hold some of our classes in person while respecting public health guidelines. Third, we can provide at least 420 single-occupancy rooms with semi-private bathrooms in our residences.

We recognize, however, that until a vaccine is developed there is no zero-risk scenario for in-person education. There will be many challenges in organizing a safe and enriching environment for our students and employees. Even in the best-case scenario, we will have to offer a hybrid model. This will entail a blend of in-person and remote learning in order to comply with public health guidelines and to accommodate students and faculty who are not on campus.

We must also be prepared for the possibility that a second wave of the virus may force us to revert to on-line course delivery. In either case, we will continue to provide outstanding academic and student-life experiences supported by our dedicated faculty, librarians, staff and Student Services team.

We are living in exceptional and demanding circumstances. Nevertheless, the Bishop’s community continues to demonstrate its traditional esprit de corps and resilience. I am confident we will emerge from this crisis as a stronger university and an even more tight knit community.

Be strong. Be healthy. BU.

—Michael Goldbloom, C.M.
Principal and Vice-Chancellor
The death of George Floyd at the hands of the Minneapolis police on May 25th of this year has produced a moment of reckoning on questions of race the power and scope of which has not been seen since the civil rights movements of the 1960s.

Demonstrations all over the world have testified to the growing consensus that governments and institutions have been woefully complacent in the face of persistent, often violent and always spiritually debilitating systemic racism. This racism is also present in Canada and its institutions.

To imagine Bishop’s might be immune to it would be to participate in the very complacency that the Black Lives Matter movement and its partners in the push for equity, diversity and inclusion have now convinced us is intolerable.

In the past few weeks, I’ve had conversations and communications with students, alumni, faculty and members of our community who have stated frankly that Bishop’s must do better. The message has been difficult to hear. But they are right. Bishop’s is far from reflecting the diversity of Canada in its students, staff, faculty, administrators and governors.

There are undoubtedly barriers to inclusion and opportunity at this University that must be removed. And while I am confident that there is a genuine interest in listening to and learning from the voices of our LGBTQIA2S+ students and colleagues – in listening to and learning from all equity-seeking groups – many of us need to be educated as to how to be allies in their pursuit of justice.

If the steps taken to foster such an education are to be effective, they must be woven into the enduring structures of our collegial governance. With that goal explicitly in view, we have created a Joint Board and Senate Task Force on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. It is the first such Joint Board and Senate Task Force to be formed during my tenure as Principal.

The Task Force’s mandate will be to make recommendations for actions in the following areas:

- hiring, promotion and retention
- training of faculty, research chairs, librarians, staff, managers, students and governors
- governance of the University
- curriculum (including research programs and activities)
- policies, procedures and guidelines.

The Board and Senate are the highest governing bodies of the University. They have endorsed this initiative unanimously. The composition of the Task Force calls for broad representation and aims especially to include racialized and other minority groups.

Given the urgency and importance of its work, the Task Force is charged with producing a preliminary report to the Board and Senate by November 30, 2020. The report must contain specific proposals in the areas outlined above that can be translated into concrete action.

The Task Force and the actions that will arise from it are first steps. We have a long way to go if we are to be the truly inclusive and diverse institution we aspire to be.

There will be daunting moments and many hard conversations. But we simply cannot afford to fail. To paraphrase a thought of James Baldwin’s: Complacency in the face of discrimination not only harms the marginalized, it destroys the souls of the institutions that tolerate it.

—Michael Goldbloom, C.M.  
Principal and Vice-Chancellor
WE WILL GET THROUGH THIS TOGETHER

There's nothing quite like the Bishop's community! Faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends have risen and continue to rise to the challenges this pandemic has created by supporting their communities and one another. Here are a few examples:

PPE FOR FRONT LINE WORKERS

In the early days of the pandemic, Bishop's provided multiple boxes of gloves, disposable jackets, N95 respirators, full face shields, and over one hundred litres of disinfectant, from the science labs and fine arts studios, to the CIUSSS de l'Estrie–CHUS. These articles were redistributed to frontline COVID-19 medical staff and employees.

BreatHere VENTILATOR DESIGN FOR COVID-19

In only eight days, a multidisciplinary team comprising professors, engineers, medical professionals, local business representatives, as well as graduate and undergraduate students from Bishop’s, Université de Sherbrooke and Cégep de Sherbrooke

THE BISHOP’S UNIVERSITY
COVID-19 STUDENT RELIEF FUND

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, the entire world was thrown into disorder. At Bishop’s, there were students on campus and on exchange in other countries who needed to get home. There were students with preexisting conditions, vulnerable families, little or no income and precarious housing situations. Today, there are still many students struggling to make ends meet, with lost employment, unexpected living situations and uncertain futures. But thanks to the incredible support network of the Bishop’s family, we have been able to respond to the most urgent needs of many B.U. students.

The COVID-19 Student Relief Fund campaign was officially launched on March 25th, followed by a special day of giving, #GivingTuesdayNow, on May 5th, which saw over $30,000 donated to the overall campaign. Our appeal for donations went out at a time that was (and still is) very difficult for everyone, financially and otherwise. We knew many of our alumni, faculty, staff, parents and friends of the university would be facing hardships of their own. Yet responses were swift and the results profound, and we have been reminded once again of the deep kindness and compassion that exist at Bishop’s.

Since the Fund was announced in March, student requests for financial aid have flooded in. To date, 104 students have received relief in amounts ranging from $16.59 to $2,000 depending on their individual needs, totaling $80,212.77. In addition, $1,950 in food vouchers have also been distributed. As of this writing, the Committee is considering another round of requests.

According to a July report by CIBC, students are disproportionately affected by the pandemic. Of Canadian postsecondary students surveyed, 68% indicated that their income would be impacted by the pandemic, compared to 36% of adult Canadians. 87% claimed to be struggling with financial concerns, including whether they will be able to afford tuition and living expenses this coming school year. The report also found that 35% have lost job placements or summer jobs, and 33% have lost income due to a reduction of work hours.

We are so encouraged to know that the Bishop’s family is ready to step in with many helping hands if necessary. As we look towards the future, we will be putting a heavy focus on offering more bursaries and scholarships to ensure that a quality, postsecondary education at Bishop’s University continues to be accessible to students across Canada, and around the world.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for making this possible!

BE SAFE. BE PURPLE. BU.
BISHOP’S HONOURS A NEW TOP TEN AFTER TEN CLASS OF ALUMNI LEADING THE WAY IN THEIR RESPECTIVE FIELDS AND COMMUNITIES

Eric Bergeron ’99

Armed with B.A. in Geography and a Minor in Business and Computer Science, Eric was a fledgling entrepreneur who celebrated graduation by forming a sports blog network called Fan.ca along with two other Bishop’s alumni. Twenty years later, Eric has co-founded seven companies including ZipGrow Inc, an indoor farm manufacturing company, and Smart Greens, an indoor food production firm. He now serves as Executive Director of the Cornwall Innovation Centre, and is an elected city councillor in Cornwall, Ontario. Eric is a volunteer board member for the local United Way, the Cornwall Area Housing Board and the Cornwall Regional Airport Commission.
Ann-Marie, a dedicated scholar, received both the Lieutenant Governor General’s Award and Charles A. Shearson Memorial Prize for her studies in Biochemistry at Bishop’s. Following completion of her Ph.D. at the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Chacko moved to Singapore, where she is an Assistant Professor at the Duke-NUS Medical School Cancer & Stem Cell Biology Programme and Head of the Duke-NUS Laboratory for Translational and Molecular Imaging. Dr. Chacko also leads a national consortium called the Cancer ImmunoTherapy Imaging (CITI) Programme, and mentors new generations of scientists through her SingHealth Duke-NUS Women in Science Research Scientists Initiative.

When Serge graduated with a B.Sc. from Bishop’s he knew his future lay in veterinary work. After completing a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) at the Université de Montréal, Serge pursued his residency with the world-renowned Animal Medical Center in New York City and remained as their first renal/hemodialysis fellow and staff doctor. In 2012 Dr. Chalhoub joined the University of Calgary’s Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, where he has won numerous teaching awards. He has coordinated a Pet Health Clinic for disadvantaged Calgarians and produced several articles and book chapters on veterinary ultrasound, renal and urinary medicine.

An invitation to play for Bishop’s Women’s Gaiters Basketball team convinced this Halifax native to leave her hometown. It proved a good call; the Gaiters won the RSEQ championship and a fifth-place finish at the CIS Final 8 in 2004. Now coaching professionally, Carly has worked at UPEI and now with the Ryerson University Rams, who won the Critelli Cup and a silver medal at the U SPORTS Final 8 in 2016. Carly has also spent the last ten years coaching with Canada Basketball. Now an assistant with the senior women looking ahead to Tokyo 2021, Carly has also head coached teams in several age groups, leading the women’s Cadette team to a first-ever gold medal at the FIBA America’s u16 Championship and Canada’s first medals (bronze) at the FIBA u17 and u19 Women’s World Cups.
ERIC CORMIER ’02

A B.B.A. graduate and SEED Portfolio alumnus, Eric is a longstanding Bishop’s volunteer who has organized many alumni events, including Beyond the Bubble, an annual event that has connected Bishop’s students and alumni for the past 11 years. Eric co-founded this event with fellow inductee Eric Desbiens ’99, and the duo earned the Ésprit de Corps award in 2013 for their dedication to building student/alumni connections in the B.U. community. Eric began his career with National Bank Financial before moving on to become Managing Partner of a boutique M&A firm in Montreal. After 14 years in M&A Eric joined Pure Treats as the Chief Operating Officer in 2017. Eric also serves on the Board of Advisors of Sherbrooke-based ISE Metals.

STEVE DE EYRE ’05

Fondly remembered by fellow alumni for his local Canadian classic rock show on Radio Bishop’s-CJMQ, Steve recently joined TikTok as their Director of Government Affairs for Canada. Previously, he represented the world’s largest company, Amazon that hired Steve in 2016 as its Head of Public Policy for Canada, where he led government relations for Amazon.ca and their other Canadian businesses. Prior to joining Amazon, Steve earned his Juris Doctor degree at Case Western Reserve University School of Law in Cleveland, Ohio, and worked at the Canadian Embassy in Washington as the representative for Innovation, Science and Economic Development.

ALEX DEMERS ’07

A quintessential problem solver, Alex has created innovative supply strategies for multi-billion-dollar oil and gas and infrastructure projects internationally, juggling large teams and complex situations in challenging environments. Alex was also the mastermind behind supply management for Montreal’s new Samuel-de-Champlain Bridge. This monumental endeavor saw him create and implement a logistics strategy across Quebec and from Spain that delivered over 1300 oversize pieces to one of Canada’s most complex and demanding bridge projects. He counts this among his most satisfying achievements, particularly when he sees his son excitement at crossing “Daddy’s bridge”.

Human rights have long been a passion for Greg. After obtaining his B.Sc. in Computer Science and a B.A. in Economics, Greg went on to study law at the University of Victoria before joining the Canadian Foreign Service, and subsequently earned a cum laude LLM in international human rights law from Utrecht University. His career in the diplomatic corps has included postings in New York, Geneva, and to Canada’s Embassy in Kabul. In 2018 Greg was seconded to the Privy Council Office to support the Prime Minister’s Special Advisor on LGBTQ2 issues, and most recently worked as Director of Communications for Minister Maryam Monsef.

Eric, a Bishop’s B.B.A. alumnus, has always had a head for numbers. Shortly after graduation he joined Jarislowsky Fraser, one of Canada’s leading investment firms. He was named a Partner just nine years later – a testimony to his dedication working with both institutional and private wealth accounts. He now leads the firm’s institutional activities for Eastern Canada. An active member of non-profit organizations, Eric sits on the Lakeshore General Hospital Foundation Board, is Chair of the Williams School of Business’ Success through Education, Enterprise & Determination (SEED) Program. He is co-founder of the annual Beyond the Bubble event along with fellow inductee Eric Cormier ’02.

Amy, a proud B.U. graduate who has always had an eye for detail, received numerous articles and book chapters, presented at international symposia, and received funding from NSERC, NSF, and NASA. Dr. Keirstead currently serves as the Associate Dean of the University of New England’s College of Arts and Sciences. She is passionate about undergraduate education and has taught Organic Chemistry to over a thousand students, to whom she is affectionately known as “Dr. K.”
TO THERE AND BACK AGAIN
Meet Bishop’s New Director of Research and Graduate Studies

There are many roads facing students when they leave the B.U. bubble. For some this can mean entry into the work force, for others post-graduate studies. For proud alumna Dr. Amy Svotelis ’01 a Bachelor of Science – Honours in Biology, it started a journey that has ultimately led her back home to Bishop’s.

“My time at the CRCHUS definitely improved my communication skills and gave me the opportunity to learn about research with human subjects,” she says. “I was required to meet with many people and help the general public to understand why research is of major importance.”

A self-described ‘active complainer,’ Amy strives to address problems as they arise. “I’m not the person who just complains. If there is a problem, I want to do something about it.”

My passion lies in helping research happen and in forging collaborations.

Prior to her time with the CRCHUS, she had completed an M.Sc. in Anatomy and Cell Biology and a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology at Université de Sherbrooke, in between which she taught as a contract faculty in Bishop’s Biology Department. Amy knew though that research administration was where her interest lay.

“My original plan was to become an environmental biologist,” she says. “When I was a kid, I wanted to save the sharks – and their reputation. But I began to realize that being an individual researcher was not something I craved. My passion lies in helping research happen and in forging collaborations. I’m more of a facilitator than a creator.”

The new position at Bishop’s is an exciting challenge for Dr. Svotelis. She sees great potential for the University to up its research profile and looks forward to helping individual and collaborative projects move forward.

“I loved the people and the staff, and I was just getting to cruising altitude at the CRCHUS. But I saw that I could bring something to Bishop’s with the skill set I has gained and knowing the place so well.

“My work as Director of Research and Graduate Studies is to move along the research plan and further develop it in regard to collaboration and multi-disciplinary projects. There is interesting research being done at Bishop’s. I can see different links that I can make between researchers and how I can promote their work. The point is to have graduate programs that mirror the enormous amount of expertise we have at Bishop’s.”

Of course, there is also a sentimental component for the accomplished alumna to return to her alma mater. Dr. Svotelis knows firsthand the supportive and inclusive nature of Bishop’s student and faculty, and the close bonds that are formed in the trenches of post-secondary academia.

“You create such a family at Bishop’s,” she says. “And maybe that’s the one thing that is both good and a little sad. There’s such a feeling of togetherness, but then you spread out all over the world. Of my core university girlfriends, one friend is in BC, one is in Nova Scotia and one is in the Cayman Islands. Just like any family, I miss them but at the same time, I am deeply thankful for them.”
FOUR BISHOP’S BUSINESS STUDENTS WIN INTERNATIONAL CASE COMPETITION

During Reading Week (March 2–6, 2020), four students from the Williams School of Business travelled to Heilbronn University in Künzelsau, Germany, for the 25th edition of the Network of International Business Schools (NIBS) case competition. Effects of the coronavirus were causing many cancellations in Europe at that time, but the competition proceeded. Sixteen universities from ten countries around the world were represented. This included teams from four other Canadian institutions (Carleton University, Concordia University, University of Guelph-Humber and University of Prince Edward Island).

Throughout the week, the student teams were tasked with solving a case study while being in isolation, without internet, for three to four hours. The teams were then asked to give a 20-minute presentation of their strategic recommendations to a panel of judges, followed by a question-and-answer period. To win the championship, students needed to successfully present six cases in total. The final case examined how to create a more sustainable supply chain for Huawei.

The Bishop’s 2020 team consisted of Cecil Belanger, a 4th year Marketing student from Langley, BC; Maxim Jacques, a 3rd year Global Management & Leadership student from Thetford Mines, QC; Noah Jepson, a 4th year Finance and Economics student from Denver, CO (who was one of two competitors who earned a Best Presenter Award); and Kelly Poirier, a 3rd year Accounting student from Quebec City, QC. The team was accompanied by two coaches: Professor Bill Robson, and Experiential Learning Coordinator, Charlene Marion ‘06 (a former competitor herself).

The team began training in the fall and practiced for nearly 200 hours prior to the competition. “Several months ago, four of us were brought together to build a championship caliber team using the tools we learned in class. We are thankful to all the professors, faculty and staff who helped us along the way. After all, they are the ones who equipped us with the tools in our toolbox,” explained Noah Jepson when asked about the experience.

At the competition, Bishop’s faced teams from Budapest, Missouri, and Canada (Carleton and Concordia), and then defeated the host team from Heilbronn University, Germany in the finals. The Bishop’s team was commended on its ability to think outside the box for solutions as well as a strong analysis that didn’t follow a particular mold. “We have spent years coaching our teams to let the case dictate the presentation content, and not follow a copy-and-paste model,” stated Professor Robson. And the result, another championship for Bishop’s, brought the total to seven. This is the most wins ever by one university.

Year after year, the greatest takeaway for Bishop’s students is the learning that happens outside the classroom. With a strong emphasis on experiential learning in the Williams School of Business, case learning and case competitions continue to be an important learning tool for students. “Being a member on the NIBS team taught me a great deal in only one year. Our coaches instilled the ability to work under pressure, to better analyze a problem, and how to identify a solution that will hold the road,” shared Maxim Jacques. “It is definitely the best learning experience that Bishop’s has offered me!”

To watch the Bishop’s team’s final presentation, visit: https://www.facebook.com/NIBScase
The performance of Bishop’s students at the annual New York Model United Nations simulation regularly earns top marks. And the 2020 delegation was no exception even though the COVID-19 frenzy forced the cancellation of the event.

The simulation was to be held from March 29 to April 2 in New York City. Over 7,100 people (6,353 being students) from around the world were scheduled to participate with the Bishop’s delegation chosen to represent Senegal. Regardless of the physical cancellation, the papers prepared by the university students were submitted and assessed and resulted in two highly competitive Position Paper Awards being bestowed upon members of the Bishop’s delegation.

Professor Sarah-Myriam Martin-Brûlé, who teaches the United Nations Practicum course, was elated with the results. She remarked, “Our delegation conducted remarkable and inspiring group work again this year, and bravo to the two teams who received the awards. It was such a pleasure and an honour to teach these superb students throughout the year!”

Congratulations are in order to Camille Cournoyer and Maia Lugar, representing Senegal on the Human Rights Council, and Duncan Crabtree and Khalida Faqiry on the UNESCO committee. Kudos also go to Professor Martin-Brûlé for her work in preparing yet another remarkable delegation, for her dedicated service, and on the success of her team.

The 3M National Student Fellowship honours up to ten full-time students at Canadian post-secondary institutions who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in their lives, at their learning institution, and in their communities. Maxim Jacques, a fourth-year Williams School of Business (WSB) student majoring in Global Management & Leadership, received this prestigious award in May, joining previous Bishop’s alumni recipients Jason Earl ’15, Chloé Soucy ’18 and Ethan Pohl ’19.

A first-generation university student from Thetford Mines, QC, Maxim chose Bishop’s largely due to its intimate campus atmosphere. During his first year, he joined the Bishop’s University Commerce Society (BUCS). He launched a merchandising line for the WSB, implemented recruitment and training tools for BUCS, and was involved in many business case competitions, including the March 2020 Network of International Business Schools competition in Germany where the Bishop’s team took top honours (see page 11).

While on an exchange at the University of Essex in the U.K., Maxim developed an interest in sustainability and climate change. He therefore sought out opportunities in business and sustainability, which led him to discover The GREEN Program (TGP). Founded in 2009, TGP creates short-term, accredited, study-abroad opportunities related to sustainable development and sustainability topics around the world. Thanks to the Bishop’s Exceptional Student Talent Project Fund (B.E.S.T.), in the summer of 2019 Maxim traveled to Peru for a 10-day TGP educational program where he learned about water resource management and sustainable development.

In his final year at Bishop’s, Maxim joined the Bishop’s Sustainability Task Force to advise the University on how to position itself as a sustainable institution. He also worked as a research assistant to determine how environmental sustainability could be integrated in business curriculums. Maxim plans to pursue his education with a Master’s degree in Sustainable Development.
Professor Reena Atanasiadis, Dean of the WSB, was thrilled about Maxim’s journey being celebrated on a national level: “What a wonderful achievement for Maxim Jacques and the Williams School of Business. Maxim is a great example of how dedication and hard work lead to outstanding accomplishments and recognition.”

Asked about his thoughts on his experience at Bishop’s, and how this has shaped him, Maxim, who was named valedictorian of his class, had the following to say: “I chose Bishop’s because I wanted to live the close-knit community experience. During my time here, I have been very fortunate to be surrounded by teachers and faculty members (or mentors, should I say) who played a crucial role in helping me discover who I aspire to be. They challenged my ways of thinking, guided me, supported me through hardships, and went the extra mile so that I could achieve my ambitions. It just felt like I was part of a big family, and this is what makes this school unique. Being provided with so many opportunities, namely being part of BUCS, participating in international case competitions, and traveling to Peru, made my experience more than memorable. Not only did it forge my professional skills, but it turned out to be a transformative experience: I entered as a business student, and now I’m leaving as an environmental activist with a passion for sustainable business.”

Help Us Celebrate the
50th Anniversary
of the
B.B.A. @ Bishop’s!

B.B.A. Alumni: We are looking for your stories, photos, and memorabilia!

2020 will be remembered for many reasons, but hopefully mostly for celebrating 50 fabulous years of the Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.) at Bishop’s.

In the spring of 1970, 14 students were bestowed the titles of B.B.A. for the very first time. Needless to say, much has happened since then! Over the next few months, we will be featuring success stories, fun facts, video interviews, and more on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/yourwsb/ as well as planning a time capsule.

Have stories, photos, memorabilia, or ideas to share? Please reach out to Charlene Marion ’06, Experiential Learning Coordinator at cmarion@ubishops.ca
The statutes of Bishop's University provide for a Bishop's Council that may advise on any question affecting the well-being of the University. It is also mandated to recommend to the Board of Governors candidates for the position of Chancellor and for the naming of major physical assets of the University. Council members are elected for a four-year term.

This past July, Principal Michael Goldbloom announced the appointment of Michael Childs, Scott Griffin ’60, DCL ’02, O.C., Yolande James, Paige O’Beirne ’10, Chief Richard O’Bomsawin, Junior Sirivar ’99 and Reverend Heather Thomson to the Bishop’s Council. We are very fortunate that such a distinguished group of people has accepted to serve the University.

MEET THE MEMBERS

Yolande James, who will be Chair of the Bishop’s Council, graduated from the Université de Montréal with a degree in Civil Law in 2000, and from Queen’s University with a degree in Common Law in 2003. She was admitted to the Barreau du Québec in 2004.

Ms. James was elected to the Quebec National Assembly in the riding of Nelligan in 2004, and was re-elected in 2007, 2008 and 2012. As an MNA, she served as Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities (April 2007 to August 2010), and as Minister responsible for Families (May 2010 to September 2012). She decided not to stand in 2014.

Since leaving politics, Yolande James has provided political analysis on both Radio-Canada and CBC television, and she was the highly successful Director of the Bishop’s Forum in 2019 and 2020.

Dr. Michael Childs, Professor Emeritus of History, retired in 2018 after a career of 30 years at Bishop’s University. Dr. Childs is an internationally recognized scholar and an award-winning teacher (he won the Chancellor’s Teaching Award in 1994). Dr. Childs spent eight of his thirty years at Bishop’s as an academic administrator, first as Dean of Humanities (2000–2003), and later as Vice-Principal Academic (2008–2013).

Scott Griffin ’60, DCL ’02, O.C. is a businessman, author and philanthropist known for founding the Griffin Poetry Prize in 2000. Mr. Griffin is also the Chairman and major stakeholder of two manufacturing companies and the owner of The House of Anansi Press Inc. He is Chairman and Trustee of the Griffin Trust for Excellence in Poetry, served as Chancellor of Bishop’s University (2005–2013) and he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2012.

Paige O’Beirne ’10 is the Director of Partnerships for the Gairdner Foundation. Prior to joining the
Gairdner Foundation, Ms. O’Beirne was a Senior Development Officer at Habitat for Humanity Canada and she has also held development roles at Upper Canada College and the Terry Fox Foundation where she worked to refresh its school fundraising program and the Terry Fox Run brand. She holds a Master's degree in Public Policy and Administration from Ryerson University and degrees in Sociology and Educational Studies from Bishop’s.

Richard O’Bomsawin is the Chief of the Abénakis Band Council of Odanak. Since he was first elected in 2007, Chief O’Bomsawin has been instrumental in establishing a new relationship between the Abenaki community of Odanak and Bishop’s University. He is also a well-known and established businessman in the community of Odanak.

Junior Sirivar ’99 graduated from Bishop’s with a B.A. (Honours) in Human Geography. He earned an LLB from Dalhousie University in 2002 and then articled with McCarthy Tétrault in Toronto where he has now practiced law for the past 14 years.

An experienced trial lawyer, Mr. Sirivar is both Partner and Co-Chair of McCarthy Tétrault’s International Arbitration practice group. An author and frequent speaker, he has been consistently ranked as a Litigation Star by Benchmark Canada and he is the recipient of a 2010 Lexpert Zenith Award honoursing him for his pro bono representation of the victims of a pogrom in Romania. As a committed volunteer he has served on the Board of Directors of the Child Development Institute. Mr. Sirivar was recognized as a Bishop’s Top 10 After 10 in 2017.

Reverend Heather Thomson served as campus minister for Bishop’s University and Champlain Regional College for 27 years until her retirement in 2017. Reverend Thomson was ordained Priest in the Anglican Church in 1979. She presently serves as President of the Lennoxville Library and as a member of the Board of Directors of Mental Health Estrie. While on campus Reverend Thomson played an active role in the B.U./C.R.C. Refugee Student Sponsorship Committee.
Unsurprisingly, students are a high-risk group when it comes to mental health issues. They live with constant deadlines, the fear of disappointing grades and a volume of work that can become overwhelming – all before the demands of social and extracurricular life. Multiple studies have found a strong link between heavy social media use and an increased risk for depression, anxiety, loneliness, self-harm, and even suicidal thoughts. Add to that, judgemental messaging like ‘toughen up’ and ‘get over it’, so often heard by people struggling with their mental health. With all these compounding issues, it is no surprise that students are at risk. Bishop’s is, of course, not immune to these forces, but the Student Services team has been taking fervent action to tackle mental health issues on campus and make Bishop’s a place where students feel safe, healthy and supported.

BREAKING STIGMA
The focus on mental wellness at B.U. starts during Orientation Week, when entering students are given a comprehensive list of support services. The University’s online Student Services page also features easy-to-access information regarding everything from addiction and anger management to sexuality, gender, anxiety and depression. However, access to services is just one piece of the puzzle; stigma is often one of the biggest barriers to students getting the help they need. Harsh words, judgements and terms like ‘snowflake’ (an insult for someone who is perceived as too sensitive, often used for millennials) can be enough to keep students from using available mental health services. It is a sentiment that does nothing to help, while adding yet another layer of shame and rejection to an already overburdened psyche.

Stine Linden-Andersen is the Dean of Students at Bishop’s. Prior to taking on her current position, Dr. Linden-Andersen was a professor in the University’s Department of Psychology. With her doctorate in Clinical Psychology and with hands-on experience as a clinician and private therapist, Dr. Linden-Andersen brings an informed and multi-faceted approach to helping students.

“I don’t think previous generations fully appreciate what it’s like to be a university student these days,” she says. “We have really courageous students who enter our university...
environment facing a lot of challenges and barriers. Using a term like ‘snowflake’ really takes away from the courage and resilience of these students who are fighting to get a degree... We know that over half of our student population in Canada has felt hopeless in the last year. 30% to 40% struggle with mental health, yet it’s only 30% to 40% of those students who get help.”

We know that over half of our student population in Canada has felt hopeless in the last year. 30% to 40% struggle with mental health, yet it’s only 30% to 40% of those students who get help.

In her role as Dean of Students, Dr. Linden-Andersen is building on the work of her predecessors in making mental health an integral part of her Student Services team’s work.

“I think we’re really at the forefront of providing access for our students. We have applied a ‘stepped care’ model here at Bishop’s. This is a system of delivering and monitoring treatments so that the most effective, yet least resource-intensive treatment, is delivered first, only ‘stepping up’ to intensive/specialist services as required and depending on the level of patient distress or need. While some may need direct crisis intervention and support, there are also support systems for students just needing someone to talk to from time to time. In other words, it is having the right service, in the right place, at the right time, delivered by the right person.”

A ‘STEPPED CARE’ APPROACH

The various mental health initiatives on campus are wide and always evolving. Pet therapy during midterms, peer counselling and crisis training have widened the spectrum of support and proven popular with students and staff alike. “The stepped care approach goes hand in hand with our wonderful faculty who offer inclusive and accommodating classrooms to create a supportive environment. Many professors really want to help but aren’t sure how, and we have several ways to educate them in how to respond to a student crisis.” Support groups, started by students over the years, are another important contribution to campus mental wellness and part of the stepped care model. “These are groups that deal with things like body issues, eating disorders or sexual assault. They’re advertised on social media and anyone can show up to connect with others in a safe, non-judgemental space.” Yet another branch are the counsellors, security team and health clinic who have been trained to assess and mitigate the risk of suicide and support students struggling with suicidal ideation or behaviour. Mental wellness truly is a campus-wide effort.

“Our stepped care approach is situational,” explains Theresa Gagnon, Bishop’s Manager of Counselling and Accessibility Services. “We have a walk-in clinic model for therapy meaning students can see somebody either the same day or the next day. Sometimes you have a student who is studying, possibly playing a sport and engaging in extracurricular activities, and there may not be time to meet with a therapist weekly. In that case we encourage them to seek out resources on their own and set them up with a counsellor if that doesn’t work out. This way they become their own agents in mental health.” She adds, “Sometimes just helping them make a plan and teaching them about stress management techniques like breathing, exercise and meditation can help make the difference. And if more care is needed, we’re there to help.”

A former social worker, Theresa Gagnon is well-versed in the challenges and strategies involved in creating stable and supportive environments. Prior to becoming Bishop’s Manager of Counselling and Accessibility Services, Ms. Gagnon spent sixteen years in the public health sector, most recently at the...
Montreal Children’s Hospital. “My specialty is crisis and trauma,” she says. “I worked in the emergency room, and it could get pretty intense. Working with the emergency response team was a big weight to carry at times…. Working in the hospital gave me a solid foundation for what I do, but it really brought home to me the merits of a less hectic lifestyle.” When her partner received a job offer in the Eastern Townships, where Theresa had spent her early years, she says mental health was a huge part of their decision to move. This is a lesson Ms. Gagnon is committed to imparting on Bishop’s students. “I know how it feels to feel pressured by high expectations for performance and output. Our goal is to help support students during those periods and provide quick and effective engagement with them to address their needs.”

Ms. Gagnon sees change for the better regarding mental wellness. “I think that people are becoming more aware that mental health is part of a larger picture. It’s definitely an improvement in attitude that is still evolving.”

PEER-TO-PEER SUPPORT
Another key to the university’s overall mental health plan has been BUnited, the Peer-to-Peer Mental Health Support Centre. This best practice strategy is working at universities across the country, and was made possible at Bishop’s by the $25,000 1980s Class Gift project launched at Homecoming 2019, and funds donated through #GivingTuesday in December 2019 (see the report on the next page for a description of other projects supported).

I think that people are becoming more aware that mental health is part of a larger picture.

“The student unions of Quebec conducted a survey and one of the things that came up was the lack of peer support,” Ms. Gagnon says. The BUnited program provides a quick and easy-to-access support system in a low-pressure environment. “The opportunity presented by the Peer-to-Peer plan is such a great response to that need. We’ve been able to hire and train five peer supporters to actively listen, provide resources and to build hope.”

FENTANYL OVERDOSE TRAINING
The opioid crisis has added another, potentially deadly, wrinkle to student safety. “The Townships are the second highest location in Quebec for fentanyl-related overdose,” she says. “[Fentanyl] is one hundred times stronger than morphine, and it’s being cut into street drugs like cocaine.

“When administered quickly, Naloxone can save the life of someone having an overdose. Health Services had Naloxone kits, but were the only personnel trained on how to use them. I found a master’s student in Montreal who was offering free training at McGill and went to one of the sessions. I asked him to partner with us and now we’ve trained fifteen non-medical professionals across the University to administer it.”

PSYCHOLOGICAL WELLNESS COMMITTEE
Finally, Bishop’s has been collaborating with other post-secondary institutions in the region to help coordinate a comprehensive safety net for students. “The University of Sherbrooke is working on a project to promote mental health in the Eastern Townships,” says Ms. Gagnon. “We created a Psychological Wellness Committee and did an audit of our services on campus at all levels. This way we can see what is being done by students, by the community and by the institution and respond to any remaining gaps. It’s a big project, working on a campus-wide strategy and creating sustainable and preventative initiatives.”

For Ms. Gagnon and Dr. Linden-Andersen, these efforts are a natural offshoot of B.U.’s tradition of student engagement, support and community. Their teams work tirelessly with students to ensure that their years at Bishop’s are not simply about getting a great education. “We want students to flourish here,” says Dr. Linden-Andersen. “I think we’re the best university in the world, there is no doubt about that. But we can always be better, and this is our goal.”
MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT IN THE ERA OF COVID-19

The coronavirus pandemic has added a layer of complexity to maintaining mental health, which will make these supports even more important. Mental health research indicates that routine and structure foster positive mental health and psychological resilience. As such, the sudden closure of campus and cancellation of in-person classes, combined with worries about the virus, admonitions to stay at home and avoid social contact, and new financial worries have hit everyone hard. Students may need additional measures to protect their mental health until the health crisis is resolved and beyond, especially considering precautionary measures that will have to be taken when classes resume.

In the meantime, the Student Services team is doing its best to make sure Bishop’s students continue to have access to essential mental health services and are adapting programs as needed. For now, students have been able to access campus counseling services by online chat, video or phone and there is a strong effort to make as many resources as possible available through the website and social media.

Additional online resources pertaining to mental health are available at www.ubishops.ca/future-current-students/student-campus-life/student-services/health-wellness/

If you know a student having a mental health crisis or who is in need of help, please do not hesitate to contact Theresa Gagnon at tgagnon@ubishops.ca or 819.822.9600, ext. 2615.

GIVING TUESDAY 2019

Giving Tuesday is a world-wide day of philanthropic giving. For Bishop’s, our journey with #GivingTuesday began in 2018, and our donors have set an impressive pace for giving days to come! Thanks to their thoughtful support and the great team in Student Services at Bishop’s, several programs are already in place and, while the pandemic has forced some modifications to some of the programming, more will be ready to launch soon.

PROGRAMS IN PLACE:

• Suicide Risk Assessment Training for all counsellors, security staff, coordinators and Residence Life staff
• Naloxone and Overdose Response Training for 20 non-medical professionals
• The Inquiring Mind certification program for student, faculty and staff mental health support training

COMING SOON:

• The BUnited peer-to-peer mental health support centre
• TAO Connect, an online program that combines online education materials with brief contact by phone, chat or video conferencing with a registered counsellor to help improve student health and wellness.
• Student Learning Resources for independent student learning, including a Mental Health Lending Library, a Community Cupboard, and “Zen Spaces” on campus
• Psychological Wellness Committee

Student Services is also putting a strong focus on getting information online, including channels for each department and a Counselling and Mental Health page. Stay tuned for updates and more mental health improvements at Bishop’s!

Total donated to Student Mental Health:
$144,086.08*
Original goal: $70,000

Donations to #GivingTuesday in 2018:
$62,926.50

*The 1980s reunion classes contributed an additional of $25,000 at Homecoming to the BUnited project.

Thank you to everyone who contributed and made these mental health services possible!
Myriam Roy ’20 studied Applied Psychology at Bishop’s. In 2018, she was a recipient of the B.E.S.T. (Bishop’s Exceptional Student Talent) Project Fund, an award for students who display potential for significant achievement and impact after graduation. The Gatineau native is a dedicated volunteer and spoke with us in February about her B.E.S.T funded project in Togo, West Africa.

First, congratulations on the B.E.S.T award! It sounds as though it really opened some interesting doors for your studies.

Thank you! Having my B.E.S.T. Project approved was actually a very special moment for me. It marked the mid-point of my studies and happened at a point where I really wanted to start giving back in a concrete way. The best thing was that the funding opportunity didn’t have to be a cookie cutter mold, so I was able to build my own project into something that made sense and was meaningful to me.

You chose the Togolese Republic in West Africa as your research focus for the project. What was it about this country that caught your attention regarding mental health?

I had been to Togo before as a tourist and I knew that there were obstacles in delivering mental health support to the people there. In Togo, mental illness tends to be viewed as being tied to voodooism, which is perceived negatively by most individuals. Attributing that label to someone limits the chances of getting proper assessment and treatment, so there are many, many people living with untreated and undiagnosed mental health issues.

You spent two months working in collaboration with local medical professionals there, speaking with children and youth about the importance of maintaining mental health and visiting hospitals. Did you see any evolution in the prevailing attitude towards mental illness?

A new treatment facility had recently been built when I arrived in Togo. Fortunately, the approach to treating mental illness is a little different in that region because it focuses much more on community reintegration. They use prescription drugs and therapy, but the patient’s family is also included in a very active way.

If you have lost touch with your family as a result of your mental illness, the centre will work to find your mother, your sister or whoever and bring them to be part of your recovery. They’ll live with you, rebuilding relationships and trust, and then reintegrate you into society. It’s very much about breaking stigma towards the idea of curses and spiritual causes while working to bring people back into the community.

It sounds like a very different mental health landscape than what we’re used to here in Canada, where services are more readily accessed with less (though still present) stigma.

It was, and certain cultural differences surfaced that I didn’t perceive as a tourist. Their administrative approach is quite formal and there are very few psychologists. It’s expensive and it’s very underserviced, so these are new concepts for many people there. One woman was able to identify that what she had been struggling with was a mental illness. Medical doctors hadn’t been able to give her explanations for her symptoms. Through our presentation she was able to identify this, and we were able to connect her with a mental health professional to get a diagnosis and treatment.

Our team wasn’t just there to provide information. We helped people build exercises and activities that they would be able to use after we left. Sometimes you don’t necessarily see big results, but if you can help even one person with a real need you can impact not only their life but the community as well. It’s a ripple effect.

This will be your last year at Bishop’s. What lies ahead for you?

Has it been four years already? I’ve had such a positive experience here, working with mentors like Dr. Suzanne Hood and Dr. Stine Lindemandersen. You know, I didn’t really apply for many universities after visiting Bishop’s. I was just sold instantly.

Now I’ve applied to go on to my Master’s degree in Clinical Psychology, with the end goal being private practice. But I plan to continue with local and international community work. It’s important to me to feel as though I’m giving something back.
...AND THE COWHIDE GLOBE HITS HOME

The clock is ticking down... three... two... one... and “with a gentle push, and a mild arc, the cowhide globe hits home!”* It is mayhem at the Mitchell Gym. A three-pointer by Joany Castor-Thadal, a senior guard from Montreal, has given the men’s basketball team a single point lead over UQAM and the 2020 league championship.

But no... the boys and girl in the striped shirts steal the thunder as they bring the chaos to rest. The clock is reset at .8 seconds. Time Out UQAM. Sixty seconds seem like an eternity as anxious anticipation permeates the gymnasium. Play resumes... a contested inbounds pass and UQAM’s shot is up... but not to be – short and wide and no foul. Again it is bedlam on the court, and pandemonium in the stands. The Gaiters are going to the Final 8!

A scene typical of March Madness, this particular basketball sequence will remain in the minds of Gaiter fans forever. The shot was a replay of Toronto Raptors’ Kawai Leonard in the NBA playoffs in June 2019 – except Castor-Thadal’s shot was a swish, a dagger, truly a legacy-maker! Congratulations are extended to Head Coach Rod Gilpin and the entire 2019–20 Gaiter squad. Thanks for an entertaining season!

*“Hot Rod” Hundley

FINAL 8 RECAP

At the Final 8 tournament in Ottawa, on March 6, 2020, the Bishop’s Gaiters, seeded sixth, faced the number three seed UBC Thunderbirds but fell by a score 103-66. In the consolation game the following day against the Ottawa Gee-Gees, the Gaiters fought hard but lost 77-75 on a last second shot by Ottawa.

The Bishop’s family (alumni, parents, students and friends) were out in force to cheer on their Gaiters at the Nationals. The group enjoyed both a pre-game rally and a post-game reception, in true Bishop’s style, and it was obvious that a more supportive group simply does not exist. Raise a Toast to our Gaiters and our fans!
JAEL KABUNDA, WINNER OF THE KATHY SHIELDS AWARD (U SPORTS ROOKIE OF THE YEAR)

Freshman Jael Kabunda made history on 4 March 2020 when the U SPORTS major awards were announced. Jael is the first-ever Bishop’s Gaiter to win the Kathy Shields Award as the country’s Rookie of the Year in university women’s basketball. She also headlines the U SPORTS all-Rookie team.

Kabunda, a psychology major from Montreal, was simply sensational in her first year at the U SPORTS level. The Collège Montmorency product averaged a “double-double” with 14.9 points and 10.3 rebounds per game. On four occasions she scored over 20 points and had 32 in her regular season debut at Concordia. Jael finished second in the conference in scoring and rebounding and was named the RSEQ Rookie of the Year and a first-team all-star.

AMAQUEN SICILIANO, U SPORTS 1ST TEAM ALL-STAR

Amaiquen Siciliano, the RSEQ Player of the Year, was also named a first-team all-Canadian at the U SPORTS major awards gala.

Siciliano, a second-year business student from Buenos Aires, Argentina was a member of the U SPORTS all-Rookie team last season. This year Ama led the RSEQ in scoring with 21.5 points per game and in steals (2.2 per game), and she was third in assists (4.1 per game). Siciliano electrified Mitchell Gym throughout the season as she led the Gaiters to a second place finish and back to the RSEQ playoffs.

Ama Siciliano was also named an all-star on the RSEQ first-team and she was named Provigo’s Robert Lafond Athlete of the Week five times during the season.

BISHOP’S BOASTS FOUR ON TOP 100

In celebration of the centennial anniversary of U SPORTS women’s basketball, the Top 100 players were selected and celebrated beginning 6 February 2020, to mark the 100th anniversary of the first Canadian university women’s contest between the Queen’s Gaels and the McGill Martlets. Sixteen members of the Top 100 who were in attendance at the Final 8, including Deb Huband ’79, were honoured during the national championship final.

Bishop’s was thrilled to learn four former Gaiter greats were selected. Joining Deb Huband ’79, were Andrea Blackwell ’84, Lynn (Polson) Hamilton ’84, and Cynthia Johnston ’91. Kudos to these four famous Bishop’s basketball alumnae!

Thanks to the generous support of donors, including the Molson Family Foundation, Molson Coors and the Bishop’s Foundation, the Bishop’s Gaiters women’s hockey team will now compete at the U SPORTS level in the Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec (RSEQ) conference.
By Dr. Kerry Hull  
Full Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, Bishop’s University

Looking back over my experiences as a bench scientist, university instructor, and textbook author, I am struck by how science in the time of COVID-19 has been called upon to be different. Normally, scientific advancements usually begin as small-scale experimental studies subjected to vigorous peer review, which then withstand years of challenges and fine-tuning before they make it into textbooks. As a result of this painstaking process, it can be years or even decades until new discoveries influence public policy and our everyday life.

In the case of SARS-CoV-2 (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2, the virus that causes COVID-19), however, science no longer has the luxury of time. Scientists are encouraged to post their findings on preprint websites before the peer review stage, where they can be accessed by other scientists but also the lay press and policymakers. This massive acceleration has obvious benefits. At the time of writing (May 14th), at least two vaccines have been shown to induce a strong antibody response in humans, a result that relied on advances in knowledge of the virus’ structure and how the human immune system responds to it. However, the disadvantages are also clear – policy makers cannot rely on canonical scientific principles. Instead, they must be flexible as scientists adjust their recommendations to reflect new studies (or new perspectives on older studies).

This uncertainty is highly relevant to the issue of how viruses are transmitted between humans. We know that a sneeze, a cough, or even an exuberant exhalation from an infected person expels virus-containing fluid droplets of various sizes. Gravity pulls larger droplets downwards, resulting in contaminated inanimate objects (known as fomites) such as desks. Smaller droplets travel in the air up to 2 metres or so before most of them fall to earth and create more fomites. But some droplets persist long enough so that the water evaporates, and the solids within the droplet (including virus particles) circulate in the air for hours. These dry suspensions are often called aerosols.

However, viruses differ in how well they survive evaporation, so aerosols and inanimate surfaces may not consistently harbor an infectious dose. The measles virus is quite resistant to drying and is infectious at very low doses, so measles can be transmitted by droplets (in air within a 2 m radius), by fomites (on surfaces), and in aerosols (in air outside the 2 metre radius). Thankfully for us, SARS-CoV-2 does not appear to be as effective, but uncertainty persists. At the time of writing (May 14th), the US Department of Homeland Security’s position was that, “SARS-CoV-2 is believed to spread through close contact and droplet transmission, with fomite transmission likely and close-contact aerosol transmission plausible but unconfirmed.” While laboratory studies have reported the formation of infectious droplets, fomites, and aerosols, community spread of SARS-CoV-2 (as of May 14th) has been attributed to droplet transmission between people in close proximity, indoors, for extended periods (not a chance encounter in a supermarket). Policy makers continue to struggle with the implications of small-scale studies supporting other modes of transmission. While reducing fomite transmission is relatively straightforward, involving basic hygiene measures, eliminating aerosol transmission is not. The risk of aerosol transmission can be mitigated, however, by minimizing time spent in poorly ventilated locations. Further complicating the situation is documented spread from asymptomatic individuals, which indicates that the virus is multiplying in airway cells before the immune system responds in a way that makes us feel sick.

It is difficult to conceive of any fields of study that are irrelevant to helping society weather this pandemic (and prepare for the next). A quick perusal of internet journals such as The Conversation highlights that philosophers are helping us understand the modes of thought underlying human perceptions and responses, historians are providing lessons from previous pandemics, and mathematicians are developing models that predict the impact of social distancing measures on disease spread. Now, more than ever, we need the diversified and creative approaches to problems that are the product of a liberal education.
THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC: AN OPPORTUNITY TO RECONSIDER OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH NATURE

By Raina Delisle ’02

Raina Delisle is a senior editor at The Narwhal, an award-winning, non-profit magazine that tells stories about Canada’s natural world. She graduated from Bishop’s with a B.B.A. In 2001-02, she was Editor-in-Chief of The Campus.

As I stroll along Victoria’s Inner Harbour on a sunny Sunday afternoon in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, I’m struck by the stillness. The harbour is typically bustling this time of year, but today there are no floatplanes or ferries fetching visitors, no tourists going on whale watching tours and no seagulls swooping in to steal French fries. The 280-plus cruise ships that were slated to call in Victoria this season won’t be showing up, and the number of container ships plying these waters has dropped precipitously. Without all the vessel noise, fish, whales and other marine animals are better able to communicate, navigate, feed and reproduce, leading to untold benefits for their populations.

Similar snapshots of nature thriving in our absence are being captured around the world. On beaches in Florida and Thailand, leatherback sea turtles are nesting in higher numbers, unimpeded by tourists, poachers and trash. In Mumbai, India, flamingos are flocking to abandoned urban areas and enjoying a smorgasbord of food as a result of a reduction in industrial waste. It’s important to note, however, that many wild animals that have become accustomed to being fed by visitors are going hungry as tourism has shut down.

Meanwhile, air quality has significantly improved in big cities worldwide as people stay home and industry slows down. This breath of fresh air couldn’t come at a better time as exposure to air pollution makes us more vulnerable to COVID-19 and scientists have even detected the virus on particles of air pollution, meaning it could travel great distances even without human hosts. Not only that, people are spending more time outdoors since their regular indoor activities have been cancelled and the risk of catching the virus is lower outside.

I recently had the opportunity to speak with celebrated artist and naturalist Robert Bateman for a story celebrating his 90th birthday for The Narwhal and what he said about the potential perks of the pandemic stuck with me: “If people change their behaviour and actually get out in nature and go for a walk in a park and go and sit in the harbour and look at the ocean, I think that that will make them better when this is all over.”

The global lockdown is giving nature a temporary reprieve and inspiring people to reconnect with nature, but can this lead to a lasting impact?

To answer that question, we need to take a hard look at what caused this plague in the first place. Scientists are still trying to unravel COVID-19’s origin story, but many believe the virus jumped from bats to pangolins to humans, infecting the first of our kind at China’s Huanan market in Wuhan, where live wild animals were sold for human consumption. As we continue to expand our range into remote places...
to extract resources – whether oil, trees or wildlife for the illegal trade – we are coming into increasingly close contact with animals that harbour dangerous diseases. Indeed, three-quarters of emerging infectious diseases are zoonotic, meaning they’re transmitted from animals to humans. Scientists are now trying to figure out if COVID-19 can also be passed from humans to animals after a tiger at a New York zoo caught the virus, highlighting yet another way in which our exploitation of animals – in this case for entertainment – leads to suffering.

All our natural resource extraction is making us sick in other ways, too. Deforestation and oil and gas production are major contributors to climate change, and our warming world makes us vulnerable to even more diseases as insects and ticks expand their ranges, carrying ills like Lyme disease and West Nile with them. At the time of writing, COVID-19 has killed 500,000 people worldwide. Meanwhile, the World Health Organization predicts 250,000 people will die every year due to global warming starting in 2030. But there is hope. The International Energy Agency estimates the pandemic will lead to an eight percent reduction in CO2 emissions this year – the biggest annual dip ever and just enough to put us on the path to meet the Paris Agreement target to limit warming to 1.5° C. above preindustrial levels. However, we’d have to keep making similar reductions every year for the rest of the decade to stay on track. Unfortunately, some governments and regulators in Canada and abroad are giving industry a vacation from environmental reporting during the pandemic, threatening this progress.

At the same time, the action, innovation and behavioral changes we’ve seen in the wake of the pandemic show us what’s possible when governments, the private sector and citizens join forces to fight a common foe. What’s important to remember is that foe may be us. So, will this be a tipping point for how we treat the natural world and translate into real change or will we go back to our destructive ways when this is all over? Now’s the time to reconsider our impact on the planet, our relationship with nature and how we want to rebuild the economy. COVID-19 has given us a glimpse of the world we could have – now it’s up to us to decide if we want it.
Life as a twin has both its perks and challenges. On one hand there's potential for inevitable comparison and the search for individuality. For twins like Teagan '19 and Keisha Simpson '19 there is also the knowledge that someone understands you inside and out and faces many of the same challenges growing up.

“Keisha and I are best friends, but part of our insecurities stemmed from being twin sisters,” Teagan says. “There's the potential to be constantly comparing ourselves – our bodies, our lives, our grades, everything.”

Social media only complicated things further. Websites like Facebook and Instagram offer wonderful opportunities to share snippets from our lives with friends and families, but they can also paint an unrealistic picture of perfection.

“We got Instagram for our sixteenth birthdays,” says Keisha. “I was struggling with my body image at the time, and it really didn’t help my self-esteem. There were so many photos of other girls looking perfect.”

Magazines and the Internet circulate endless photos of celebrities looking polished, primped and perfect, but a supposedly ‘candid’ view of friends and peers’ lives can be deeply impactful; it’s easy to forget that these carefully curated – and frequently edited – streams are only part of a life story.

“People use filters and Photoshop to get the perfect photo,” Teagan says. “There are apps that can give you a bigger butt and erase acne, and it’s really hard to tell when someone’s used them. It can be pretty damaging to a young girl’s self-image.”

Both Keisha and Teagan say they too used filters to hide their perceived imperfections.

“I really struggled with insecurity about my legs,” says Keisha. “I didn’t wear shorts for years and would crop out my legs in my Instagram photos.”

It was while the twins were business students at Bishop’s that they discovered many other young women were feeling just the same. Candid conversations with friends revealed that they were not the only ones dealing with anxiety about not just their bodies, but their lives in comparison to others.

“People on Instagram are posting about their best life,” Keisha points out. “They’re getting an award, having a great time, going on fantastic vacations. But it’s not the whole picture.”

Inspired by their friends’ revelations, the Simpsons launched an Instagram account called Live Life Unfiltered and began the #AsSheIs movement. They challenged social media users to post unfiltered photos of themselves with a confession of their own body issues. They also set up photo booths on several campuses, asking women to have their picture taken in that moment, with no make-up touch ups, no wardrobe changes and no hair primping.

It has proved a huge success. In the last two years over one hundred million users have viewed women from all walks of life posting unfiltered selfies. Celebrities and public figures like Miss Universes 2019 and 2020 and Canadian Olympic medalist Kaitlyn Osmond have taken part, sharing the message with their own followers.
“Research shows that teenage girls are especially affected by this,” says Keisha. “You’re on Instagram multiple times a day, bombarded with unrealistic images that make you feel bad about yourself.”

Post B.U., Keisha and Teagan have dedicated themselves to Live Life Unfiltered. They’ve delivered several TED talks, attended the WE Wellbeing Youth Conference and presented at numerous high schools and universities. In March, they were inducted among this year’s Top 25 Women of Influence in Toronto while cheered on by a table of ten enthusiastic Bishop’s alumnae. Most importantly, they’re on a journey that has touched the lives of countless other women as well as their own.

“My online life is so much different now,” Teagan says. “I’ve curated my Instagram feed to be the most positive experience for myself. I follow accounts that build me up, or teach me something new, or just make me smile.”

For Keisha, the irony of the online success of Live Life Unfiltered on sites like Instagram has not gone unnoticed. “We couldn’t have done this without social media,” she says. “But we’re using the medium that has hurt us and so many others to try to actually solve the problem.”

Follow the movement:
@Livelife_unfiltered
#AsSheIs

From left: Christie McLean ’96, Kim Ionson Taylor ’93, Sasha Manes ’06, Lauren Straw ’16, Tova White ’92, Andrea Carter ’00, Teagan Simpson ’19, Jan Frolic ’94, Keisha Simpson ’19, Kelly Murumets ’85, Paige O’Beirne ’10, Jo-Anne Ryan ’83, Robyn Clark ’09, Linton Carter ’89. Amanda Kruzich ’95 was also in attendance.
FROM A SOCIOLOGY DEGREE TO THE RCMP

Jordan Larochelle graduated from Bishops in 2014 armed with a B.A. in Sociology and a desire to make a difference. But he wasn’t sure how to go about it.

“I was like a lot of Sociology students in my year, I think,” Jordan says, chuckling. “I was wondering what I could do with my degree after graduation.”

The Townships felt like home and Jordan wasn’t eager to leave. Originally from Alberta, he had come here on the advice of his father, who grew up in the area. Jordan attended Champlain College, and continued his education at Bishop’s.

Following graduation, Jordan worked as a B.U. recruitment officer, often seeking out potential students in hitherto ignored communities. “I was given a lot of freedom. My idea was to recruit in Indigenous regions and schools and introduce Bishop’s to places a recruiter had never gone before.”

After two years, Jordan decided on a new path in life. He felt his degree could be put to good use in policing. “It wasn’t like I’d had a lifelong goal of being in the RCMP,” he says. “But it just felt right: their values aligned with my own.”

Jordan finished his training in Regina and took a posting in Leduc, Alberta. He often thinks of his Bishop’s years. They were busy times, a whirlwind of studies, sports and community involvement. Jordan played football for the Gaiters during his first two years at Bishop’s, and then lacrosse in his final year, while managing to make a significant commitment to B.U. campus life.

“The University was such a great environment, but as a Metis, I found myself asking why there wasn’t more being done on campus for Indigenous students. So, we decided to create a club.”

Working with fellow students Nicole Maracle ‘15 and Curran Jacobs ‘15, the first order of business was to determine the number of Indigenous students at Bishop’s.

“At that time there was no way to identify how many there were,” he says. “So, I asked the Business Office to send an email to anyone receiving band funding. There were seven or eight others, and that was how it all started.”

The group organized numerous activities on campus. There were movie nights, artwork groups and workshops, welcoming any students who were interested in Indigenous culture and events. It was a huge success. But as graduation approached, Jordan became concerned with the group’s future.

“I wanted to make sure there was something that would carry on, so I created the Turtle Island Internship with my annual donation in 2016. It’s the idea that somebody will be there to maintain those kinds of club activities.”

Turtle Island is a strong touchstone for many Indigenous peoples. It comes from the creation story in which North America is carried upon the back of a turtle.

The latest Turtle Island Intern was Education student, Ashley Moore-Iserhoff. She offered a variety of opportunities to allow members of the Bishop’s community to learn more about Indigenous cultures. Along with her Indigenous Cultural Alliance co-lead Sociology student, Shawna Chatterton-Jerome, Ashley planned activities like seasonal feasts and game nights to build peer support among the Indigenous students on campus.

“I’m really glad I can keep contributing to Bishop’s with the internship,” says Jordan. It ensures there’s someone on campus who can advocate for Indigenous student and share our culture.”
Whether it be on a rugby field, a burgeoning tech market or an impoverished Burmese border town, Lindsay Skabar ’05 has spent much of her life breaking down barriers and forging new paths. And though this proud Bishop’s alumna now lives and works in Alberta, she still, as she says, “bleeds purple.”

“So much of who I am now was influenced by my years at Bishop’s,” says Lindsay. “It was an amazing experience that I do not believe can be replicated by other, larger institutions.”

Lindsay knows whereof she speaks. She began her post-secondary studies at the University of Calgary, but quickly realized the immense size of the institution made it difficult to connect with faculty and peers.

“I was one of five hundred students in a class;” she recalls. “I wanted to be in an environment where the professors knew my name, and where I could be part of a community. Bishop’s offered me that opportunity.”

BU also boasted an excellent rugby team, a sport in which Lindsay excelled during her high school years, even playing on the men’s team before a women’s team was formed.

“Rugby is very complicated, with a lot of strategy on the field,” says Lindsay, who served as captain of the Gaiters Women’s Rugby team. “You’re on your toes, thinking and reacting all the time.”

Bishop’s also offered the solid business and marketing training Lindsay was looking for, and the flexibility to hone the skills she wanted to develop.

Lindsay stayed for six months to teach English to children, but she quickly discovered the intense poverty and the children’s precarious migrant status created almost insurmountable odds.

“My main focus then became trying to get international aid in and get these people to a state of safety. If they got caught, they’d be sent back to Burma, and then attempt escape again. My kids would go missing then show up again a week or two later after having gone through that cycle. Their every day was scary.”

It was a sobering experience, leaving Lindsay with a deep appreciation of life here in Canada and a belief in the benefits of gaining a different perspective of the world. “It grounds you in the fundamental aspects of life and keeps everything in context.”

These days Lindsay is excited about her involvement with Böde, a peer-to-peer real estate innovation that is following in the steps of Uber and Airbnb in revolutionizing how people buy and sell homes.

“Böde guides you through each stage, step-by-step, from listing your property to possession day.” Lindsay adds, “People are buying and selling stocks for themselves online, so why not real estate?”

And while Calgary is now home to Lindsay, her husband and their three kids, Bishop’s University and the Eastern Townships are never far from her mind.

“Bishop’s was truly a family experience,” she says. “Today when I meet another alum, we instantly have something in common and can speak as friends. And yes, I still bleed purple.”
Kumar Hathiramani arrived at Bishop’s the year of Expo ‘67. Upon graduating, he joined his family’s business in Barbados, which comprised factories, retail, wholesale and distribution outlets, and several properties. He earned his Master’s degree in Conflict Resolution in 2002 and was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 2005. A member of the roster of the Mediation Board of Trinidad and Tobago since 2007, he was named to the Roster of Mediators of the Supreme Court of Barbados in 2016. He is married to Rashmi and they have three grown children.

Where did you grow up?
I was born in India in 1946, one year before the devastating partition of India and Pakistan. My parents migrated to Trinidad in 1947 to join the family business that had been established in 1927 by my grandfather and his brother. As operations expanded to other Caribbean islands, I had to move several times. In February 1962, when I was in high school in Georgetown, British Guiana, a political revolution devastated the country’s economy, education and health infrastructure, resulting in the mass exodus of most professionals. This was a major setback for my education and the career that my family had charted for me.

How did you end up at Bishop’s?
In 1964, my uncle who was the patriarch of our family and like a father to me, took me on a world tour. While on a stopover in Montreal, one of his business associates suggested I apply to Lower Canada College (LCC). I was accepted and over the next two years, I re-established my academic foundation.

It was my guidance counsellor at LCC who suggested Bishop’s would be a good fit for me due to its small size (about 900 students), residential character, low student to professor ratio and bucolic setting. Above all, it offered a superb Business Administration program, with the option of taking several elective courses.

You had spent time in Montreal, but was there any culture shock coming from the Caribbean to a small town in the Eastern Townships?
Bishop’s settled me. Prior to my time at LCC, I had been brought up in an extremely orthodox and conservative family that adhered strictly to Indian culture, principles, ethics, ideologies and morals. Montreal was a dynamic, exciting, and vibrant city: Place Ville Marie, the lights, the traffic, the huge department stores all fascinated me. But everything was different: the weather, the food… even the way of thinking was not the same. I felt like a fish learning to fly.

Conversely, Bishop’s offered opportunities for tranquility. I loved to go for walks, whether by the rail- way tracks, or the cemetery in front of BCS – even during blizzards. You cannot begin to imagine how much I love the snow!

Who was your favorite professor?
I did not have a favourite, but accounting professor “Deeky” Dan Patridge’s teaching style suited me the most. He did not lecture per se, but rather taught students how to educate themselves. We learned how to solve problems rather than regurgitate what was in our textbook.

Comparative Religion 101 also had an important impact on me. It was compulsory and appeared to have no practical value at the time. However, along with courses in Philosophy and Psychology, it helped me to realize that education does not end with graduation. But rather it is a lifelong, never ending progression and development.

You finance a bursary at Bishop’s for an international student. Why is that?
I know how lonely it feels to be in an environment and culture you are not used to. My bursary aims to tell the recipient “I was once there and be assured, you will be fine, and you will make it.”

Any closing thoughts?
You can learn from everyone in life, irrespective of their background, class or socioeconomic status. Bishop’s laid the foundation for that. As my life unfolded, I went through challenges along the way, but they made me into the person I am today. Without Bishop’s, I never would have made it.
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BISHOP’S FOUNDATION

Dear Bishop’s University Family,

My hope is that you and your loved ones are safe and healthy. It continues to be an interesting time to be alive. The challenges in the past few months have been daunting and continue to be as we move forward. I felt it was important though to let you know what a difference donations like yours have made.

THANK YOU to all who contributed to Bishop’s in 2019-20. You supported scholarships and bursaries, athletic awards, as well as the Library Learning Commons, the Indigenous Students’ Centre, Sustainable Agriculture, and much more.

THANK YOU to those of you who donated a whopping $144,000 to #GivingTuesday on December 3, 2019, in support of student mental health services on campus. These are already changing lives (more on page 19).

THANK YOU also to everyone who supported the COVID-19 Student Relief Fund (including gifts made on #GivingTuesdayNow on May 5, 2020). You responded in true Bishop’s spirit and gave over $120,000 to help students in need (more on page 5).

THANK YOU for always being there and for enriching the lives of our students. Your gifts do more than enhance the student experience; they send a message to our students, and to the entire community, that the Bishop’s family stands with them every step of the way.

Bishop’s University has been in existence for almost 177 years, longer than the wonderful country in which we live. It has survived numerous challenges over that time. Not only has it persevered, but it has gotten stronger, providing a remarkable education to thousands of students. Your support for Bishop’s gives us the enthusiasm and strength to carry on.

Know that you are appreciated, and that we look forward to seeing you again on campus some day in the (hopefully) not too distant future.

THANK YOU again and be well.

—Bob Goldberger ’79
Chair, Bishop’s University Foundation

1,888 donors gave $4,411,276.75 in 2019–2020
SUPPORTING FUTURE STUDENTS 
BY HONOURING THE PAST

Philip Anido ’70 spoke to us about his decision to create a family fund in his parents’ honour, what it means to him, and the Anido legacy he hopes to leave for Bishop’s students. Philip studied geography and teaching at Bishop’s and was a star left half back on the famed Satans varsity soccer team before joining the equally famed football Gaiters as a defensive lineman. He taught at Bishop’s College School in 1972, and then joined the Royal Canadian Navy where he served for 35 years.

What compelled you to create the John & Barbara Anido Memorial Fund?

This fund is in honour of my parents, John and Barbara Anido, who were well-loved members of the Bishop’s community from 1957–1976. My father, Reverend Professor Dr. John Anido, taught theology and religious studies to several generations of Divinity and general Arts students. Barbara was the den mother in Divinity House. She was very warm and among other things, she would host tea and bake homemade cakes for the students every Sunday, who would come over to watch the Ed Sullivan Show and other favourite programs. My parents left their mark on a generation of Canada’s Anglican clergy, and a host of others who have served their communities across the country.

What was Bishop’s like for you and your brother?

Bishop’s was my home and remains perhaps the most wonderful place I have ever lived. Dave and I were 9 and 11 years old when we arrived from England in 1957, so every grown-up student and the children of the other close-knit faculty family we met over the next two decades were our heroes and friends. My brother and I both earned our bachelor’s degrees at Bishop’s, and the days of our youth spent living in Divinity House, “the SHED”, were both treasured and formative. It was wonderful living on campus with stimulating learning, dedicated professors, great facilities and students. We met and became friends with literally hundreds of Divines and other students whose faces and names live with us forever.

Why is it important to you to have a fund in your parent’s memory?

My parents brought so much to the community at Bishop’s. My wish is to recognize a student who brings a similar energy. It is safe to say that our learning and our cherished upbringing at Bishop’s, has had great influence on who we are; our sense of giving back, of sharing and of just being good citizens. I am sure it is the same for all students who study there today. If my beloved brother David ‘67 who passed away far too soon in 2012 were still with us, he would echo the sentiments that Bishop’s is the place we would like the Anido name to be remembered.

What are you looking for in student recipients?

I want this to be a generous fund for any special student who brings joy to the university community through music, song or gatherings like we used to have at Divinity House (taking into account the social distancing protections of COVID-19 as long
as needed of course). It’s important to me to help students afford to follow their young academic and life dreams, with financial security. We hope to increase the value of the fund so it can exist in perpetuity, and my parents’ legacy can live on.

Any closing words for our readers? I hope that anyone who sees this and knew my father or mother will consider contributing to the fund, because it would make them so happy... And I hope that anyone who sees the value in rewarding students for bringing warmth and joy to the Bishop’s community will consider giving too. Since its earliest days, Bishop’s University has been life changing for everyone who has been fortunate enough to have lived, studied and worked here. The friendships we made, the learning we acquired, and the special individual contributions we all made, live with us forever.

For more information about the John and Barbara Anido Memorial Fund, please contact Philip Anido at philanido@yahoo.ca.

To donate, please visit ubishops.ca/AnidoMemorialFund or call the Advancement Office at 819.822.9660.

WE WILL GET THROUGH THIS TOGETHER (Continued from page 5)

developed, assembled, and successfully tested the new BreatHere ventilator. The Undergraduate Bishop’s Earth Research Group (UBERG) led by Professor Bruno Courtemanche devoted time, stock, and a 3D resin printer. Bishop’s Professor and Canada Research Chair in Climate and Environmental Change, Dr. Matthew Peros supplied an additional printer.

This collaborative effort was in response to the Montreal General Hospital Foundation’s Code Life Challenge, an international competition to create and build ventilators using accessible parts. The submitted prototypes had to meet a series of technical criteria in addition to being inexpensive, simple, easy to use and locally built. Their functionality also had to be easy to test.

With the help of local companies, and hopefully from the government, a production of 1,000 units per week could be possible soon.

The BreatHere ventilator design was selected from among 1,029 teams from 94 countries, as a top ten finalist for the competition. While another model ended up being selected, Professor Courtemanche commented: “In these challenging times, it is important to get involved and be part of the solution. Our team was honored to be selected for the finals.”

COMPUTERS FOR KIDS

Bishop’s ITS department donated computers, monitors, mice and keyboards to the group Un ordi pour nos élèves, which aims to get computers into the hands of Sherbrooke elementary school students that do not have one at home.

CIHR-FUNDED RESEARCH ON THE MENTAL HEALTH EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON CHILDREN

In June, Dr. Catherine Malboeuf-Hurtubise, of Bishop’s University’s Psychology Department and Dr. Chantal Camden, of the Université de Sherbrooke were awarded funds by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research’s (CIHR) to study the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on the mental health of children between five and 12 years old, with particular attention to children living with a handicap or chronic disease. The goal is to identify the best intervention strategies for them. Currently available preliminary information suggests these children are more at risk of suffering from the disruption to daily routines and the lack of social interactions that have emerged because of confinement measures. These children are therefore more likely to suffer from anxiety or other mental health conditions.
As an historic institution, Bishop’s is rich in written and photographic records that offer a window into earlier years. But it’s in speaking to former students and faculty that the B.U. of yesteryear can really come alive.

“There are changes, of course. There are new buildings and improvements, yes, but the feeling? The feeling is still the same.” Those are the words of Dr. Douglas Brown, the much-loved Professor of Biology who spent three decades on the Faculty at Bishop’s before retiring in 1996. Now in his eighties, Dr. Brown has a keen memory of his time at Bishop’s and how his decision to make a career of teaching changed the course of his life.

“I actually had very little teaching experience when I arrived at the University, not having set out to pursue a career in education,” says Dr. Brown. “In fact, I was quite uncertain and unfocused when I left high school, without a real plan in place.”

Farm life had been all the young Douglas Brown had known. Born in Rouleau, Saskatchewan, he dutifully completed his secondary studies in nearby Avonlea before spending a year working as a bank teller. It wasn’t until he enrolled in a practical applied agriculture course at the University of Saskatchewan that his career path became clearer.

In time, armed with Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Agriculture, Douglas began looking stateside for further opportunities in graduate studies. “I don’t know why I felt this way, honestly, but I felt a strong attraction to the United States.”

He was offered a fellowship at the University of Wisconsin, coincidentally the alma mater of his master’s supervisor. It took four years for Douglas to finish his Ph.D. course requirements and he spent a further year working as a post doctoral research assistant.

“It was of enormous value, but toward the end of my tenure I had to decide whether I wanted to stay in the US or return to Canada. I decided to come home.”

Dr. Brown found a job with Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, working in the Division of Biological Sciences at the nuclear research centre in Chalk River, Ontario. Subsequently, he spent three years there studying the genetic effects of radiation before deciding he needed a change.

“Chalk River is quite an isolated place,” he says. “So I began to look at university employment. I had been a laboratory instructor at the University of Wisconsin, but didn’t feel very confident in my teaching abilities. I thought a smaller university would be a good place for me to learn to teach.”

Bishop’s fit the bill perfectly. Dr. Brown had long been interested in Quebec. The small class sizes and convivial atmosphere sealed the deal. But moving to a new province and changing careers was still a personal and professional challenge.

“It was a bit of a shock,” he chuckles. “My knowledge of the field was good, but I was quite nervous at first as I stood before a class. I knew my subject, but my problems were in presenting it well to the class. However, the students were very generous and overlooked...
my inexperience, and as I gradually improved I felt at home. Dr. Langford, Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences, was a valued advisor to me at the time.”

Bishop’s was experiencing its own changes when he arrived in 1966. The campus was undergoing a major renewal, creating disruptions for faculty and students alike. Coincidentally, the Quebec education system was in the process of implementing the CEGEP system, adding the extra step between high school and university.

“Bishop’s had established some valuable ties with high schools in Montreal, so those connections were interrupted when CEGEP was instituted,” says Dr. Brown. “The enrollment of the University went down about 500 I think but Bishop’s was still planning for the future. New academic and residential buildings, including a new wing of the Johnson Building for Natural Sciences and Mathematics, were being constructed across a growing campus. The construction in the Johnson Building meant I had to find a corner of a classroom in old Johnson to create a working space for myself. However, by September, new Johnson was nearing completion with attractive teaching facilities (at the time), and I was able to move into a comfortable office for my first semester at Bishop’s. The ensuing years seem today to have passed all too quickly.”

Nearly 25 years after retirement Dr. Brown is still invested in his former institution and last March he toured the newly renovated Johnson Science building. “The facilities are excellent, particularly the system for the teaching of microbiology and cell biology,” he says. “A greatly improved circulation system is designed with security in mind while the automated greenhouse is a wonderful asset for the Biology Department.”

With respect to Brown’s fifty-plus year affiliation with Bishop’s, he recently decided to establish an endowment, the Douglas F. Brown Opportunity Fund for Student Projects (Experiential Learning) to support study and research by students enrolled in Bachelor’s and Master’s Degree programs. The fund aims to encourage and enhance the scholarly and professional development of Bishop’s students through experiential learning.

“After retirement and as time goes on, I think more and more of the benefits of my education,” says Dr. Brown. “I would like to give back, so to speak, to provide some more opportunity for others. I’m so favourably impressed with the work that Bishop’s has been doing.”

Help Bishop’s students reach new heights!

Donate your Aeroplan Miles to help our students learn and serve around the globe.

Visit www.aeroplan.com/donate and search for Bishop’s University Foundation. It’s that easy to give the gift of a lifetime!
WEDDING BELLS

1. Brooke Chouinard '11 and Geoff Britnell '11 met in their last year at Bishop's and were married in Toronto on August 24, 2019. From left: (front) Mark Chouinard '80, Julianna McKaigue '11 and Tom Lumsden '10; (middle) Jamie Chouinard '84, Ryan Lethbridge '10, Gabriel Blais '13, Dave Cameron '11, Bruce Swinden '12, Sam Monroe '11, Laura Tacchi '10, Andrea Gray '09, Cam Miliband '11 and Alex Fraser '08; (top) Max Chouinard '11, Peter Jarvis '11, Joey Coleman '12, Eric Nimigon '10, Megan Wanless '10, Jess Fraser '11, Avalon Henry '09, Carly Howes '11, Katriina Sainthill '09 and Jo Wearing '11.

2. Meghan Carroll '07 and Marcus Rossato '06 were married in Ottawa on July 19, 2019. They have lived in Sydney Australia since 2012. Marcus is presently Senior Director Marketing, Asia, Pacific and Japan with SALESFORCE. Meghan is Deputy Head, Primary Division at Emanuel School.

3. James Kuchta '06 and Meaghan Michaud were married in Toronto on November 2, 2019. From left: John Aubin '05, Jenny Serwyo '06, James Kuchta '06, Meaghan Michaud and Sandra Kuchta '03. Jennifer McCabe '06 was also in attendance.

4. Laura Harrison '13 and Karl Lange were married in Kingston on September 7, 2019. “Raise a Toast” was sung at the wedding.
BIRTHS


Erin Wallace ’08 and Tyler Johnson ’06 welcomed Kelan Johnson on December 18, 2019.

Kyle and Sandra (Allen) Williams ’09 welcomed Nathan Bennett Williams on October 9, 2019. 10lbs 10oz. Another grandson to the late Robbie Allen ’73. Nephew of Laura Allen ’08, Drew Williams ’08 and Samira Drapeau ’07. Big brother Owen is so proud. Another future Gaiter!


Elyse Gagne ’12 and Chris Palmer ’13 welcomed Lexington on December 9, 2019, Bishop’s 176th birthday.

Trent MacPhail ’11 and Pascale St-Pierre ’13 welcomed Mira Sloane MacPhail on September 3, 2019.
John Gallop ’57 presented a note about the Bishop’s School of Education and the Gallop Dickson Scholarships available to Indigenous students at the 20th anniversary celebration of the Foundation of Greater Montreal. The FGM is Montreal’s major community foundation and John is a Founding and Honorary Member.

Robin Kotze ’61 published his book titled Success.

Barry Wansbrough ’61 co-authored Be There.

Barrie Wilson ’61 has released a new book. Intended for the general reader, Searching for the Messiah is an historical investigation that probes the idea of messiah, from Bible to Batman, with many stops along the way. The book can be ordered via Simon and Schuster (Canada) and Simon and Schuster (USA).

Roy Cullen ’65 recently completed his first novel with the publication of A Cursed English. A brief synopsis is available at portal.tellwell.ca/Tellwell/Design/64523. There are some Bishop’s stories woven through the main plot line! The book is available online in soft cover form, or as an e-book, at Amazon.ca; Amazon.com; chapters.indigo.ca; barnesandnoble.com; and other sites.

Winston Fraser ’65 surprised his granddaughter Kennedy Fraser ’20 with a special “COVID-cation” on Father’s Day weekend in St-Lazare.

Don Mills ’71, Mike Mills ’00 and Lindsay Mills Lewis ’03 had a festive luncheon on December 6, 2019 at Griffin House where they had the opportunity to meet the 2019–2020 recipient of the Mills Family Scholarship, Mark Seward.

University of British Columbia Head Coach Deb Huband ’79 made history last season as her UBC Thunderbirds defeated the Trinity Western Spartans 100–57, giving Huband 338 regular season victories, more than any other coach in the history of Canada West basketball.

Patricia Pleszczynska ’74 has been appointed to the Board of Governors of Bishop’s University. Patricia is Director of La Maison des Arts St-Laurent. Before this, she worked as Director General, Regional Services and Radio, at Radio-Canada.

Helen Kearns ’75 was named to The Investment Industry Hall of Fame in 2019 recognizing her as a leader in capital markets in Canada for more than 30 years.

Dr. Catherine “Casey” Pearl ’76 has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Social Innovation at Mount Royal University in Calgary, Alberta. Prior to completing her doctoral research in social entrepreneurship, Catherine spent almost twenty years in the private sector; in corporate planning, finance and marketing. She has worked for multinational and national firms honing her management expertise. She also spent considerable time in the not for profit sector as a volunteer, a consultant and as President and CEO of a registered charity, which operated a social enterprise.

Thank you to Jesse Reeves ’83 and Patrick Vaughan ’85 for hosting a great evening at Hurley’s in Montreal in December.

Adrienne Chinn ’82, had her second novel The English Wife, reach the Canadian bestsellers’ lists in the Globe & Mail and Toronto Star in July 2020 at #9 for Fiction and #2 for Canadian Fiction. Her debut novel, The Lost Letter from Morocco, was published in 2019. She is currently writing her third novel, set in Britain, Italy and Egypt during WWI.

Tim Saunders ’83 was named a CPA Ontario Fellow in 2019.

Patrick Vaughan ’85 kept busy for part of the pandemic delivering medications in Montreal during his hiatus from his regular job as a pilot for a major airline. As most of his deliveries were weekly, he enjoyed building a rapport with those who came to count on him. Patrick had the following message: “My heart goes out to all the doctors, nurses, health care workers, drivers, pharmacy
workers, grocery store employees, police, firemen and the others keeping life going. When things get back to normal my delivery days will end, but I’m proud to be doing my part as so many others are doing too.”

James Maloney ’89 was re-elected in Etobicoke-Lakeshore in the October 2019 federal election.

Chantal (Daoust) Colman ’94 and Don Colman ’95 live in Northern California. Their youngest son (Ryan) will begin studying in the BBA program (Finance) and playing lacrosse at Bishop’s this fall.

Dan Seneker ’94, Bishop’s University’s Director of Student Recruitment and Retention, was honoured with the Council of International Schools’ T. Michael Maybury Award on November 21, 2019, at the Council’s Global Forum on International Admissions and Guidance in Bilbao, Spain. Dan was recognized for his high level of service and leadership.

The undefeated Lakeshore Cougars were stocked with Gaiters this year. Jackson Lovig QB (son of coach Trevor Lovig ’96), Noah Mohamed (son of Kevin Mohamed ’94), and Thomas McHugh (son of Christina Manioudokis ’96 and Corey McHugh ’94). Two of their coaches are the icon Ian Breck, former Head Football Coach at Bishop’s and Geoff “cheeks” Roberts, former Gaiter Football player. Other Cougars with B.U. connections are Cole Lalonde (son of Michelle Manning ’95) and Jackson Stote (grandson of Philip ’70 and Jean Stote ’70 and nephew of Tania Rocca ’97 and Rob Stote ’95.)

Matt Roberts ’98 and Adam Jezewski ’00 meet often in the rinks throughout Southern Ontario as their sons face off against each other. Here is a photo of the four of them before their OMHA semi-final game in Niagara Falls in February 2020.

Matt and Adam both played football for the Gaiters in the late 90s and still find common ground with their purple gear!
Philippe Longchamps ’99 is a high school teacher who has been living in Sweden for the past twenty years. He has won the country’s best teacher award for his unique multidisciplinary approach to teaching.

Ryan Thorne ’99 has been appointed Head Coach of the McGill University men’s basketball team. Ryan had served the past 17 seasons as Head Coach of the McGill women’s program and guided the Martlets to seven Quebec league titles and their first national championship in 2017. He was named U SPORTS women’s basketball Coach of the Year in 2016 and is a six-time recipient of the Quebec university Coach of the Year award. At Bishop’s, he was team captain and MVP, guiding the Gaiters to a national championship in 1997–98. A three-time conference all-star in the Quebec league, Thorne earned honorable mention in the 1998–99 all-Canadian voting and was named as the University’s male Athlete of the Year.

Patrick Naud ’01 was elected Vice-President of the Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne for a two-year mandate in June.

B.U. Singers Director Fannie Gaudette ’02 and singer/conductor Melinda Enns accepted the Opus prize for Concert of the Year in the category of Regions on behalf of the Bishop’s choir in January.

Rick Lamanna ’02, an immigration lawyer with Fragomen in Toronto, returned to campus on February 13 and 14, 2020 to meet with international students and students from the pre-law society and their advisor, Dr. Jean Manore. In addition to three group sessions he was able to connect with recent recipients of the Tina Lamanna Memorial Award while watching some exciting Gaiter basketball vs Laval. Thanks to Rick for generously giving of his time and for the professional advice he offered to countless Bishop’s students.

Paul PK Kingston ’03 is an Actor/Writer/Improviser living and working in Los Angeles, California. Before moving to LA, PK worked for The Second City Toronto for upwards of 15 years in various capacities. He has now worked with Second City Hollywood for nearly two years, while simultaneously performing in the monthly improvised show, “Welcome to Canada” as well as co-writing and performing in the sketch show, “Canuck As F*ck”, which ran at SC Hollywood for nearly a year and a half leading up to the quarantine and he is now exploring options for an online medium to continue putting material out into the world.

Mira Doheny ’14 and Sam Crooks ’14, both from Lennoxville, are living in London, U.K. where they moved shortly after graduating. Mira wrote: “I always wanted to live in the U.K., so I went there on exchange during my second year. I loved it so much that I returned after graduation, this time with my partner, Sam Crooks, and we have lived in London for nearly five years now. Despite my Classics degree, I ended up working in business for Sheppard Robson LLP, one of the top three architecture firm in the U.K., where I am the head of business development for its interior design arm. We are an award-winning company and a leading practice in sustainability. Sam took on a management role at MVF Global, also an award-winning digital marketing company in North London shortly after we arrived, but he is still putting his music degree to work. He is in a band called Gatekeepers that gig all over London, recently with some pretty big names including Tony Moore (an original member of Iron Maiden and later a member of Cutting Crew) and recently they opened a show for Jack Bruce’s son. Five B.U. alumni attended this last gig.”

Scott Lawson ’18 had the honour of being a linesman for the OHL vs Russia exhibition game on Nov 11, 2019.
VIRTUAL REUNIONS

ZOOMING GAITERS

Hundreds of Gaiters around the world have not let physical distancing get in the way of showing how college days linger ever in their hearts.

Bryan McLean ’81, Tim Ayer ’80, Bob Egan ’80, Mike Roy ’82 and Tim Dooley ’83 have been getting together via Zoom to try and recall why the photo above looks so familiar.

Sterling Mawhinney ’88 wrote: “The Mid-80s Facebook group has been meeting weekly since March 27th, when the breadth and severity of the lockdown resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic truly began to sink in. It presented an opportunity for alumni from near and far to connect and give support to one another. The meetings began at the impetus of Jody (Edwards) Layer ’90, Kelley Patrick, ’86, Judy Kemp ’89 and Sterling Mawhinney ’88. The group has grown and changed over the past few months, and we have had up to 15 households represented each week.

We have tried to keep things fresh by introducing trivia games (thanks Peter Schell ’86), questions about why or how people chose Bishop’s (or how it chose them) and getting updates about the happenings on campus from Jacquie Scott ’90.

But above all, the weekly meetings have given people an event to look forward to. We’ve seen the variance of weather across North America (ahem, Ross Paul ’83) and heard how each of us is coping with the crisis, either with family surrounding us or those who are living alone. This meeting helps support and brings, we hope, a little slice of happiness during these difficult times. The meetings will continue as long as people continue to attend.”

Jeremy Moore ’94 reported: “The Founders of the Kuehner 437 Scholarship Fund have been meeting virtually every Friday afternoon with plans to continue until the end of the pandemic (and beyond). Their reunions give them the opportunity to catch up, keep in touch and relive their Bishop’s memories – just like back in the Kuehner TV Room circa 1990! A special shout out to: Jeremy “Voice of the Gaiters” Moore ’94, Darryl “Brauny” Braunmiller ’93, Chris “Fudge” Fudge ’94, Derek “Fruit Bowl” Tucker ’94, Geoff “Shady” MacDonald ’92, Jonathan “Kelch” Kelcher ’94, Raffi “Nightmare” Sossoyan ’92, Billy “Shaggy” Zimmer ’96, Stephan...”
The Bishop’s Young Alumna/Alumnus of the Year Award is designed to recognize contributions by an individual in their field of endeavour, whether through community service or professional achievement. The goal is to recognize a recent graduate who continues to embody the spirit of Bishop’s.

This year’s recipient is Kirsten Dobler who earned her B.A. in Education from Bishop’s in 2016 and her Bachelor of Education in 2017. Upon graduation she moved to Kitkatla, in northern British Columbia, to teach at Lax Klan Independent school in the Gitxaaala Nation. The Gitxaala people have lived in their village for over ten thousand years and Kirsten was quickly welcomed into the community to model the education skills that she learned while at Bishop’s through her practicums and her work with Transformative Praxis: Malawi. This experience led Kirsten to understanding the importance of teachers learning the Indigenous language of where they are teaching and using it in their everyday classroom routines. She decided to move to Lìⱡíldaaxʷ territory (Campbell River, BC) to learn her language, Likʷala, teach in a Kʷak’ala/Likʷala Kindergarten bilingual program, and become an active member of her community.

Kirsten is currently pursuing her Master of Education, with a focus on Indigenous Language Revitalization, at the University of Victoria. Additionally, she is the head of the Kʷak’ala/Likʷala bilingual program at Ripple Rock Elementary School in Campbell River where she, along with other language teachers, teach kindergarten children in their languages, Kʷak’ala and Lik’ala. Kirsten is also taking classes and participating in the Mentor Apprentice program to fully learn the language herself. In the coming year the program will be expanding to Kindergarten and Grade 1 in Kʷak’ala/Lik’ala.

Despite her busy schedule, Kirsten is extremely involved in protecting Indigenous rights, combatting racism, and educating those in her social circles about what it means to be Indigenous. Amanda Moore ’16, who nominated Kirsten for the Young Alumna of the Year award commented, “Kirsten’s dedicated to making the world a more inclusive place and to protecting her heritage and the heritage of others. She has opened my eyes to the injustices in the world and I have been incredibly inspired.”

Bishop’s University teaches that it is important to stand up for what one believes and to make positive change in the world. Kirsten Dobler’s entire life is dedicated to preserving her culture, which is actively being erased by the colonial structure of Canada. By teaching younger generations about their heritage and creating a safe space for them to be proud of being Indigenous, she is strengthening her culture and keeping it alive. Moore concludes, “This is something Kirsten firmly believes in and will always protect.”
IN MEMORIAM

Compiled from information sent to the Advancement Office before August 1, 2020

ALUMNI

Norman Currier ’47 on October 19, 2019. While at Bishop’s, he served on the Yearbook Committee and was named among the “best natured” by his class. He obtained several degrees after Bishop’s and pursued a lifelong career in the field of education. He loved the University very much.

Royce Gale, D.Ed. ’49 on July 20, 2020. Predeceased by his wife Janet, he will be sadly missed by his brother Phil Gale ’48 of Hudson. Born in Waterville, Quebec, Royce was a proud resident of the Eastern Townships. Also a graduate of McGill, he was a well-known and well-loved high school teacher and the last Principal of Sherbrooke High School prior to serving as Vice-Principal at Alexander Galt Regional High School. Late last year, he was pleased to meet Paula Laberee ’16 during a visit to Grace Village. Paula is the first recipient of the Royce and Janet Gale Bursary and she is now a 2020 graduate of the B.Ed. program.

Angus Robertson ’50 on December 28, 2019.

Carol (née Witty) Potter ’51 on May 24, 2020.

David Davidson ’53 on July 14, 2019.


Eunice Baldwin ’55 on May 19, 2020. Sister of the late Elvyn Baldwin ’65 and aunt to Eva Morton ’75, Mead Baldwin ’76, Nancy Baldwin ’76, Kathleen Hamilton ’86 and Linda Baldwin ’86.

Reginald Clive Meredith ’55 on March 8, 2019.

Hugh John MacDonald ’58 on November 14, 2019. He was Vice-President of the Student Council and was recognized with a Golden Mitre Award upon graduation. As a member of the 1955 and 1956 Gaiter Football Teams, Hugh was inducted into the Bishop’s University Athletic Wall of Distinction in 2009.

Leslie Marcus ’59 on May 2, 2019.

Michael Flavell ’61 on February 6, 2020.

Donald Sangster ’61 on December 28, 2018.

Frederick Snape ’63 on July 24, 2019.

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

Peter Henry ’64 on February 8, 2019.

Edward Vaughan ’64 on September 9, 2019.


Don Workman ’65 on February 7, 2020.


Klaus Gessert ’66 on December 20, 2019.

William Webster ’67 on November 1, 2019. Brother of Norman Webster ’62, DCL ’85.


Harold Brazel ’70 on November 6, 2018.


David Sanford ’74 on November 30, 2019.


Dr. Roberto Sesto Cifola ’81 on May 9, 2020.


Margaret Owens ’91 on February 12, 2020.

Kathleen Grimm ’92 on November 23, 2019.

Jarrod Sharman ’97 on November 22, 2019. Son of Beverly Sharman ’65, brother of Wesley Sharman ’93, and husband of Tara McCully ’97.

Duncan Stewart ’05 on January 12, 2020.


FRIENDS

Dr. Paul Chia-Shiang Lin on October 27, 2019. Having joined the Department of Mathematics at Bishop’s in 1981, Dr. Lin was known for his love for mathematics. His clear and precise approach to the teaching of Pure Mathematics was appreciated by his students. His flexibility to teach everything from Calculus to first-year Business students to advanced Honours classes in Real Analysis...
An exceptional Bishop's alumnus, Reed Scowen ’52, DCL '11, passed away on May 28, 2020 at the age of 88.

Born in Sherbrooke, Dr. Scowen studied Economics and History at Bishop's University. He earned an MBA from Harvard University and studied at the London School of Economics. In 2011, he received an honorary doctorate from our University.

Indeed, Reed's ties to Bishop's University run deep. His sister, Lee Campione ’53 and brother Philip Scowen ’59 are among many family members who are Bishop's graduates and supporters. He was himself a long-time volunteer at Bishop's, having served as a member of the Corporation from 1967 to 1978 and again from 1995 to 2001.

Reed Scowen's successful and wide-ranging career included eighteen years as President and General Manager of Perkins Paper Ltd., as well as extensive service on the boards of numerous public companies. He was also a dedicated civil servant, serving in the mid-1970s as the Executive Director of the Government of Canada's Anti-Inflation Board and subsequently as Executive Director of the Task Force on Canadian Unity, also known as the Pepin-Robarts Commission.

In 1978, Dr. Scowen entered politics and was elected as the Member of the National Assembly for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce until 1987. He was then appointed Quebec's Delegate General in London and subsequently, in 1992, he served in the same capacity in both New York and Washington.

Reed also served as a Director of the Montreal Board of Trade, as Chairman of Alliance Quebec, and as a member of the Advisory Board of the Harvard Business School. Both a keen observer and participant in Canadian and Quebec politics, he authored several books on Canadian politics and he wrote regular columns on business and economic matters for Montreal's The Gazette.

Bishop's has lost a truly dedicated and accomplished alumnus while Quebec and Canada have lost a caring and involved friend.

was valued by his colleagues. Dr. Lin was also an active researcher – even after his retirement in 1999. He was most known for his contributions to functional analysis and C*-algebras.

Merne Price on January 11, 2020, a Bishop's benefactor and wife of the late Thomas E. Price '51.

Gary Mullins on January 15, 2020. Father to Thomas Mullins '03 and husband of former Principal, Janyne Hodder DCL '07.

Mona Bandeen on March 23, 2020. She will be remembered for her many contributions to Canadian society for which she was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada in 1996. The Bishop's community is reminded frequently of Mrs. Bandeen's generosity because she donated the beautiful Steinway piano found in our magnificent concert hall. Bandeen Hall is a legacy of the Learning for Life capital campaign named in recognition of Mona and the late Chancellor, Bob Bandeen's gift.

Dr. Thomas Fletcher on May 24, 2020. Tom joined the Department of Environment and Geography at Bishop's in 1999 and over the years became a much-loved teacher and colleague. He was always a pleasure to work with regardless of the task or committee, and was appreciated for his diligence, intelligence, and his sense of humour. Tom's brother Jim recently established a scholarship at B.U. in Tom's name. Tom was delighted to know that his legacy in environmental justice would continue via this scholarship.

Tom and his husband Stéphane St-Jean in 2016
CAMERON HUGHES ’96: ONE IN A MELON

Cameron Hughes of Fangage Media describes himself as a Sports Entertainer, Speaker, Connector, TV Host, Author, and Creative Genius. His new book, due out in the summer of 2020, is all about cheering on yourself, each other, and your community. He recounts some great Bishop’s stories from the first appearance of “Melonhead” at Bishop’s, to community, to chasing your dreams B.U. Style! He shared the following excerpt with us.

“I decided to paint every square inch of my skin purple, wear a purple cape, and equip myself with a wooden letter “D” and a 3’x4’ white picket ‘fence.’” But something was still missing. What was it?

Early on the morning of the big game, it hit me. I darted across campus, burst through the doors of the local Provigo grocery store, and found the nearest available employee.

“Hi, excuse me,” I said, panting profusely. My eyes bugged out of my skull as they usually are when I’m excited. The guy was positively terrified.

“Uh… what can I do for you?”

“Where are your watermelons? I need a massive watermelon.”

With the largest watermelon in the province, I hurried home and carefully carved it out, just enough so that I could secure it atop my head like a vegan football helmet. It had to be just right. If only I had this kind of focus when it came to my studies.

I gathered my props, painted my body purple, and threw down a couple of cold beers. As I made my way towards the stadium, the looks on the faces of my fellow students ranged from confusion to excitement.

This did not slow me down. Quite the opposite.

Mark and the rest of the team were on the sidelines looking as if they’d just laid eyes on someone wearing a watermelon on his head. It was time to shine.

“My first reaction was, ‘Who’s the idiot?’ Needless to say, this kickstarted a wild and wonderful career for Cam. But he’s still such a bad dancer!”

—Tom Allen, former Athletic Director and Head Football Coach, Bishop’s University

Cameron Hughes went on to exhibit over 25 fresh watermelons at B.U. football games, basketball games, pep-rallies and places in between. For the last 26 years he’s been entertaining crowds around the world from the NHL, NBA, Olympics, US OPEN, CFL, etc. Be sure to watch for official book release updates on www.CameronHughes.TV.
Stay up to date with Alumni news and events by following us on social media at
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HOME ALONE

By Sally Cunningham ‘21

Sally Cunningham is a Student Fellow for the Maple League of Universities and will commence her fourth year in Honours English Literature at Bishop’s this Fall. She is working on a series of virtual study hall sessions for her fellow students in the upcoming terms. These will be open to those who want to study together, apart. The following is adapted from a blog she wrote in the early days of the pandemic.

I am eleven days into government-mandated quarantine. After flying back from studying abroad in England, I am shaken to be home so soon again. Logically, it should be paradise: I have my own room, meals delivered to my door, Netflix 24/7, a window with a view of the street and one hour in the backyard on sunny days … but it all comes at a cost. The last time I had human contact was a pat-down at the Hamburg airport over two weeks ago. That alone is debilitating, never mind that I packed up my life in two days and moved across the world. Now, I am expected to continue to write essays, hand in assignments, exercise, practice elevated levels of self-care, and exist at the same frequency as before the world erupted into masks and chaos.

I never wanted to go to school near home. Self-discovery and nice brickwork enticed me to Lennoxville, and I am so proud of who I have become since choosing Bishop’s. Now, back home in Vancouver, I can think of nowhere less productive than my childhood bedroom, complete with a lofted pink princess bed and a call for supper at 6:00 pm. Even if I risked infecting my family, I know sitting on the couch would in no way inspire a critical response to the social inequity in Great Expectations. What I need now to be a student is a university.

Everywhere I look online there is another post telling me not to worry, to de-stress and make small goals, to take time for self-care, and to not try to function as I normally do because everything is upside-down. That carefree mentality is one that I easily slip into at home anyway, as it is a summer place, a summer mindset: just watch Netflix and eat another cookie, stay home. Everything is telling me to relax.

Everything except my deadlines. Four 2,500+ word essays are due back to back with no payoff. I can’t go to the library to work in a studious environment. I can’t go to my professor’s office hours to ask if I’m on the right track. I can’t celebrate with friends after I’ve finished. Some people might enjoy the solitary rumination, hours alone picking apart the social critique present in The Tenant of Wildfell Hall. That’s fantastic, go them! I want help. Motivation. Competition. Inspiration. Collaboration. Laughter along the way. We crave connection, and it makes us better.

So, no, I’m not worried about the increase in online classes after this is over. Fear cannot keep us apart forever. The social aspect of university is an incredible educator and institutions know that. Only Day 11 of quarantine and already I dream of meeting friends in the hall before class, of glaring at the person in the third row squeaking their chair, of judging everyone’s handwriting on the sign-in sheet. I want to slide an essay under my professor’s door again, climb six flights of stairs in a parka again, feel the buzzing in the air before an exam again. These may be nerdy dreams, but I don’t think I’m alone.

Bishop’s prides itself on a quality undergraduate experience. We care about people, collaboration, conversation, experimentation. The future is uncertain but after this we will want to come together again. People inspire people and we will be better than ever before. Brighter than we were. Inspired and ready to move forward together.

I
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“My time at Bishop’s was rich and memorable, and so many of the opportunities I had are thanks to the kindness and generosity of donors. I’ll miss being a student, but I know this isn’t the end of my Bishop’s experience!”

Duncan Crabtree ’20
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