

# ALUMNI NEWS

SPRING 2015

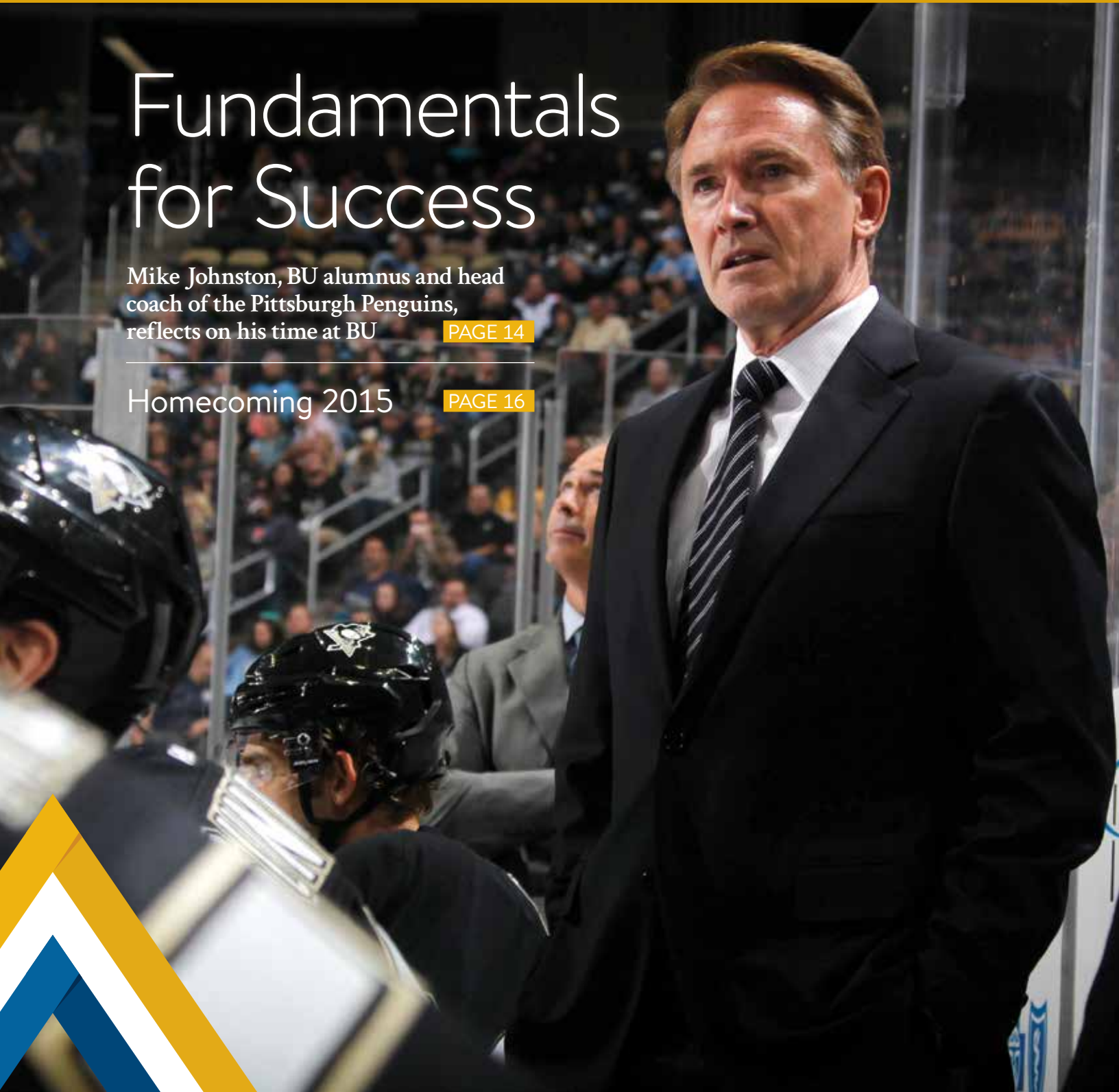
## Fundamentals for Success

Mike Johnston, BU alumnus and head coach of the Pittsburgh Penguins, reflects on his time at BU

PAGE 14

Homecoming 2015

PAGE 16





**Congratulations to  
the Class of 2015!**

**We're better, together.**



Comprehensive coverage. Superior value.

Term Life Insurance | Dependent Children Term Life Insurance  
Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance | Critical Illness Insurance | Travel Insurance  
Office Overhead Insurance | Long Term Disability | Health & Dental Insurance

**Brandon University Personal Insurance Program**

For a personalized quotation or to apply online, please visit us at:  
[solutionsinsurance.com/brandon](http://solutionsinsurance.com/brandon)  
1.800.266.5667



**Brandon University  
DEGREE FRAMES**

Available for purchase through  
the Alumni Association Office.

To view the many different  
styles go to  
[BrandonU.ca/Alumni/Frames](http://BrandonU.ca/Alumni/Frames)



## IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message	4
Convocation 2015	5
BU Now	9
Alumnus Profile	14
Homecoming 2015	16
In Touch	18
In Memoriam	19
Student Profile	20
Supporting BU	22
Alumni Donors 2014	24
Faculty Profile	26
BU Research	28

### Seek and You Shall Find

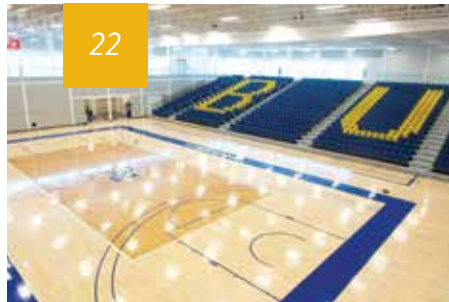
Blyss Pickering, BSc'15, is opening doors to new interests and important fields of study.

PAGE 20



#### Going Off the Grid

BU professor Dr. Sarah Plosker prepares to build a self-sustaining home.



#### Richardson Foundation Matches Community Support

BU leverages matching funds provided by the Richardson Foundation in support of the HLC.

## Send us your stories!

As alumni, you undoubtedly have much to tell us about the relationships that you developed while at BU. Maybe you met your spouse, a business partner or a great friend?

Please contact the Alumni Office with your suggestions for outstanding alumni you believe should be featured in *Alumni News*.

**Editor** – Carla Eisler • [EislerC@BrandonU.ca](mailto:EislerC@BrandonU.ca)

**Writers** – Alex Beshara, Carla Eisler, Shawna English, Dr. Gervan Fearon, Amy Wyntjes

**Photographers** – Alex Beshara, Michelle Bessette, Keywest Photo, Glen Kirby, Matt Packwood, Pittsburgh Penguins, *The Brandon Sun*, Iris Wang

**Layout & Printing** – Leech Printing Ltd., Brandon, Manitoba. This magazine is printed on paper stock obtained from sustainable sources.

**Feedback or Letters to the Editor**

[Alumni@BrandonU.ca](mailto:Alumni@BrandonU.ca)

**Advertising** – 204.727.9762 or [Communications@BrandonU.ca](mailto:Communications@BrandonU.ca)

#### Institutional Advancement & Communications Staff

Dr. Michael Kim, Associate VP (External)

Alex Beshara, Communications Officer

Carla Eisler, Alumni Relations Officer

Shawna English, Development Officer

Carolyn Vodon, Database & Stewardship Clerk

Iris Wang, Administrative Assistant

Amy Wyntjes, Campaign & Communications Officer

*Alumni News* is published twice a year and reaches more than 13,000 alumni and friends of Brandon University worldwide.

To date, thousands of alumni have supported the Brandon University Alumni Association (BUAA) through participation in alumni programs, affinity products and service offerings. If you do not wish to be provided with product or service offers or do not wish to receive *Alumni News* in the future, please contact the Alumni Office.

Brandon University Alumni Office  
Phone: 204.727.9697 • Fax: 204.727.4674  
[Alumni@BrandonU.ca](mailto:Alumni@BrandonU.ca) • [BrandonU.ca/Alumni](http://BrandonU.ca/Alumni)

Publications mail agreement #40064061  
Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:  
Brandon University Alumni Association  
270-18th Street, Brandon, MB R7A 6A9



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Brandon University is about making a difference.

The University has recently completed an Academic Plan entitled *Looking Ahead* which fundamentally speaks to how we can make a difference for our students, alumni, faculty, staff and the communities we serve. The core theme of the academic mission as outlined in the Plan is “to be a leading, engaged, and innovative university.” Furthermore, the University aims to be a catalyst for growth and innovation for society, students and our alumni.

As alumni, you are integral to the academic mission of the University. Our missions and obligations to you do not end when you graduate; we continue to look toward furthering innovative opportunities and initiatives to engage and serve you. In 2015, we will be hosting alumni at the new Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg as well as events in Toronto and Calgary.

We hope to have other events throughout the year.

“Leadership, engagement and innovation...it is gratifying to see this spirit exemplified by alumni members and others.”

We want to trumpet your successes and celebrate your accomplishments. These efforts spotlight individual accomplishments, as illustrated in our feature story on Mike Johnston, and also highlight the qualities and commitment to excellence of all Brandon University alumni. The paths that you have each charted further provide inspiration to our students and represent the endless opportunities that await both current and prospective students following graduation. Indeed, we celebrate our 2015 graduates who will be joining your ranks as alumni.

Throughout this edition of *Alumni News*, you will read about the leadership being exhibited in research and teaching; the community engagement activities that are taking place; and the innovative ways that alumni are finding to make a contribution to the University and communities we serve. Leadership, engagement and innovation—these are the words of the Academic Plan and it is gratifying to see this spirit exemplified by alumni members and others.

I recently invited you to rediscover your University and our people. Consider visiting the University, contacting alumni relations staff, and finding ways to support the academic mission of the University. Our greatest gifts are often those that contribute to the next generation—the next generation of students, members of our communities and citizens of the world. *Alumni News* illustrates how this is all being done by you!

**Dr. Gervan Fearon**  
President & Vice-Chancellor



# Honorary Doctorates



## Theoren “Theo” Fleury

Theoren “Theo” Fleury is an author, motivational speaker and former professional ice hockey player. Of Métis heritage, Mr. Fleury was born in Oxbow, SK, and grew up in Russell, MB. He was drafted to the Calgary Flames in 1987, and throughout his NHL career played for the Colorado Avalanche, New York Rangers and Chicago Blackhawks, as well as with several European-based teams. In 2009, Mr. Fleury co-wrote and released his best-selling autobiography, *Playing with Fire*, in which he revealed that he had been the victim of sexual abuse during his youth. Since then, Mr. Fleury has been a vocal advocate for victims of sexual abuse, and has encouraged countless other victims to seek help for the purpose of healing and overcoming trauma. In 2014, he released his second book, *Conversations with a Rattlesnake*, which deeply explores this theme of recovery from trauma and abuse. Mr. Fleury has received an honorary doctorate in Science from the University of Guelph-Humber, and is a recipient of the 2013 Humanitarian Award from the Canadian Psychological Association, the Queen’s Jubilee Medal, Aboriginal Inspire Award and is an Honourary Chief. Brandon University will recognize Mr. Fleury for his contributions to combating child sexual abuse, and for his outstanding efforts to promote healing and recovery.



## The Honourable Philip S. Lee

The Honourable Philip S. Lee was appointed as Manitoba’s first Chinese-Canadian Lieutenant Governor in 2009, and has been recognized for his tireless work on causes important to Manitoba’s Chinese-Canadian community. Since arriving in Manitoba in 1962 from Hong Kong, Mr. Lee has been active in the Chinese-Canadian community, and has lent his support to countless cultural organizations and initiatives including the City of Brandon’s Lieutenant Governor’s Winter Festival. Mr. Lee has been instrumental in supporting Manitoba’s post-secondary institutions, and has shown a demonstrated commitment to Brandon University. Mr. Lee has received numerous awards in recognition of his commitment to serving his community, and was inducted into the Order of Canada in 1999. He received the Queen’s Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002, the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012, and an honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Manitoba in 2011. Mr. Lee will be honoured for his numerous contributions to Manitoba society and for his public service.

# Honorary Doctorates



## Mitch Podolak

Mitch Podolak is a prominent fixture in the North America folk music world and is the creator and past founding artistic director of the Winnipeg Folk Festival, the Vancouver Folk Music Festival, Winnipeg's West End Cultural Centre, The Winnipeg International Children's Festival and Home Routes/Chemin Nous, North America's only house concert network. He is also the co-creator, founding artistic director and team mentor that founded the Stan Rogers Folk Festival in Canso, Nova Scotia. Since 1974, Mr. Podolak has developed and led in the evolution of folk festival culture across Canada, and his efforts have seen hundreds of thousands of folk music fans come together in a common cultural cause. His methodological approach to structuring and motivating a volunteer corps in the art of running a festival has become the Canadian standard. His work is motivated by a love of folk music, of which his knowledge is extraordinary, and by a social view paralleling that of Pete Seeger and Woody Guthrie, Mr. Podolak's strongest influences. In 2014, he received the Unsung Hero Award, the peer-driven lifetime achievement award of the Canadian Folk Music Awards, and will be inducted into the Order of Manitoba this year. Mr. Podolak has had huge influence on the provincial and national cultural funding institutions that now all support folk music.



## Lisa de Wilde

As a well-known Canadian media executive who was born in Manitoba, Lisa de Wilde is a leader of innovation and transformative change. Since 2005, she has served as the Chief Executive Officer of TVO, Ontario's digital learning organization. She is an advocate of making educational broadcasting a key part of the knowledge architecture of digital media and ensuring Canadian leadership in this medium in a globally-connected world. Ms de Wilde has served as legal counsel for the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission, as Astral Television's President and CEO, and is currently Chair of the Board of Directors of the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF). Ms de Wilde also serves on the Board of Directors of TELUS and EnerCare Inc. She was awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2013, and was recognized in 2009 with the WXN Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100 Award. Ms de Wilde is originally from Winnipeg and has a Bachelor of Arts and law degree from McGill University. Brandon University recognizes Lisa de Wilde for her contributions to Canadian media, her dedication to supporting scientific literacy and her work as an advocate for the arts and culture.

## BU Alumni Association Excellence in Teaching Award Professor Greg Gatien



Greg Gatien is an Associate Professor at Brandon University's School of Music, where he is a member of the jazz faculty and chair of the Applied Department. Teaching saxophone, improvisation, jazz history, and directing ensembles, Greg is an active educator and maintains a busy schedule adjudicating festivals and giving masterclasses and workshops. Also an active and accomplished performer, Greg has played with many icons of the jazz tradition, including Kenny Wheeler, Benny Carter, Joe Henderson, and Bob Brookmeyer. He has been featured on numerous recordings and radio broadcasts in both Canada and the US, including Dean McNeill's *Prairie Fire*, the *Art Pepper Plus 11* project, and the *Re-Birth of the Cool* project. Greg is also a frequent collaborator with renowned American pianist and composer John Harmon, performing with him in Canada and the United States. Greg has been a regular member of the Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra since 2002, performing with many of Manitoba's finest jazz musicians and a wide range of national and international jazz figures. He performs regularly throughout Western Canada and beyond.

## Senate Award for Excellence in Research Dr. Chenkuan Li



Dr. Chenkuan Li joined Brandon University in 2002 as an Associate Professor and was promoted to Professor in 2006. Before coming to Brandon, he worked at the University of Regina (where he received a PhD in Mathematics in 1994), University of Lethbridge, University of New Brunswick, University of Cape Breton and University of Alberta. Dr. Li has

been working in the areas of mathematical analysis and data networking with 49 publications and one submission, which include many original contributions in high rank peer-reviewed journals. Dr. Li has collaborated with researchers nationally and internationally, and has been invited to do joint research projects in different regions by his collaborators. His research work has been widely viewed, cited, and downloaded from many sources, and has been funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and the Brandon University Research Committee.

Recently, Dr. Li has become interested in fractional calculus where the usual differentiation procedure of calculus is applied a fractional number. This area of study is relatively new with applications in almost every realm of science and engineering. He has published two papers in well-known and important journals in this area.

## Valedictorians



### Kardy Fedorowich

Kardy was raised in Hamiota, a small town an hour northwest of Brandon. Throughout high school, he was actively involved in school sports, student council and planning a Relay

for Life with the Canadian Cancer Society. While attending Brandon University, Kardy has been an assistant coach of both the St. Augustine and Hamiota Varsity Boys volleyball teams, and has been actively involved in organizing the Brandon Relay for Life. Kardy's greatest passion has been his participation in a number of humanitarian work trips to both Dominican Republic and Haiti. Upon graduating from BU with a major in Chemistry, Kardy hopes to attend medical school at the University of Manitoba and pursue a career in medicine.



### Jonathan Filewich

Jonathan Filewich is a former professional hockey player who now uses his knowledge and experience to be a leader and advocate for physical activity in a variety of settings.

Jonathan obtained his Bachelor of Physical Education Studies (BPES), winning the Gold Medal for highest academic standing and he continued on to graduate with a Bachelor of Education After Degree from Brandon University. During his time at Brandon University, he also founded and became president of the Physical Education & Activity Leadership (PEDAL) group. In addition to his involvement at BU, Jonathan is a business partner and strength and conditioning coach for Outperforme Athletics.



# Distinguished Teacher Awards

Each year, Brandon University presents its Distinguished Teacher Awards to teachers from across the province of Manitoba who have inspired students in their school to continue their education. We are pleased to recognize this year's recipients of the 2015 Distinguished Teacher Awards.



## Kristin Hack

Born and raised around the Brandon area, Kristin attended Vincent Massey High School. She completed her Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Education degrees at Brandon University, and for the past six years she has been teaching at Sioux Valley High School in Brandon. She teaches math and all technology courses offered, and is dedicated to incorporating the use of technology in the classroom. She mentors other teachers on how to best utilize available technology to enhance their students' experiences. Her passion is to get her students involved and to take charge of their education. She is involved in many activities such as computer club, the yearbook committee, grad decorating and student council.



## Lisa Erixon

Born in Gainsborough, SK, Lisa completed two years at Brandon University before transferring to the University of British Columbia, receiving a Bachelor of Education in 1983. Lisa's teaching career has taken her to schools in Manitoba and Saskatchewan before taking time off to raise her family. Currently, Lisa teaches high school ELA, Canadian History and Art in a part-time capacity. She is the coordinator of Pierson School's music program, school concerts coordinator, graduation advisor, post-secondary education/career advisor and ISO facilitator. Lisa believes a classroom atmosphere of mutual respect has enabled her to enjoy a strong rapport with her students, and appreciates the connection that she is able to maintain with many of her former students.



## Mark Essay

Mark has been a high school educator for the past 20 years. He was born, raised, and educated in Portage la Prairie, MB, and now teaches high school English at Portage Collegiate Institute. Mark has travelled the globe and worked with educators and corporate trainers in a variety of arenas, from K-12 classrooms, to youth corrections facilities, corporate staff trainings and all the way to NASA. Most recently he was the keynote speaker at the International Alliance for Learning Conference in Washington, DC and more locally presented his education session at the Widening Circles International Literacy Conference. Mark continues to love teaching in the classroom and feels that is where credibility comes from when sharing ideas with other educators.



## Teresa Sanheim

Teresa earned a Bachelor of Science in 1994 and a Bachelor of Education (AD) in 1996 from Brandon University and began her teaching career in 1997. Teresa has taught at Elkhorn School for the past 11 years and strives to make connections with all of her students through mutual trust, respect and encouragement. Teresa is the teacher advisor for the student council, counsels Grade 12 students throughout the graduation process and supports her students in planning for their lives beyond high school. Teresa received the Fort La Bosse School Division distinguished high school teacher award in 2013 and continues to develop as a learner herself. Raised and educated in Elkhorn, MB, Teresa organizes, coaches and supports a variety of her own children's sporting endeavors.



## Brandon University Celebrates Opening of New Geology Core Lab



Geology students Tyler Martin, Derek Holman, Michelle Reid and Scott Ryan join Dr. Hamid Mumin (far left) and Dr. Heather Duncan (left), Acting Vice-President (Academic & Provost), inside the Geology Core Lab at Brandon University during its official opening.

BU Geology students, faculty members and industry representatives recently celebrated the official opening of the University's first Geology Core Lab. The Lab houses various examples of mining and petroleum drill cores, and provides students with the opportunity to practice their knowledge and prepare for their chosen geology profession by working on real drill cores from mines, exploration projects and petroleum deposits.

"The Lab is home to superb geological drill cores from across Canada that have been donated by various mining, exploration and petroleum companies," said Dr. Hamid Mumin, Professor of Geology at Brandon University and master of ceremonies for the opening reception. "The Core Lab has grown into an excellent, active facility that is now being used to run teaching labs and collaborative research, in addition to storing the core. We are fortunate to have this unique facility available for our students' use."

This facility offers a comprehensive laboratory setting that challenges everything students are learning in the classroom, and offers excellent preparation as they enter the job market in the geology industry following graduation. The Lab also houses Brandon University's first geotechnical engineering lab that will drive a collaborative road-stabilization project in partnership with Cypher Environmental of Winnipeg, the Rural Municipality of Cornwallis, the City of Brandon and BU researchers.

This facility was made possible by funding and support from Brandon University, BU's Faculty of Science, and through part of a generous donation of \$100,000 from BU Geology alumnus, Stewart Hobbs.

## Youth Voices Forum Focuses on Aboriginal Youth Success and Leadership

In February, 2015, the Vital Outcome Indicators for Community Engagement (VOICE) Youth Community Circle and Brandon University brought together First Nations, Métis, and Inuit (FNMI) youth from across Manitoba to share perspectives on youth success at the *Working Together to Support Youth Success – Youth Voices Forum*. The conference focused on youth leaders who are passionate about First Nations, Métis, and Inuit issues and provided workshops on leadership, youth empowerment, and community-based research led by FNMI youth leaders and BU Faculty of Education researchers.



## National Recognition for Founder of Brandon University

One of the founders of Brandon University is celebrated in the newest volume of the prestigious Dictionary of Canadian Biography, an award-winning database containing biographies of significant national figures. Samuel James McKee was an educator and early settler of the Canadian west, moving from Ontario to Rapid City, MB in 1882, and to Brandon in 1890 where he opened Brandon Academy.

The school offered classes in English, shorthand, typewriting, music, drawing, and painting, and readied candidates for examinations for teachers' certificates or admission to the University of Manitoba. In the summer of 1899, Brandon College (now Brandon University) was established on the foundation prepared by McKee.



Samuel James McKee

## Brandon University Alumnus Recently Named to Order of Canada

Brandon College graduate, Mr. Frank McKinnon, a familiar face in Manitoba's amateur sport community, was recently honoured with induction into the Order of Canada. McKinnon, 1955 Bachelor of Science graduate and member of the BU Sports Wall of Fame, received the honour from Governor General David Johnston at the investiture ceremony held on February 13, 2015 at Rideau Hall.



Frank McKinnon

Throughout his long career as a teacher and school principal in Hamiota and Carman, McKinnon was a constant fixture in the promotion and development of opportunities for youth through sport. This dedication took flight during his time as a student and athlete at Brandon College in the 1950s.

## New Associate Vice-President (External) Announced

BU is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms Heather Macdonald as Brandon University's new Associate Vice-President (External), effective June 1, 2015. A graduate of the University of Toronto, Heather will lead fundraising initiatives, alumni engagement, and communications and community relations efforts. She comes to Brandon University from the University of Alberta's Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry where she served as Assistant Dean, Advancement. Heather has also held senior positions throughout her career including at Queen's University, having served as Campaign Director, Associate Director of Strategic Initiatives, and Senior Development Officer in the Faculty of Arts & Science.



Heather Macdonald



BUFA President Dr. Meir Serfaty (left), and BU President Dr. Gervan Fearon (right), sign the Agreement.

## Brandon University Reaches a Four-Year Agreement

In a demonstration of commitment to students, faculty, staff and the community, the Brandon University Faculty Association (BUFA) and Brandon University reached a four-year Agreement for the period of April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2019. The Agreement was ratified by both the BUFA membership and the University's Board of Governors.

BUFA membership voted 95% in favour of the Agreement. The BUFA negotiating team included Dr. Derek Brown (Chief Negotiator), Professor Heather Gillander, Dr. Doug Ramsey, Dr. Meir Serfaty, and Dr. Dion Wiseman. The University's negotiating team included Ms Sharon Hooper (Chief Negotiator), Mr. Tom Brophy, Dr. Heather Duncan, Ms Kristen Fisher, and Dr. Steven Robinson.

## Science Dean Honours Fallen Soldier



Dr. Andrew Egan

Dr. Andrew Egan, BU's Acting Associate Vice-President (Research) and Dean of Science with strong connections to the military and police, is honouring the soldier killed on Parliament Hill in October 2014 with a commemorative seat in the Richardson Gymnasium.

"Corporal Nathan Cirillo helps us to put a name and face to the thousands who don uniforms in Canada and the US to keep us safe," said Dr. Egan. "In remembering him, we remember all who serve." Both Dr. Egan's father and grandfather were army officers, and his father took part in the D-Day invasion at Normandy in 1944. His younger sister is a New York City police officer.



## Clarinet Students Hit High Notes in 2014



Front row (L-R): Iris Hwang, Stevie MacPherson, Amanda Forest, Vanessa Klassen; Middle row (L-R): Dr. Cathy Wood, Alyssa English, Eric Calrow, Danning Chen, Allie Harrington; Back row (L-R): Colin Mehmel, Chris Byman, Joelle Nielsen, Preston Rocan

Clarinet players at Brandon University's School of Music demonstrated in 2014 that they are among the best in North America, with exceptional showings in important festivals in Canada and the US. Four of the seven clarinets selected for the 2014 National Youth Band of Canada were BU students, including the section leader. The BU Clarinet Choir also performed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana at the International Clarinet Association's biggest and most prestigious annual conference.

## BU vs. ACC in Prowler Plaque Hockey Battle



BU students celebrating their big win

In the name of fun and year-long bragging rights, BU and Assiniboine Community College (ACC) battled for the Prowler Plaque in two cross-town hockey games that saw their respective faculty/staff and student teams take on one another at the Brandon Sportsplex. BU brought home both halves of the plaque this year with an excellent showing from both teams. Next year, the two institutions play again—Brandon is indeed a destination for post-secondary education and more.

## Student-led Garden Project Wins Community Award



BU urban garden project

An urban garden project spearheaded by students at Brandon University has been recognized as a top community-building initiative. The Healthy Campus Community Garden was deemed the Best Beautification Project in 2014 by the Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation, which awards leading ventures in the categories of youth, community, culture and beautification.

"We grew potatoes, carrots, tomatoes, beans, spinach, lettuce, squash, cucumbers, herbs including parsley and dill, and even flowers," says nursing student Karli Maduke, who accepted the honour on behalf of students, staff and one University retiree who volunteered to build and tend the campus garden.



Student Karli Maduke with recognition award from Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation.



Diane Schuur

DianeSchuur.com

## Grammy Award Winner Performs

Renowned jazz singer Diane Schuur performed with the Brandon University Jazz Ensemble for two nights of concerts as part of the Brandon Jazz Festival in March. Schuur also offered a masterclass for BU students and faculty, as well as two vocal jazz groups from local high schools.

Schuur's recording career spans three decades, and includes two Grammy awards (*Timeless* and *Diane Schuur and The Count Basie Orchestra*), as well as three additional Grammy nominations. Her musical collaborations include the Count Basie Orchestra, Barry Manilow, B.B. King, Ray Charles, and Jose Feliciano, among countless others.

## BU Students Recognized for Commitment to Leadership

Outstanding student leaders were recognized recently in celebration of their completion of the Student Leadership Certificate program, a new, non-credit, co-circular program offered this year at BU. The Program provides free leadership seminars for current and emerging leaders, and features a diverse group of 24 students. Through participation in these seminars over the past academic year, students explored seven topics related to three key themes of leadership: team, individual and personal leadership skills. "The program has taught me a lot of new skills and reinforced some skills like interpersonal communication, dealing with groups, how to handle yourself as an individual, and ways to deal with stress," said Dustin Dilay, fourth-year Sociology student and recipient of the Leadership Certificate.



Recipients of the Brandon University Student Leadership Certificate

## New Associate Registrar Appointed



Andrea McDaniel

Andrea McDaniel was most recently Admissions Manager at Bishop's University in Sherbrooke, QC after serving as Career Advisor for undergraduate medical students at McGill University in Montreal, QC. With a Master of Arts in Student Development, Andrea is passionate about higher education administration that is student-service oriented, and she is delighted to return to her Manitoba roots as part of the Brandon University community.

## Inaugural Research Document Published at BU

BU has published its first document highlighting the outstanding and diverse work of professors and students underway at the University. *GameChangers: Research, Creativity and Innovation* is a comprehensive publication that highlights projects from

"At BU, our game changers are our people. They help change the ways in which we think about, view and affect change in the world around us."

all five of BU's faculties. "At BU, our game changers are our people," said Dr. Andrew Egan, Acting Associate Vice-President (Research). "They help change the ways in which we think about, view, and affect change in the world around us." For a copy of *GameChangers*, go to [BrandonU.ca/Research/GameChangers](http://BrandonU.ca/Research/GameChangers)





## YWCA Women of Distinction Honours BU Student and Professors



The Brandon Sun

YWCA Women of Distinction Award recipients Jillian Dalby (back row, far left), Kathleen Nichol (back row, second from left), Dr. Kathryn Hyndman (back row, fourth from left), and Dr. Lorraine Mayer (front row, left) with other nominees

Three BU educators and a student won YWCA Women of Distinction Awards at this year's gala ceremony. Dr. Kathryn Hyndman and Kathleen Nichol were recognized for their outstanding contributions to post-secondary education under the "Excellence in Education" category, and Dr. Lorraine Mayer received recognition under the "Arts and Culture" category. BU student Jillian Dalby, a pre-nursing student in Health Studies, received the honour in the "Young Women of Distinction Award" category.

## Native Language Instructor Honoured by Province

A Brandon University instructor, and respected Dakota Nation Elder, has been recognized by the Manitoba Government as the Aboriginal Educator of the Month for February 2015. Kevin Tacan, from the Sioux Valley Dakota Nation west of Brandon, is the Dakota Language instructor at BU's Native Studies Department. Tacan is a BU alumnus, graduating in 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts (Hons.) and is currently completing a Master's Degree in Rural Development at BU. Since 1996, he has been employed with the Brandon School Division as Elder and Counselor.



Kevin Tacan

"Language is the cornerstone of a culture," said Tacan. "Hidden within the language are counseling systems, kinship, history and ceremony. Without it, we would cease to be a tribal group. I believe I have a responsibility to help students realize that."

## Students Respond to Call to Give Blood



Bailey and her mom, Kristen Phillips, at the blood donor drive

More than 50 BU students including Bailey the Bobcat rallied to give the gift of life in support of a Brandon-area infant that requires weekly blood transfusions. Fifteen-month old Bailey Phillips was born with the virus Cytomegalovirus (CMV) and her own body is consuming blood platelets as fast as her bone marrow can produce them. Bailey requires regular transfusions to survive and has received more than 120 since August 2013. Bailey was presented with a signed basketball, baby basketball shoes, and a doll of the Bobcats mascot.

## Dr. J.J. (Hans) Bakker – Stanley Knowles Distinguished Visiting Professor

Dr. J.J. (Hans) Bakker is the current Stanley Knowles Distinguished Visiting Professor in Public Policy at Brandon University. Dr. Bakker has taught rural sociology at the University of Guelph since 1980. An active researcher and dynamic public speaker, Dr. Bakker wrote *Toward A Just Civilization* in 1993, and was editor for *The World Food Crisis, Sustainability and International Rural Development*, and *Rural Sociologists at Work*. Currently, he is collaborating with BU's Rural Development Institute on a book to be published in 2015 exploring the social causes and effects of various political and economic conditions, including the relationship between religion and economic decisions.



Dr. J.J. (Hans) Bakker



Photo courtesy of Pittsburgh Penguins

# Fundamentals for Success

Mike Johnston, head coach of the Pittsburgh Penguins, reflects on his time as a student athlete at Brandon University.





## It's a classic Canadian story. Young man leaves home for the first time in pursuit of big dreams and hockey glory.

For Mike Johnston, this story would see him leave Dartmouth, Nova Scotia in 1978, venturing west to Brandon University to further his education and pursue his love of hockey.

He would also, unknowingly, set himself on a career path that would see him become one of today's top coaches in the sport of hockey, having coached some of the best in the game during his prolific career.

"My first impression when I arrived to Brandon in August was that it was really hot and dusty," recalls Johnston. "Then when winter hit, I couldn't believe that people actually plugged in their cars when they went to school or the mall, or it might not start at the end of the day! But the people I met at Brandon University were amazing—that's really the most memorable part of it."

While the prairie climate may have been a slight shock for him after moving west, Johnston quickly found his niche in Manitoba as both a student in the Bachelor of Education program at BU, and as a key member of the Bobcats men's hockey team during the 1978-79 and 1979-80 seasons, serving as team captain in his second year.

Johnston's first year at Brandon University was the same year that Andy Murray joined the Bobcats as head coach. Together, as coach and captain, Murray and Johnston built the Bobcats into a national-caliber team during the 1979-80 season. Coincidentally, Murray also pursued a career as a hockey coach, and, like Johnston, reached the NHL level.

"Brandon had been a team that was struggling, but with Andy Murray

coming in that first year, we turned the program around," said Johnston, who undoubtedly played a role in Brandon University's outstanding reputation as a centre for athletic excellence.

"Brandon University's basketball program under Jerry Hemmings was a phenomenal program, so it was kind of neat to go to a small school where our hockey team was becoming a top team in Canada and our basketball team was an elite team," he said. "It seemed like a close knit community of people that went to Brandon; it's amazing how many people I met, and how many I'm still close friends with today."

While he kept busy as a leader on the ice, Johnston's experience as a student at BU also offered a different kind of preparation for his coaching career.

"The education degree that I took at BU was a very good program," said Johnston. "I was impressed by the class size, and the interaction with the professors was outstanding. And for me it was a chance to get away and get out of my comfort zone in Nova Scotia and sort of branch out."

For Johnston, his experience coaching and teaching are one and the same. It's about getting through to people, and helping them to form their own unique identities; whether it's in the classroom, or on the ice.

"Teaching and coaching are very similar," said Johnston. "If you take it to the classroom level, the teacher is trying to get the most out of their students. Different students learn in different ways, and there are different ways to motivate students."

After graduating from Brandon University in 1980, and armed with his Education degree, Johnston was offered his first coaching job at Camrose Lutheran College in Alberta. The experience challenged him as a leader,

and called upon his skills as both an athlete and educator.

"I had no coaching experience, and I was coaching athletes of similar age to me," said Johnston. "Being put into that position really challenged me as a leader to try and work closer to my peer group, and to try to mold the players into a team. It really gave me the chance to become the coach I am today."

After several years in the Canadian college and university system, Johnston worked full-time for Hockey Canada from 1994 to 1999, serving as head coach, associate coach and general manager, and was assistant coach of Canada's 1998 Olympic Team. He won a total of five medals at the World Championships, and two gold medals at the World Junior Championship.

He went on to work as associate/assistant coach for the Vancouver Canucks and Los Angeles Kings before spending six years as general manager and head coach of the WHL's Portland Winterhawks. Johnston was named head coach of the Pittsburgh Penguins on June 25, 2014.

While Johnston's experience at various levels of hockey has been extensive, his leadership and coaching style has not veered away from the core fundamentals he developed as a student athlete at Brandon University, and during his first job in Camrose.

"For me, there is no difference in the levels—I treat them the same," he said. "It's a group that you're trying to give some common direction, and to push them to reach their potential."

"My coaching philosophy and the way I deal with people hasn't changed, no matter if I'm coaching Crosby, or Gretzky at the Olympics, or players that I coached at Camrose in my first couple of years. You have your certain personality, and you try and be who you are as an individual."

# HOMECOMING WEEKEND 2015

Celebrate with us! Homecoming is a community event open to everyone. We are proud to welcome back alumni from all years, students, faculty, staff, donors, family and friends. Rediscover your University. There is something for everyone!

This year, the classes of 1945, 1955, 1960 and 1965 TTC, 1965, 1975, 1985 & 1990 are celebrating milestone anniversaries. Find out if your class is organizing a special reunion or plan a reunion for your class, team or group. Call the Alumni Association for assistance. Can't remember who was in your class? Check out the *Sickles* (yearbooks) from 1927-1984 online at: [BrandonU.ca/Alumni/Sickle/](http://BrandonU.ca/Alumni/Sickle/).

There is a weekend of events lined up for you!

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

#### Information & Check-In Booth

4:30 pm – 7:00 pm | Healthy Living Centre

Check in and pick up your Homecoming Weekend information and name tags. Enter the draw to win a fantastic prize. Winner will be announced after the games!

#### Homecoming Kick-Off Event

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

#### and Volleyball Home Opener

Women's 6:00 pm | Men's 7:45 pm | Healthy Living Centre | BU

Games are free for registered Homecoming Guests

Join us as we kick-off the weekend and welcome back our Homecoming guests!

Meet up with friends and enjoy pre-game entertainment and a burger on us as you mix and mingle in the beer gardens. Cheer on the Bobcats as they take on Trinity Western University. Bring the family! Have fun with BUSU's face painting and photo booth.

#### Class of 1955 Reunion Dinner

6:30 pm | Victoria Inn | Cost: a la carte

Members of the Class of 1955 will celebrate their 60th anniversary with dinner and lots of reminiscing. For more information contact Carla Eisler at 204.727.9697 or [Alumni@BrandonU.ca](mailto:Alumni@BrandonU.ca).

#### Class of 1960 Teacher Training Class Reunion

The 1960 TTC members will be hosting a reunion on Friday evening (time and location to be announced). For more information contact Pat Bowslaugh at 204.728.4924 or [bowslaugh.pat@bsd.ca](mailto:bowslaugh.pat@bsd.ca).

#### Class of 1965 Teacher Training Class Reunion

The 1965 TTC members will be hosting a reunion on Friday evening (time and location to be announced). For more information contact Sandy (Tucker) Margetts at 204.727.7330 or [margetts@brandonu.ca](mailto:margetts@brandonu.ca).

#### Classes of 1965 & 1966 Celebration

The classes of 1965 and 1966 will be hosting a fun and informal celebration on Friday evening (time and location to be announced). For more information contact Cathy Moffatt at 204.728.0377 or [Moffatt@mymts.net](mailto:Moffatt@mymts.net).

#### Class of 2015 Reunion

As new BU graduates, we invite you back to join in the Homecoming events! Meet up with fellow alumni at the Kick-Off Event and cheer on the Bobcats. Keep the celebrations going at BUSU's Homecoming Bash.

#### Homecoming Bash (Social)

9 pm – 2 am | SUDS | Knowles-Douglas Building – BU Campus  
BU's Students' Union invites students and alumni to join together for an evening of fun. Bring in your Bobcat game ticket and get in for free (regular price \$5).



## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

### Campus Books

11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Knowles-Douglas Building – BU

Visit the Campus Bookstore for special Homecoming Weekend discounts on a wide selection of BU gear and merchandise.

### Athletics Wall of Fame Brunch

10:00 am – 12:00 pm | Victoria Inn | \$40

BU Athletics will be honouring the 2015 Dick and Verda McDonald Sports Wall of Fame class of inductees at a special ceremony at the Victoria Inn.

### BUSU's Lunch at SUDS

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Knowles-Douglas Building – BU | No Charge

Meet up with friends at the student pub for chili and a bun, compliments of the Brandon University Students' Union (donations accepted towards student food bank). Enjoy entertainment by School of Music students and check out the student club displays.

### Coffee with the President

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm | Room 104 Clark Hall – BU

Meet BU President & Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Gervan Fearon. Share your stories and engage in dialogue over a cup of coffee before heading out on your campus tour.

### Campus Tour

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm | Room 104 Clark Hall – BU

Join a student-guided tour or take your own journey into the past as you explore the campus. Meet the Deans as you visit each faculty and hear about the latest in research, programs and courses.

### Celebrate BU | Research Colloquium

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm | John E. Robbins Library – BU

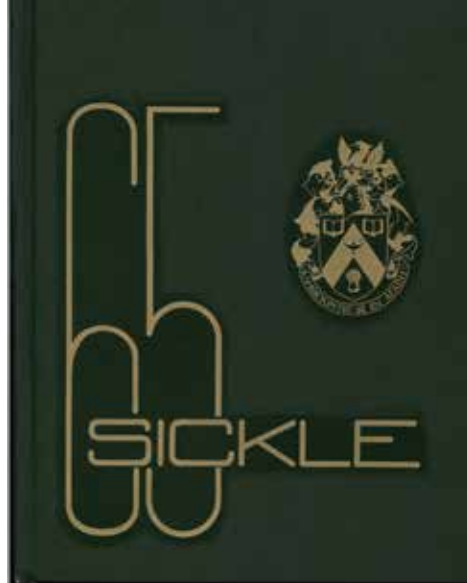
The BU community presents a celebration of creative and scholarly achievement. Join us for an enlightening and engaging afternoon hosted by some of BU's best students and faculty.

### Dinner and Awards

Cocktails 5:30 pm | Dinner 6:00 pm

Main Dining Hall – BU | \$40 (cash bar)

Relax and enjoy an evening of friendship and a delicious buffet meal. Join in the celebrations as we recognize the accomplishments of the 2015 Alumni Award Recipients.



## Hospitality Room 134 | Victoria Inn

Open for our guests from 12:00 pm to midnight on both Friday and Saturday.

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

### Farewell Brunch

10 am – 12 pm | Main Dining Hall – BU | \$17

Share your stories and memories over a hot brunch with the open mic—the stage is yours! Bid farewell to fellow classmates... until next year.

## REGISTER NOW

Online: [BrandonU.ca/Homecoming](http://BrandonU.ca/Homecoming)

Email: [Alumni@BrandonU.ca](mailto:Alumni@BrandonU.ca)

Call: 1.877.282.4483 or 204.727.9697

Mail form below to: Brandon University Alumni Association, 270 – 18th Street, Brandon, MB, R7A 6A9

### Accommodations

#### Victoria Inn

3550 Victoria Ave Brandon, MB

204.725.1532 or 1.800.852.2710

Group Booking #2694446 (until September 17)

### Room Rates

\$110.99 – Single

\$120.99 – Double

### WestJet Flights

WestJet is offering a 10% discount off their best available fare (excluding seat sales/economy fares and web fares) to our guests flying in and out of Brandon and Winnipeg to attend Homecoming Weekend. Call WestJet Groups Department at 1.888.493.7853 for details and quote our discount code: CC7501.

# HOMEcoming WEEKEND 2015 REGISTRATION FORM

DEADLINE DATE: OCTOBER 9, 2015

## REGISTRANT:

☐ Dr. ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Miss

Name:

Maiden Name:

(if applicable)

Grad Year(s) / Type(s):

## SPOUSE / GUEST:

☐ Dr. ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Miss

Name:

Maiden Name:

(if applicable)

Grad. Year(s) / Type(s):

Address:

City:

Province:

Country:

Postal Code / Zip Code:

Phone (Home):

Phone (Cell):

Email:

☐ Please check here if we can include your name and class year on our website as an attendee of this year's Homecoming.

## I/WE WANT TO REGISTER FOR:

Fri., October 16, 2015	Number	Cost	Total
Homecoming Kick-Off 5 pm, HLC – BU		No Charge	—
Class of '55 Reunion Dinner 6:30 pm, Victoria Inn		à la Carte Pay at Event	—
Class of '60 TTC Reunion Location TBA		No Charge	—
Class of '65 TTC Reunion Location TBA		No Charge	—
Classes of '65 & '66 Celebration		No Charge	—
Sat., October 17, 2015	Number	Cost	Total
Wall of Fame Brunch 10 am – 12 pm, Victoria Inn		\$40	\$
Lunch at SUDS, 12 – 1:30 pm, Knowles-Douglas Building – BU		Proceeds to BUSU Food Bank	
Coffee with the President, 1:30 – 2 pm, Clark Hall – BU		No Charge	—
Campus Tour, 2 – 3:30 pm, Room 104 Clark Hall – BU		No Charge	—
Research Colloquium 2 – 4 pm, BU Library		No Charge	—
Dinner & Awards Main Dining Hall – BU		\$40	\$
Please seat me/us with the Class of			
Sun., October 18, 2015	Number	Cost	Total
Sunday Brunch 10 am – Noon, Main Dining Hall – BU		\$17	\$
TOTAL ENCLOSED			\$

## METHOD OF PAYMENT

☐ Cheque ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

Credit Card #:

Expiry Date (mm/yy):

Signature:

## Mark Your Calendars

THURSDAY, JUNE 4

### President's Alumni Reception – Winnipeg

Canadian Museum for Human Rights  
85 Israel Asper Way | Winnipeg, MB

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

### President's Alumni Reception – Calgary

Petroleum Club | 319 5 Ave SW | Calgary, AB

AUGUST 7 – 8

### Alumni Days @ Clear Lake, MB

Bud, Spud & Steak | Entertainment | Golf | Prizes

AUGUST 12 – 16

### AUGUSTFEST VI

A summer celebration of fine music.  
Lorne Watson Recital Hall | Brandon University  
[AugustFest.ca](http://AugustFest.ca) | 204.727.5682

AUGUST 12 – 16

### School of Music Reunion

Contact Mavis Green | [mavisgreen@mts.net](mailto:mavisgreen@mts.net) |  
204.489.3934

MONTHLY

### Pub Night – Winnipeg

The Winnipeg Alumni Chapter's monthly Pub Night is held the third Thursday of each month (excluding July & August) | 5 - 7 pm at Flea Whiskeys | 601 Erin St. | Winnipeg, MB

For more information or to register for any of these events contact: [Alumni@BrandonU.ca](mailto:Alumni@BrandonU.ca) | 1.877.282.4483 | [BrandonU.ca/Alumni](http://BrandonU.ca/Alumni)

## Alumni Chapters

Alumni Chapters provide opportunities for alumni to participate in social, recreational, and educational programs. If you would like to become involved with the Alumni Chapter in your area, you may call one of the following representatives:

- ▶ **Winnipeg** | Gerald Butler, Chair  
[gbutler@cardinal.ca](mailto:gbutler@cardinal.ca) | 204.955.0400
- ▶ **Toronto** | Jason Bernstein, Chair  
[bernstein.je@gmail.com](mailto:bernstein.je@gmail.com) | 647.762.5206
- ▶ **Calgary** | Sasha Brown, Chair  
[sashabrown101@hotmail.com](mailto:sashabrown101@hotmail.com) | 403.663.3299
- ▶ **Brandon Chapter** coming soon!

## In Touch

Stay connected with University friends and classmates.

**W. Reid Huzzey, BSc'73** – After graduating from BU with a major in geology, Reid moved to Calgary and completed a MSc at the University of Calgary. He worked as a petroleum geologist and was a geological advisor for several oil companies and also served as vice-president of exploration. He retired in 2012 and moved to Victoria in 2014.



**Bruce Low, BA'94** –

Following BU, Bruce earned an MA in Archaeology and Anthropology

from the University of Saskatchewan in 1997. In 2008, he graduated with a Masters in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies from the University of British Columbia. He began his career as an archaeologist in 1989 when he entered BU, learning and conducting Cultural Resource Management (CRM) over the next several years, and conducting and leading CRM activities across the four western provinces. In 1996 he moved to Prince George, BC to continue his CRM work, both as an employee and as a manager and project director of his own firm. In 2001 he became the Land and Resource Coordinator for the Kitsumkalum First Nation Treaty Office in Terrace, BC. In 2007, he accepted the position of Aboriginal Affairs Manager for the Government of British Columbia. In 2010, Bruce took on the role of Regional Manager in Fort St. John for the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR). In 2013

he became the MARR Regional Manager in Prince George, the position which he currently holds.



**Connie Ricker, BA'13** – Connie graduated with a major in Sociology and a minor in Native Studies from BU

in 2013. Connie is a member of the Manitoba Métis Federation, and was the recipient of two Louis Riel Scholarships as well as full sponsorship in her final year. She is now the Outreach Manager for the Mood Disorders Association of Manitoba Westman and looks forward to helping community members, as well as partnering with other Mental Health agencies in the Westman area.



**Ryan Henry, BSc'09** –

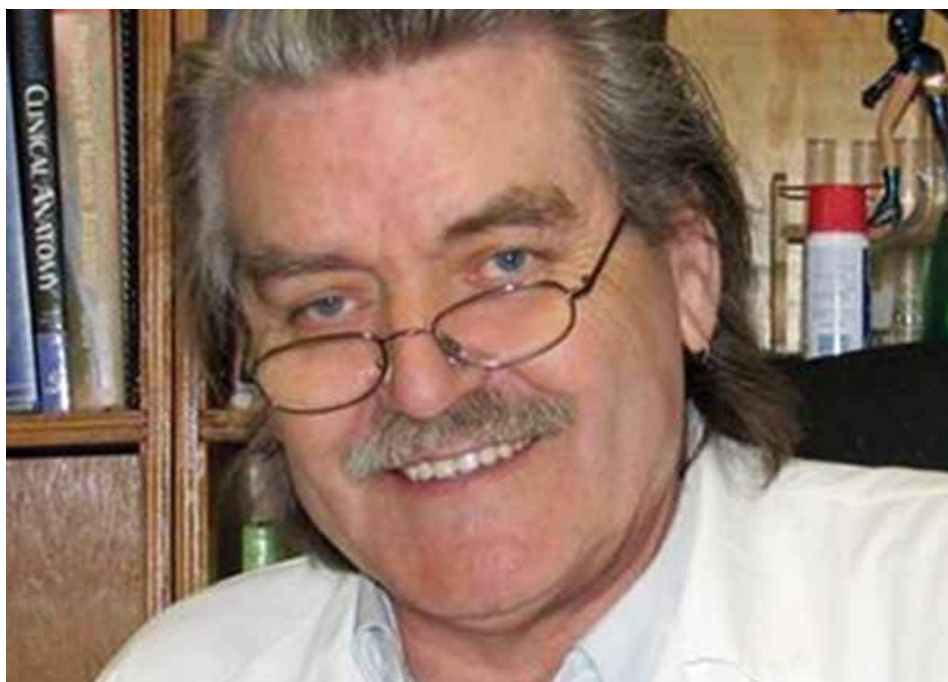
Ryan defended his PhD thesis (*Efficient Zero-Knowledge Proofs and*

*Applications*) in Computer Science at the University of Waterloo in August 2014. He was awarded the distinction of "Outstanding Achievement in Graduate Studies at the Doctoral Level." In January 2015 he started as an assistant professor in the School of Informatics and Computing at Indiana University Bloomington. He is currently teaching a graduate level cryptography course and recruiting graduate students to do research in cryptography and privacy-enhancing technologies, and computer security, more generally.



# In Memory of Dr. Patrick C. Jackson

## 1948 – 2015



Brandon University lost a dear friend and colleague, Dr. Patrick Jackson on February 22, 2015. Dr. Jackson obtained a diploma in psychiatric nursing in 1971 from the Manitoba Developmental Centre in Portage la Prairie, MB. He then graduated from Brandon University with two undergraduate degrees in 1974 and later earned his PhD in Developmental Neurobiology at McMaster University in Hamilton, ON. He served as a faculty member at Dalhousie University in Halifax, NS and the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College in Toronto, ON for several years. He then returned to Brandon where he became a Brandon University faculty member in Biology in 2004, and chaired the Zoology Department in 2006. He taught all undergraduate levels and served on a number of BU committees including the Senate Executive, Senate Research, Curriculum and Academic Planning

and Animal Care. In addition, Dr. Jackson lent his expertise to counselling students, particularly in the biomedical fields. His greatest pleasure came from teaching. He had 40 years of knowledge that he was able to present in a way that students found stimulating and engaging. Fellow colleagues miss their daily image of him—in his somewhat battered hat, coffee in hand, and whistling down the corridor first thing in the morning. Once he arrived at his office he would switch to his uniform—green Crocs, lab coat (complete with *Star Trek TNG* Communication Badge) and walking stick (also known as a wooden pointer). His colleagues would joke that the only item missing from his ensemble was the Technicolor Dream Coat. While his career at Brandon University was brief, his contribution to the students, department, faculty and University will be lasting.

## In Memoriam

### ALUMNI

**Genevieve Babulic**, Assoc. '65  
October 4, 2014

**Eileen Barnes**, TTC'56  
June 18, 2010

**Douglas V. Birch**, BSc'59  
November 19, 2014

**Rita Blackmore**, TTC'62  
November 3, 2014

**Margaret L. Ellis**, TTC'56  
February 17, 2011

**Alexander N. Fedoruk**, BSc'57  
November 22, 2014

**Kathleen E. Findlay-Ireland**, BA'35  
November 11, 2012

**Marjorie E. Fleming**, BSc'67  
July 8, 2014

**Marianne J. Hurley**, BSc'45  
February 8, 2015

**Louis Kurchaba**, BEd'73  
October 24, 2013

**Daniel A. McPherson**, BA'88  
April 21, 2014

**Donald E. Morgan**, BGS'83  
February 28, 2010

**Vincent R. Stoneman**, Grad Dip. '99, MEd'04  
March 18, 2015

**Garth H. M. Thomas**, BSc'48  
May 20, 2014

**Ada Thompson**, BT '77, BGS'84  
May 21, 2014

### STAFF / FACULTY

**Donald Eastman**, Assoc. Professor, Dept. of Math/Science 1969 – 2008, June 29, 2014

**Rita Biglow**, Building Maintenance Worker 1985 – 2005, December 2, 2014

**Clifford W. Carbo**, Associate Professor in Faculty of Education 1967 – 1992, December 14, 2014

**Patrick Jackson**, Assistant Professor, Department of Biology 2004 – 2015, February 22, 2015

**Henry Lawrence**, Engineer, Physical Plant 1961 – 1988, December 9, 2014,

**Peter J. McKay**, Centre Coordinator, Professional Associate, BUNTEP 2004 – 2008, June 25, 2014

**Margaret Preston**, Operator in Telephone Services 1978 – 1994, February 15, 2015

**Carol Steele**, Library Assistant 2001 – 2015, April 24, 2015



# Seek and You Shall Find

---

How Blyss Pickering's drive to experience science has opened doors to new interests and important fields of study



Blyss Pickering is a passionate advocate for nature and protecting the vital relationships between the urban and natural environments that surround us. She studies the ecological health of riparian forests around the City of Brandon, and is adding to both the social and scientific knowledge associated with municipal development in these areas.

She's also a bit nervous around frogs. "I have always liked frogs, even if I was terrified of them, and it was for completely nonsensical reasons which I can hardly blame frogs for!" laughs Blyss. Despite this, she has dedicated her honours thesis at Brandon University to the study of riparian ecosystems, and the role these areas play in managing the urban/nature balance.

Riparian ecology, the study of land and its relationship with a river or stream, is an important consideration in Brandon's flood-prone landscape. Through her research, Blyss is considering the health of local riparian forests, and the impact recent ecological changes have had on these regions.

"The riparian forest is changing and my research will provide baseline data on the ecological integrity of these areas," said Blyss. "My research also evaluates what the people of Brandon think and feel about this important area. I'm using a two-pronged method by approaching the area of study from both scientific and social angles, and I hope to share my findings with the City of Brandon."

Through her research in the Brandon area, Blyss has developed a keen interest

in how scientific considerations interplay with social dialogue. By actively researching in the city, she has witnessed the interaction of many factors when assessing and striving to understand riparian forests.

"In its practical application, riparian ecology is one part of a broad, interdisciplinary area," said Blyss. "In addition to getting to work with other people, I also have the opportunity to learn about a lot of different things from social issues to economics. I appreciate how challenging it is, and that it requires patient observation, humility and imagination."

Blyss' undergraduate experience actively researching and studying this locally-relevant issue has also led her to consider the value of riparian ecosystems, and how this value can, or, in many cases, can't be quantified.

"Brandon has experienced record flooding for the past few summers," said Blyss, "and riparian ecosystems in particular play an essential role in flood mitigation and erosion control with healthier ecosystems more able to provide those ecosystem services. So even though we can't quantify these services, we are still deriving benefits from them."

Her honours thesis supervisor, Dr. Pamela Rutherford, echoes the impact of Blyss' research which is especially relevant locally. "Blyss' honours project provided a unique perspective of the impact of flooding on the Assiniboine River corridor in Brandon, and our attitudes toward these changes," said Dr. Rutherford, Assistant Biology Professor at BU. "These kinds of interdisciplinary projects are extremely important for urban conservation biology."

Following her graduation in May, Blyss plans to pursue a Master of Geography in Planning at the University of Saskatchewan with a focus on the social

"The best advice I could give is to get involved with as many things as possible. It's easy for students to feel like, well, students, and to doubt if they can contribute outside of the classroom."

aspects of watershed planning. She is also very interested in the technology used to manage and treat waste water.

As a graduating student this spring with a Bachelor of Science (Hons.), Blyss recommends that new and returning students work to get varied experiences to help them prepare for life outside of the classroom.

"The best advice I could give is to get involved with as many things as possible," said Blyss. "It's easy for students to feel like, well, students, and to doubt if they can contribute outside of the classroom. Students should show their interest as volunteers at events or conferences, and to show that they are willing and enthusiastic to gain practical experience."

Blyss credits her experience at BU with preparing her to confidently pursue graduate studies, or to embark on an interdisciplinary career path that explores the interactions between nature and our urban environments.

"I can't think of a better way to take everything that I learned in the classroom and to apply it in a practical way and in a situation where I had all the resources and support I needed to successfully complete my project," said Blyss. "I now feel confident to pursue either graduate school or a career because I have experience working independently on a project of my own design, and seeing it through to completion."



Richardson Gymnasium in the HLC

# BU Surpasses Goal Set by Richardson Foundation

In a show of their outstanding support for Brandon University's state-of-the-art Healthy Living Centre (HLC), the Winnipeg-based Richardson Foundation gave \$250,000 in 2014 toward the new facility, and pledged up to an additional \$250,000 in matching dollars for all HLC funds raised that same year. Through the generous support of our local community and partners, Brandon University is pleased to announce that fundraising efforts by our dedicated team of volunteers surpassed this matching fund goal in 2014, and that the total funds committed and leveraged by the Richardson Foundation now total over \$790,000. In recognition of this partnership, the home of the BU Bobcats has been renamed the Richardson Gymnasium.

"Our Firm and Foundation have a long history with and connection to Brandon University," said Hartley Richardson, President & Chief Executive Officer of James Richardson & Sons, Limited and a Trustee of the Richardson Foundation. "We are extremely pleased to be part of BU's latest capital campaign and provide our support for this important community project".

BU's success in surpassing this goal is largely thanks to the *Score a Seat* Campaign, a major community-based initiative launched in 2014 for the sale of over 1,000 spectator seats in the HLC. *Score a Seat* allows alumni, supporters and friends the opportunity to purchase one of the new spectator seats in

"We are extremely pleased to be part of BU's latest capital campaign and provide our support for this important community project."

the HLC, and affix their name or an inscription of their choosing on the seat for the next twenty years.

To date, 202 seats have been sold in the Richardson Gymnasium, with all funds raised directly supporting the HLC. To purchase a seat of your own, contact the Advancement office at 204.727.7374.

## Donors to HLC Celebrated at VIP Evening

Brandon University hosted over sixty major donors at the Healthy Living Centre (HLC) in January for an evening of complimentary refreshments and excellent men's and women's volleyball action to celebrate the success of fundraising initiatives in support of the HLC. Donors enjoyed access to the VIP Donor Zone, and were entertained by the BU Bobcats volleyball teams' final home games versus the University of Alberta Golden Bears and Pandas. BUILD Campaign Chair, Dr. Tom Breneman and Acting Associate Vice-President (External), Dr. Michael Kim, expressed their thanks and appreciation to all in attendance.

"Support for the HLC in 2014 through *Score a Seat*, with funds matched by the Richardson Foundation, offered an amazing opportunity to directly invest in the health and wellness of our Westman community," said Dr. Tom Breneman, BUILD Campaign Chair. "The outstanding vision of the Richardson Foundation has helped us leverage this support, and we are delighted to have surpassed our goal."



## BU Alumna Establishes Conservatory Award



Elaine Bollman

Elaine A. Bollman BA'71, BEd'76 has established a generous award for students at the Eckhardt-Gramatté Conservatory of Music at BU through a generous gift of shares in excess of \$40,000. The E. A. Bollman Award will provide approximately \$1,800 annually for Conservatory students.

From 1957 to 1971, Elaine was driven into Brandon weekly for piano lessons at Brandon College/University from her farm home near Moline. It was 35 miles one way. She thanks her mother for insisting that she take these lessons as they set the parameters for her life. Because of this, Elaine has set up this award to go primarily to piano students.



Images courtesy S.J. McKee Archives

Wilfred Whyte McCutcheon  
c. 1967

## The McCutcheon Alcove Project

Brandon College Teacher Training Certificate (TTC), and Education alumni from 1955 to 1967 will undoubtedly remember Dr. Wilfred McCutcheon, then Dean of Education. Dr. McCutcheon (1919-2008) will be honoured and remembered through the naming of the student lounge/study space

located on the main floor of the Education Building. The space will undergo a complete renovation and re-design. As well, Dr. McCutcheon's photograph and biography, and a collection of McCutcheon-era pictures will be prominently displayed.

The official dedication and unveiling of The McCutcheon Alcove will take place during Homecoming in October 2016, in conjunction with the 60th Anniversary of the graduation of the first TTC class in 1956, the group spearheading this project in recognition of Dr. McCutcheon's years of service.

We invite you to make a donation in support of this project. All gifts are tax deductible and are payable to: Brandon University Foundation, 270 – 18th Street, Brandon, MB R7A 6A9. For more information, call 204.727.9715 or toll-free 1.877.282.4483.

## Mel and Ruth Turnbull Legacy Gift



Mel and Ruth Turnbull

Through a bequest, the late Mel and Ruth Turnbull from Hartney, MB, have established an endowment of \$261,589 at both BU and Assiniboine Community College (ACC) in support of student awards. Mel Turnbull passed away in 1996, and Ruth in 2013.

Their niece Marion McGregor '63, from Ontario, was on hand for the joint announcement with ACC. Marion spoke about how Mel and Ruth never forgot what they had derived and what their families had derived from higher education, beginning when Mel took music lessons at Brandon University (then Brandon College) at the age of five.



Marion MacGregor speaks on behalf of the Turnbull family.

BU President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Gervan Fearon, said, "We are thankful for this gracious gift that will provide ongoing assistance to many individuals seeking access to post-secondary education for a better future. Indeed, this legacy from Mel and Ruth Turnbull is about the future and shaping new possibilities for the next generation."

The Mel and Ruth Turnbull Bursary at Brandon University will support outstanding students with financial need. Each year, approximately \$12,000 will be shared, providing bursaries of up to full-tuition for a number of BU students.

Thank you to the following alumni who supported Brandon University in 2014. Your generosity greatly impacts our students by enhancing and improving BU's programs and services.

Many of these donors gave through the Annual Fund, which raised more than \$75,000.

## Class of 1941

Margaret L. Eggleton

## Class of 1943

William R. Harwood

## Class of 1945

Raymond R. Bailey  
Patricia M. Chefurka

## Class of 1946

William Chefurka  
Christine H. Coltart  
James G. Lindsay

## Class of 1947

Evelyn B. Salt

## Class of 1948

Harlaine I. Armstrong  
Lois M. Daly  
Francis J. Humphries  
Doreen P. Shanks

## Class of 1949

Florence M.  
Brownridge  
Edna M. Crane  
Tena I. Gough

## Class of 1950

Ivan T. Rainey  
Donald S. Sumner  
Ida M. Wyllie

## Class of 1951

Ronald D. Bell  
Patricia A. Coleman  
Angus W. Juckes  
Ivey G. McNeill  
William A.  
Sutherland

## Class of 1952

Donna J. Agnew  
John M. Andrews  
Ernest E. Criddle  
F. J. Garnett  
Murray J. MacDonald  
Kenneth H. McNeely

## Class of 1953

Donald E. Cronk  
William C. Ferguson  
Patricia A. Gaye  
Kevin Kavanagh  
James McKibbin

## Class of 1954

Donald N. Adams  
John D. Blackwood

Leo Evason

Albert Gogol

Norman C. Hedison

Margaret I. Tjaden

Ivy M. Young

## Class of 1955

William G. Graham  
Verda McDonald  
Frank L. McKinnon  
Helen E. Mitchell  
Marjorie R. Pringle  
Gordon D. Williams

## Class of 1956

Allen E. Hattie  
Elizabeth M. Hinch  
Jean M. McIntosh  
Heather M. Schroeder  
Harold C. Stewart

## Class of 1957

Barbara A. Bannatyne  
Garth M. Bray  
Michael P. Czuboka  
Mina J. Dyck  
Anonymous  
James A. McKinney  
Barrie Orr  
Irene Pettapiece

## Class of 1958

James L. Callander  
H. V. Davies  
Ian W. Dickson  
John C. Easter  
William J. Friesen  
Myrna Hall  
Marion Kreshewski  
Jean E. Paton  
Margaret Platte  
Jean E. Rust  
Brian D. Thorkelson

## Class of 1959

Paul M. Antrobus  
Kathleen Antrobus  
James B. Donaghy  
Louise Leask  
Wayne Pettapiece  
Elaine M. Smith

## Class of 1960

Eleanor I. Abra  
Beverley A. Barnes  
Nancy Birch  
Donna I. Dickson  
Sandra G. Donin

William S. Evans

Richard G. McDonald

Donna M. Vrooman

## Class of 1961

Nona J. Chlan  
Margaret Hanulik  
Margaret E. Johnston  
R. M. Letts  
Brian J. McKenzie  
Charles O. Meighen  
Shirley M. Moore  
Marion A. Robinsong

## Class of 1962

Ian D. Barnes  
Ronald E. Borotsik  
Margaret M. Borotsik  
Keith G. Elder  
Martha E. Fair  
Sherrie B. Francis  
H. W. Johnston  
William H. McRuer  
Eleanor K. Rock  
Bruce Smirl  
Daniel C. J. Warnez  
Lelonie M. Whitmore

## Class of 1963

David H. Bergman  
Gerald R. Brown  
Gerald R. Butler  
Malcolm W.  
Davidson  
Eric A. Hillman  
Marjorie Leach  
Kenneth L. May  
Larry E. McCrady

## Class of 1964

C. Dennis Anderson  
Garry R. Atchison  
Janice R. Barton  
Clark Brownlee  
Lorna Clark  
Frances M. Clayton  
Carl L. Cunningham  
Jeannette M. Dawes  
Carole E. Dence  
John S. Drever  
Donald G. Edwards  
Elaine Gibson  
Virginia Johnson  
Evelyn Kidd  
Donald R. Lawrence  
Gloria McAuley  
Isabelle M. Mills  
James G. Mills  
Audrey J. Myers  
James W. C. Parrott  
Norman V. Peterson  
Robert M. Raeburn  
Elizabeth J. Sprott  
Patricia C. Thorn  
Eleanor E. Tilton  
Glenn E. Tweed  
Joan M. Veselovsky  
Edward Arthur L.  
Whitcomb

## Class of 1965

Muriel J. Anderson  
Faye E. Arthurson  
Christina E. Cassels  
Clair H. Davies  
Donna R. Gamache  
Clarice Gilchrist  
Margaret Hannah  
Robert L. Neumann  
Laurie R. Ricou  
Trevia C. Ricou  
Robert J. Wilkins

## Class of 1966

Kenneth R. Daniels  
Gary R. Evans  
Henry P. Klassen  
Richard G. Lawford  
David W. McAuley  
Charles A. McMillan  
Carol M. Milne  
Roland P. North  
Freda North  
Carol M. Popplewell  
John L. Spalding

## Class of 1967

Edward G. Agnew  
Prema Bursa  
Barry C. Danard  
Adriaan C. de Hoog  
Barbara Evans  
Bryan J. Fuhr  
Marjory E. McNair  
Morna Paterson  
Ian Watson

## Class of 1968

Nancy R. Allen  
Judy L. Danard  
Lavonne R. Graham  
Ian O. Hamberg  
Mary Kalberg  
Phyllis Kotyk  
Audrey McCrady  
Lana M. Myers  
William E. Myers  
Donald G. Taylor  
Margaret A. Yorke

## Class of 1969

Elizabeth J.  
Armstrong  
Laurence M. Bertram  
Lon F. Brandon  
Kerry L. Fair  
Pamela Forsyth  
John B. Irvine  
Paul A. Laval  
Patricia E. Macdonald  
Edward J. Mazer  
Juliet M. McLachlan  
Reginald Nylen  
Sharon Nylen  
Douglas A. Paterson  
John W. Russell  
John A. Yeboah

## Class of 1970

Henry Bissoon  
Marguerite L.  
Campbell  
Willis J. G. Congdon  
Ralph J. Gardiner  
Linda Hart  
Murray Hart  
George Kunyckj  
Marion J. Mazer  
Barry O. Minish  
Thelma Peregrino-  
Solomon  
Clarence J. Prawdzik  
Russell E. Roney  
Frank Senkow  
Marilyn B. Skelton

## Class of 1971

Donald L. Berry  
Elaine A. Bollman  
Patricia E. Bowslaugh  
Marguerite E. Crandle  
Emmett J. Elves  
Donald Haslam  
Norman E. Joss  
Norman Koe  
David B. Macdonald  
Margaret A.  
McPherson  
Brent Mills  
Enid Pottinger  
Edward D. Sklar  
Jane G. Walton

## Class of 1972

Sandra L. Armstrong  
Karen E. Elves  
Kathleen M. Gordon  
Myrna I. Miller-Tait  
William G. Witcher  
Jill E. Witcher  
Elizabeth N. Yuen  
Wo K. Yuen

## Class of 1973

Christine J. Bertram  
Robert G. Deveson  
James R. Hardy  
Audrey L. Hardy  
Mona L. Kille  
Ann E. Lyons  
Joan MacKay  
Livia G. McGregor  
James D. McLachlan  
June L. Thompson  
Donald E. Tully  
Catherine L. Wilkie

## Class of 1974

Winnifred A. Baird  
Robert D. Campbell  
Frances A. Dagg  
Margo F. Foxford  
Bonnie J. Grahame  
David J. Green  
Leonard J. Horback  
Colleen R. Jury

Dona M. Keys

Richard S. Marshall  
Milo Spooner Craig  
Carol Wilkie

## Class of 1975

Laurie M.  
Binkley-Hooke  
John R. Dawes  
Patricia G. Heuchert  
Robert R. McLennan  
Karen E. McNeill  
Brian W. Pallister  
Paulette Pow  
Amelia S. Reid

## Class of 1976

Debra Carnegie  
William J. Carter  
Ronald R. Cockerill  
Cheryl J. Craig  
Bruce A. Craig  
Dale Harvey  
Christopher W.  
Kennedy  
Renatta K. Mills  
Elizabeth M. Stewart

## Class of 1977

Gerald M. Beaubier  
Kenneth D. Bosiak  
Faye G. Douglas  
Karen M. Dunbar  
Lorraine Griffiths  
Anonymous  
Helen Nantais  
Eileen G. Thompson

## Class of 1978

Ellen Carter  
Douglas W. Craig  
Patricia Cristall  
Jeffrey G. Cristall  
Charles S. Farnell  
Jerry D. Hemmings  
Jacqueline P. Hurton  
Donald R. Hurton  
David M. Juce  
Anne Matiation  
Garry K. Rainnie  
Gerald J. Rocan  
Janice E. Ross  
Thomas H. Skinner  
Mark E. Wolfe

## Class of 1979

Terri E. Deller  
Jeffrey D. Harder  
Marie L. Matheson  
Douglas F. McArthur  
David Tesarowski  
Debra D. Tomiski  
Barbara D. Wolfe

## Class of 1980

Anonymous  
Frances Jackson  
Violet L. Joss  
Patricia G. McKenzie



George Reimer  
Anonymous  
Alma E. Toms  
Edward H. Wright

**Class of 1981**

Anne L. Dickson  
Rita Dornn  
David C. Hanly  
Karen L. Juce  
Nancy D. Kelleher  
Dawn Tesarowski

**Class of 1982**

Frederick R. Bruce  
Owen J. Cory  
Reginald R. Helwer  
Anonymous

**Class of 1983**

Aynsley Helwer  
Alice M. Sklar  
Alexander D. Tolton

**Class of 1984**

Elizabeth A. Mitchell  
Patricia E. Parobec  
Bernice M. Robb  
Claren Turner

**Class of 1985**

Juel E. Bell  
Kristi M.  
Grunsten-Yonda  
Jennifer S. Harrison  
James McNeely  
Kevin C. Meadows  
Kathleen M. Moquin  
Kelvin G. Nachtigall  
Brenda L. Rust  
Len J. Rust  
Robert K. Springer  
Edna I. Wells

**Class of 1986**

Shirley Ann E. Buan  
Edna M. Cookson  
Sandra S. Ensley  
Perri L. Gardner  
Terry Gibson  
Jane L.

Keeling-Ribbel  
Richard T.

McCutcheon  
Robert W. McDougall  
Agostino A. Scaletta  
Mark T. Storen

**Class of 1987**

Douglas W. Adams  
Kerry G. Auriat  
Patricia A. Britton  
Shawn R. Chambers  
Yvonne C. Inniss  
Margaret P.  
MacLennan  
Gordon F. Rust  
John Warkentin

**Class of 1988**

Richard L. Graham  
Murray Kerr  
Ellen L. Strange

**Class of 1989**

Cecile M. Chambers  
Lisa J. Cobbe  
Florine E. Cronk  
Shannon L. Graham  
Leila A. Kerr  
Lorraine G. Rozak

**Class of 1990**

Lisa M. Cruse  
Melanie H. Wrobel

**Class of 1991**

Lana M. Bryant  
Dale M. Lakevold  
Donna A. Lowe

**Class of 1992**

Peter Plante  
Darrell G. Racine  
David Rehaluk  
Patricia M. Turner

**Class of 1993**

Gregory J. Bryant  
Grant S. Wilson

**Class of 1994**

Jennifer L. Brown  
Charles W. Gordon  
Diane E. Harder  
Louise A. Lamont  
Joann L. Makara  
Gordon L. Ransom

**Class of 1995**

Ellen Klassen  
Blaine C. Steen

**Class of 1996**

Jeffrey P. Fawcett  
Brent Einar J. Russell

**Class of 1997**

Garnet D. Boyd  
Tanya A. Cantlon  
Ryan B. Hehn  
Betty M. Peloquin

**Class of 1998**

Gary D. Moore

**Class of 1999**

Sasha D. Brown  
Carlie Chastko  
Christa P. Harder  
Anonymous  
Suyoko A. Tsukamoto

**Class of 2000**

Peter J. Adamo  
Heather E. Duncan  
Robert A. Rennie

**Class of 2001**

Paul J. Chen  
Anonymous  
Jane E. McCannell  
Tanya E. Sharpe

**Class of 2003**

Carla L. Eisler  
Carla Harris  
Bradley McNiven

**Class of 2004**

Chad H. Cobbe  
Kristen A. Myers

**Class of 2006**

Nathan E. Peto  
Anonymous

**Class of 2007**

Tilda A. Fortier  
William Heuchert  
William R. Morrison

**Class of 2009**

Marcy Jo Goetz  
Lonnie R. Patterson  
Erlin J. Zurawski

**Class of 2010**

Helen H. Pong  
Patrick J. Thompson

**Class of 2011**

Eric A. Roberts

**Class of 2012**

Carolyn D. Gwyer


**Class of 2014**

Pablo Loyer

Every effort has been made to ensure that this listing is accurate and complete. Please report any errors or omission to the Department of Institutional Advancement at 204.727.7374 or 1.877.282.4483 (toll-free). Donors of \$1,000 or more are also listed as members of the Order of the Sheaf in the *Brandon University Foundation Annual Report*. To request a copy, please call one of the numbers listed above.





A man and a woman are standing in a snowy field. The woman, on the left, has red hair and is wearing a brown coat with a fur collar. The man, on the right, is wearing a plaid jacket over a blue shirt and jeans. They are both smiling. In the background, there is a large pile of old, black tires. The ground is covered in snow, and some dry grass is visible in the foreground.

BU science professor Dr. Sarah Plosker  
with her husband, Tom Gustin.

Photo by Bruce Bumstead,  
*Brandon Sun.*

# Going off the Grid

BU professor Dr. Sarah Plosker prepares to build  
a self-sustaining home.



By Lindsey Enns, Brandon Sun

Dr. Sarah Plosker and her husband Tom Gustin are embarking on a project of a lifetime — building their very own self-sustaining home, only the second of its kind in Manitoba.

Their earth-sheltered home's design will be similar to an "Earthship," an idea coined by American architect Michael Reynolds, who built and designed the first Earthship in the early 1970s.

Dr. Plosker and her husband started getting familiar with the idea nearly four years ago while living in an apartment in Guelph, Ont., dreaming of what life could be like if they had more space and lived self-sufficiently.

"We just read some stuff online about it and thought that's for us," said Plosker, a science professor at Brandon University. "I like that we won't have any bills...it's all off-grid."

The young couple, originally from Regina, currently live in a 100-year-old home in Brandon and pay high heating bills all winter. Once their new home is complete, which could take up to five years, they will only have an Internet bill to pay.

They predict building their dream home, on 10 acres of land in the RM of Daly near Rivers, will cost around \$150,000 to \$200,000.

Although they will be using mainly recycled materials, some of the major

costs will include manual labour as well as purchasing a metal roof and windows. A sloped metal roof will allow for harvesting rainwater, while the windows will let in sunlight.

"There are people who have done it cheaper by going to dumps and getting the sides of washing machines to do the roof, but the more labour you put into it, the cheaper it is," Gustin said.

So far they've collected nearly 500 old tires, which will be used as the structure's walls and foundation. Once dirt is pounded into them, they will also serve to hold in the heat.

The tires will be stacked one on top of the other and rebar will be used to hold them in place. An indoor wood-burning stove will help keep the home at 16°C year-round.

A clay and plaster mixture, along with glass bottles, will be used for the inside walls.

They also plan to build a greenhouse and a natural outdoor swimming pool on their property.

While securing their building permit, which was a two-year process to obtain, the couple hired Winnipeg-based architect Pádraic O'Connell to help them with the design.

"He was the only one who was interested," Gustin said. "I spoke to quite a few architects and most of them were like 'no, I don't want to do an original.'"

O'Connell said that although he has worked on various sustainable building projects in the past, they've never been of this magnitude.

"Because it is unconventional construction, there is an associated learning curve," O'Connell said. "A lot of labour goes into packing

each individual tire, which may add additional time compared to a conventional build."

Earthships seem to be slowly gaining momentum across Manitoba. One has been built just outside Winnipeg, while other people are showing interest on the "Manitoba Earthships" Facebook page, which now has nearly 1,400 members. Through his own research, Gustin has come across about 60 Earthships that have been built across Canada.

"So far they've collected nearly 500 old tires, which will be used as the structure's walls and foundation. Once dirt is pounded into them, they will also serve to hold in the heat."

O'Connell said he believes increased climate change awareness is getting more people on board.

"People want their homes to have less of a carbon footprint while saving money."

Plosker and her husband are now looking for a crew of volunteers to help with the build.

Those interested in helping can contact Plosker via email at [sarah.plosker@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.plosker@gmail.com).

As for what they're most looking forward to when it comes to living off the grid, Plosker was quick to say "seeing the stars at night."

"Self-grown produce...that's definitely one thing we're excited about," Gustin added.

# Creative Process in the Digital Age

Handwritten manuscript from Dr. T. Patrick Carrabr 

Music manuscripts have long been a source of information about how composers work. Mozart appears to have written his music out perfectly the first time, while Beethoven and Brahms scratched things out or glued corrections over top of their initial ideas. Dr. T. Patrick Carrabr , vividly remembers visiting the “Haydn House” museum in Vienna.

“I was struck by the small desk and his collection of pencil nubs. I remember thinking that pencils must have been very expensive back then,” said Dr. Carrabr . But the introduction of computers and recording technology may ultimately erase the role of the pencil and paper, eliminating significant clues as to how a composer’s mind works.

Dr. Carrabr , composer and professor at Brandon University, still uses a pencil at his small desk in the School of Music—although it’s a mechanical drafting pencil—but the large format monitors and studio speakers tell a different story about the modern creative process.

“I do start out at the piano, and use manuscript paper to write out my ideas, but almost immediately I move over to the computer,” said Dr. Carrabr . “I use a program called Finale, which is like a word processor for musicians, as well as Ableton Live, which is good for transforming and blending sounds in new ways. I’ve become very interested in mixing live and manipulated sounds in performance.”

On the jazz and contemporary music side, BU associate professor Michael Cain’s studio looks remarkably similar, with



Professor Michael Cain mixing audio tracks

several keyboards and a desk covered by studio speakers and a large monitor. His creative process also begins at the piano, before taking an even bigger leap to the internet.

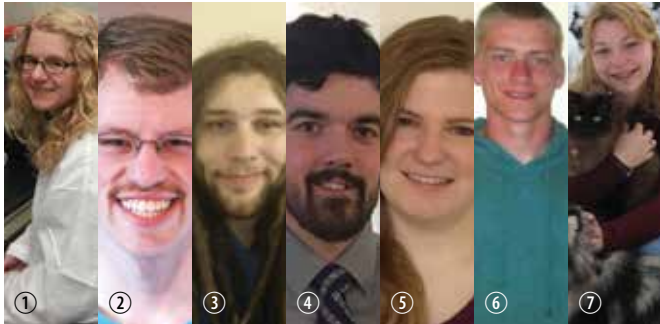
“When I work with other musicians, they can live anywhere in the world,” said Cain. “After recording my initial ideas, I send them off for my collaborators to add new details.” It’s a multistep process that ultimately includes electronic editing and sound manipulation.

“I’m also using DJ techniques in my live performance, so I now have a Traktor setup that I’m experimenting with.”

Whatever the ultimate fate of paper and pencil, Brandon University’s composers are happily exploring the potential of new technologies and new collaborative creative processes. Now it will be up to future generations of musicologists to follow their electronic editing trails.



# Students Receive NSERC Funding



Seven Brandon University students have received federal funding for spring/summer research under the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Undergraduate Student Research Award (NSERC USRA) program for 2015 totaling \$31,500. NSERC USRAs are meant to stimulate students' research interests in natural sciences and engineering to encourage graduate-level study and the pursuit of a research career in these fields.

USRAs allow students to gain research work experience that complements their studies in an academic setting while working under the supervision of a Brandon University NSERC Grant holder. The NSERC portion of the award is \$4,500 and Brandon University contributes an additional 25% of the NSERC award.

USRA recipients for 2015 at Brandon University, and their corresponding research projects, are as follows:

- ▶ Carrie Bergen (①) working under Dr. Bernadette Ardelli (Biology), "Characterization of molecular chaperones in *Cryptobia salmositica*".
- ▶ Ryan Bergan (②) working under Dr. Sarah Plosker (Mathematics and Computer Science), "Quantum probability measures".
- ▶ Nico Bonnanno (③) working under Dr. Martin Lemaire (Chemistry), "Synthesis of polynuclear complexes with redox-active ligands".
- ▶ Lyndon Duff (④) working under Dr. Wendy Untereiner (Biology), "Assessing the diversity of Fungi from nests of the western thatching ant".
- ▶ Whitney Gordon (⑤) working under Dr. Sarah Plosker (Mathematics and Computer Science), "The geometric measure of entanglement".
- ▶ Brett Meggison (⑥) working under Dr. Margaret Carrington (Physics and Astronomy), "Renormalization of scalar  $4\pi$  effective theories in 4 dimensions".
- ▶ Jocelyn Young (⑦) working under Dr. Wendy Untereiner (Biology), "Identification of selected Ascomycota isolated from children's sandboxes".

For more on the NSERC USRA program:

[www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/UG-PC/USRA-BRPC\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/UG-PC/USRA-BRPC_eng.asp)

## Two Futures Facing the Food Processing Sector in Manitoba

A report by researchers at Brandon University has outlined the need for immediate industry and government action in the province's food and beverage processing industry to support continued growth in sales, investments and jobs in the next few years.

The Rural Development Institute (RDI) at Brandon University released *Food & Beverage Processing Industry – Growth Pathways to 2020*, an expansive look at a major economic driver in Manitoba. Food and beverage processing accounts for 28% of all manufacturing revenue in the province and 15% of all exports, employing 12,000 people or one in every four in the manufacturing sector.



Dr. Bill Ashton

"This report is a rare opportunity across a large sector to see the future," said RDI Director Dr. Bill Ashton. "The good news is, effective action now can result in growth across the industry, from \$4.7 billion in 2011 to \$5.4 billion by 2020."

In contrast, Dr. Ashton said a "business as usual" approach is projected to lead to less-than-optimal production in pork and potatoes, which already face market challenges, pushing the food and beverage processing industry into a \$100 million decline.

"A lack of action on the part of industry and government, or ineffective action," said Dr. Ashton, "will impact producers, processors, the communities in which they operate, and ultimately every person in the province. The message is clear—industry needs to work with government to find solutions now."

The RDI report examines major sectors including pork, potatoes, and canola, plus the other players in the province's food and beverage processing industry including meat, fruit and vegetables, dairy, grains and beverages. A sales profile of the industry was compiled using data from Statistics Canada and interviews with industry opinion leaders, which also helped establish trends to 2020.

## NSERC Funding for BU's Mini U



Dr. Nancy Stanley

BU professor Dr. Nancy Stanley was awarded a federal grant to support science programming for Mini University (Mini U),

a summer camp that encourages healthy living, creative expression and scientific curiosity in children and youth. Dr. Stanley says the \$18,700 PromoScience Grant from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) will advance the science programming of Mini U which she founded in 1984.

## Manitoba Law Foundation funds Aboriginal Research



Dr. Yvonne Boyer

Dr. Yvonne Boyer, Canada Research Chair in Aboriginal Health and Wellness at BU, has received \$18,000 from the Manitoba

Law Foundation to fund research in Advancing Treaty Rights to Health. Dr. Boyer's research will gather and analyze the oral and written agreements for health care in all of the numbered treaties in Manitoba providing the basis for a legal analysis that advances these promises as treaty rights to health and health care for First Nations in Manitoba.

## Faculty Members Awarded Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada Grants



Dr. Doug Ramsey

Dr. Doug Ramsey, Department of Rural Development Chair, has been awarded SSHRC Aid to Scholarly Journals funding, totalling \$61,200 over three years, to support the operation of the *Journal of Rural and Community Development (JRCD)*. 2015 marks the 10th anniversary of the journal, which has included over 250 peer-reviewed articles. The *JRCD* is published by the Rural Development Institute (RDI) at Brandon University which was established in 1989 as an academic research centre and a leading source of information on issues affecting rural communities.



Dr. Karen Rempel

Dr. Karen Rempel received a SSHRC Connection Grant in the amount of \$25,000 in support of photovoice research activities involving Indigenous youth leaders from Manitoba. The project included a youth forum held at Brandon University on February 13 – 15, 2015. The forum brought together more than 50 First Nations, Métis, and Inuit (FNMI) youth from across Manitoba to share perspectives on educational success and youth leadership. The forum was also supported by Brandon University's SSHRC-CURA VOICE project and by Vale.



Dr. Rhonda Hinther

History Professor Dr. Rhonda Hinther has received a \$25,000 SSHRC Connection Grant to fund a national workshop on civilian internment in Canada. The intention of the workshop, scheduled for June 2015 in Winnipeg, is to bring together a wide variety of people with an interest in or experience with internment, in an effort to expand the civilian internment conversation in important and exciting new directions.

## Canada Council for the Arts Supports Visiting Artists



Professor Kevin deForest

Visual Arts Professor Kevin deForest received \$5,000 from the Canada Council for the Arts in support of the Visiting Artists Speaker Series. Now in its fourth season, this series is a collaboration with both the Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba and new partner The Whitehead Foundation. The schedule for this past winter semester and upcoming fall semester involves seven internationally renowned visiting artists giving one-hour presentations followed by questions from attendees. These talks allow our rural artistic community and its patrons the chance to meet and dialogue with prominent members of the Canadian art world.



# Bobcat Summer Sports Camps

Check out the annual Bobcat Summer Sports Camps being held again this summer at the Brandon University Healthy Living Centre. These camps provide a great way for kids to keep busy and develop their volleyball and basketball skills.



For a full schedule go to [GoBobcats.ca/Camps](http://GoBobcats.ca/Camps).



## MINI UNIVERSITY



**Summer Day Camp for Ages 5-15**  
**10 one-week camps: June 30 - September 4, 2015**  
**204-727-7311    [miniu.brandonu.ca](http://miniu.brandonu.ca)**





The journey  
to your success  
continues here...

## MASTER OF EDUCATION

The Brandon University Master of Education degree offers the opportunity for students and experienced professionals to advance their careers as educators through coursework for stream specialization and toward qualification for certificates offered by the Manitoba Professional Certification Unit.

For more visit [BrandonU.ca/Education](https://BrandonU.ca/Education)



Brandon University Alumni Association, 270 – 18th Street, Brandon, MB CANADA R7A 6A9  
If this issue is addressed to someone no longer a permanent resident of your home, please notify us so we can properly forward future issues. If you have comments or questions about this publication (or would like to submit story ideas), call 204-727-9697 or email [Alumni@BrandonU.ca](mailto:Alumni@BrandonU.ca) or write to us at the above address. Thank you.

PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT #40064061