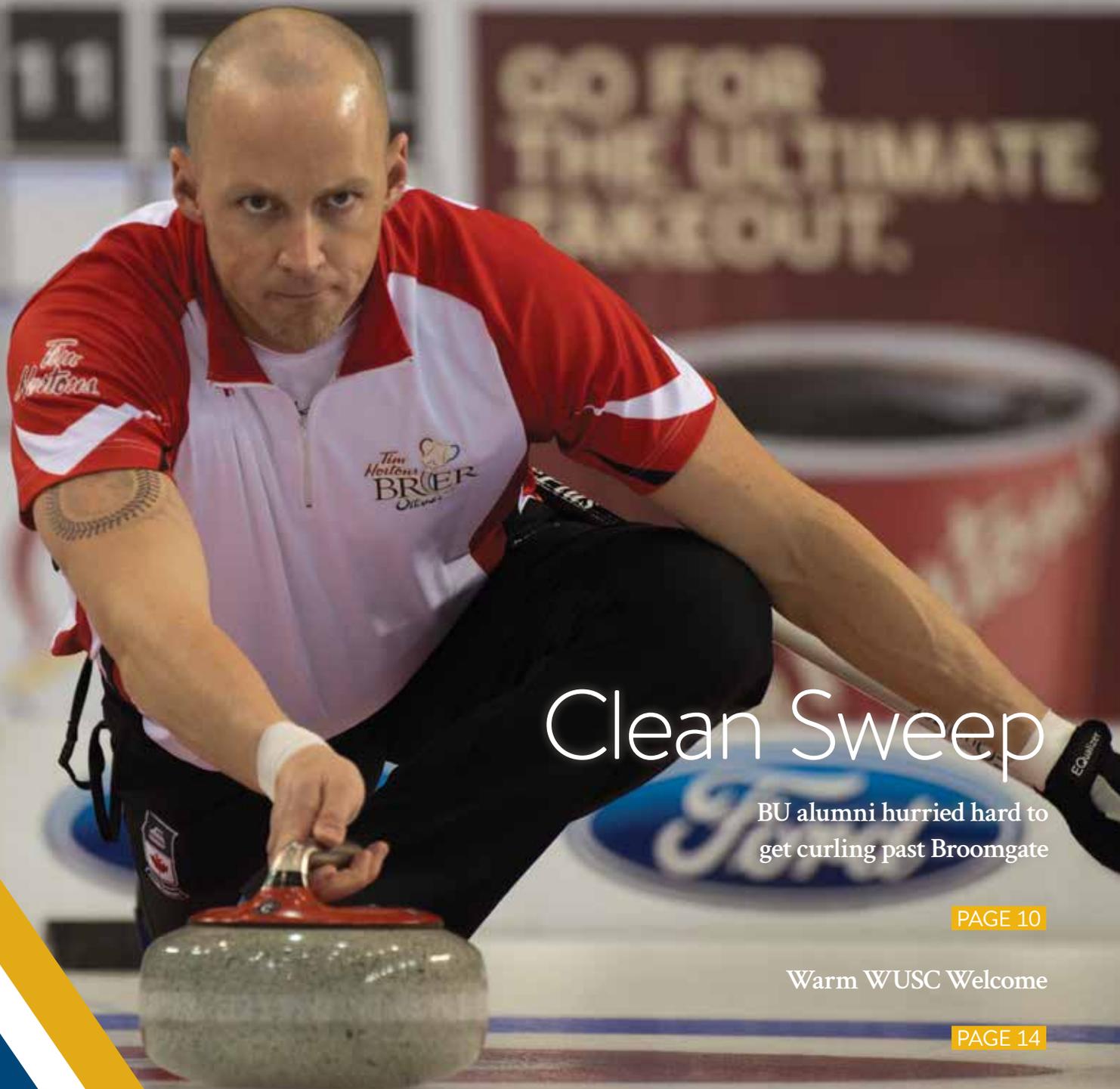


ALUMNI NEWS

WINTER 2016-17



Clean Sweep

BU alumni hurried hard to get curling past Broomgate

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Warm WUSC Welcome

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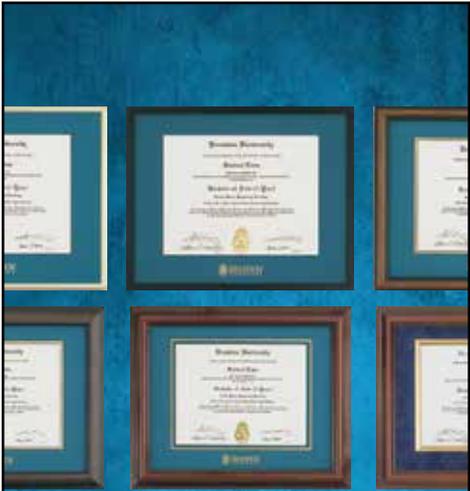
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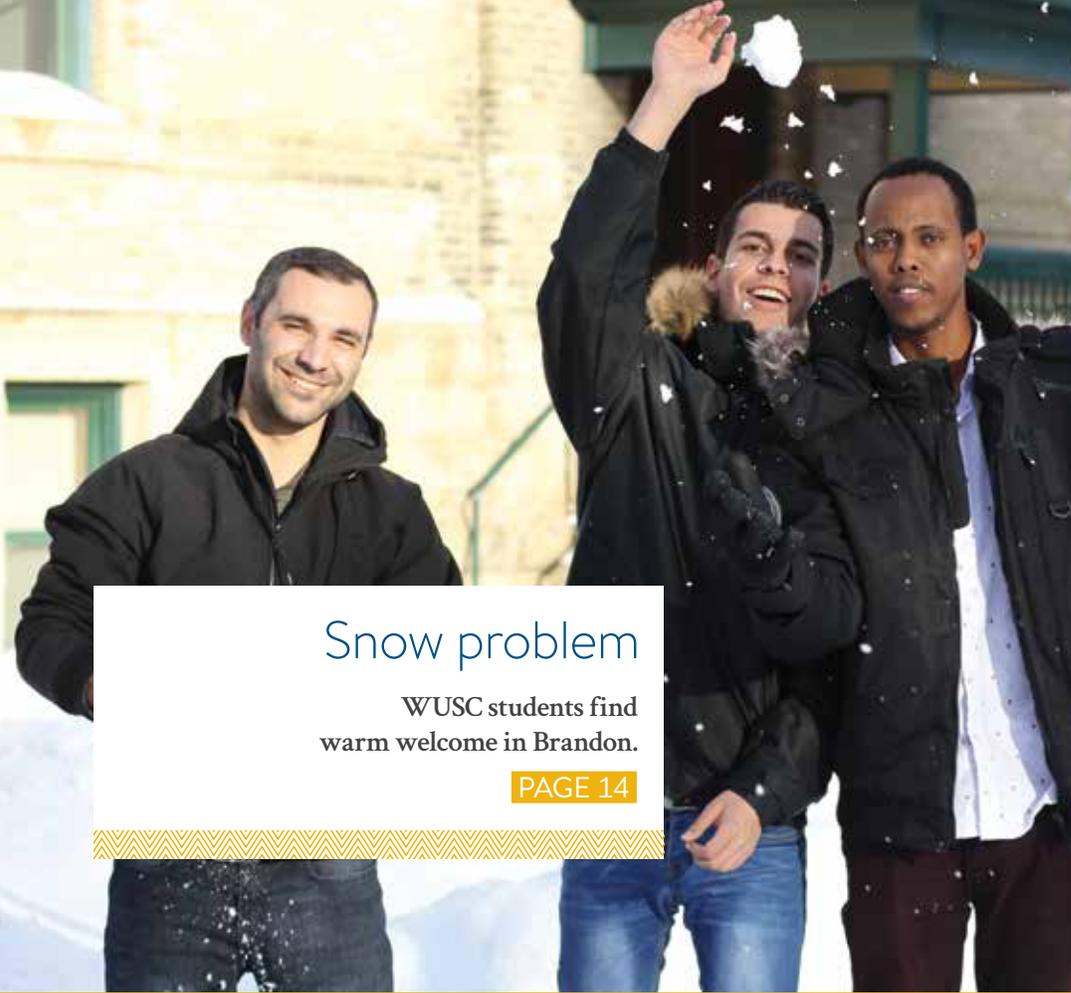


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Snow problem

WUSC students find warm welcome in Brandon.

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Historic success for BU researchers

Brandon University had a remarkable year of research in 2016.



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Bobcats capture first-ever MCAC championship

The BU women's soccer team made history this past fall with its tournament win.

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*.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Brandon University is embracing 2017 with momentum and enthusiasm about our role in post-secondary education despite periods of turbulence around the globe. We are busy creating possibilities for a new generation of learners and researchers.

Facing persistent issues at local and global levels, universities today must make it possible to learn how to address these challenges and also to create new ways of thinking about them. We are surrounded by an ever-expanding body of information and data that we must translate into understanding, knowledge and wisdom so that we may support the betterment of inclusive, shared communities and society. Critical thinking and analytical approaches are required, along with a shared appreciation of the full diversity of being and of experiences.

Tremendous social changes are being precipitated today by various catalysts. There is technological disruption. A new generation challenges institutional norms. Others attempt to hold on to their sense of identity and the safety of tradition. Perspective matters, too. From women's suffrage to the Civil Rights movement, different people saw the movements differently. We can see this clash of perspectives in the United States, Europe and, at times, even in Canada today. The forces of change bump up against each other and periodically erupt in disruptive social action. It is important

for us all to recognize the progressive possibilities in this disruption and to embrace ideals and principles that are based on our shared humanity. Common ground can hold us together as a glue against the wedge of isolationism.

At Brandon University, we work together to be part of the process of finding common ground and our alumni are the important glue. We can point to many inspiring and progressive alumni, and we celebrate our many alumni who are making significant contributions that will help define the foundation of society and our institutions for the future.

For instance, alumni recently came together to support the Dr. Jim Parrott Memorial Bursary. Dr. Parrott, who was a renowned heart surgeon, graduated in 1964. This bursary will be given in his honour to biology students in financial need.

Russell Lusk graduated the next year, in 1965, attending our institution alongside a refugee student from Hong Kong. Today, Mr. Lusk's donation helps support a fourth refugee student at BU, through the World University Service of Canada. I know they, too, will go on to make a difference in our world.

Many of you have also given back, especially through donations to our Annual Fund. These gifts you make are transformative in the lives of the students you touch. In a recent column

for the *Brandon Sun*, I recalled a note that I received from a Grade 2 student whose mother was a scholarship recipient: "Thank you for helping my mom. You helped me too. You are really nice."

This note was sent to me, but it is really a thank-you and appreciation expressed to you from a young boy who is gratified for the assistance you have provided to his mom. It has inspired hopefulness and promise into his young mind and heart.

We are often told to think globally, and to act locally. Whether at a local or a global level, I see Brandon University alumni who are using their experience of an inclusive, engaged post-secondary education and applying it to finding solutions and making contributions for the betterment of our world.

This *Alumni News* is your testimonial to the good things you all bring to each other and that you bring to our communities. Each one of us has an opportunity to make a positive contribution through our actions. It is true that we live in turbulent times. However, when you get involved as alumni, you come together and form bonds as a team that is making a difference for us all—and for Brandon University!

Dr. Gervan Fearon
President & Vice-Chancellor

BU graduate working on major archiving project for Truth and Reconciliation centre

Despite veering away from her original plan to become a teacher, Carmen Miedema remains committed to helping others learn.

A graduate of Brandon University, Miedema is in her first year in the Archival Studies master's program at the University of Manitoba (UM), where she received the Archival Studies Entrance Scholarship for the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR). The scholarship will be worth up to \$40,000 as Miedema works to transfer archives and information about Canada's residential schools to the NCTR, located at UM.

"I was introduced to archives at BU and I fell in love



Carmen Miedema

with it," said Miedema, who earned a Bachelor of Arts at BU, majoring in History with a minor in Anthropology. "I try to bring healing to both sides of the population. Through all of the terrible things that have happened, there has to be a way forward."

Originally from Peepeekisis First Nation, near Yorkton,

Sask., Miedema is working on a unique project as the material includes oral traditions and oral history items that are not commonly considered archives. Miedema says that the uncommon nature of the materials has been one reason for a recent movement to have Indigenous people working on Indigenous archives. Miedema is proud to be involved in the effort to promote reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.

"There's a push to educate the public in general, and not so much about laying blame, but creating understanding," she said.

Project at S.J. McKee Archives shines new light on major Manitoba agricultural collection

Brandon University's S.J. McKee Archives has been organizing an essential record of Manitoba's agricultural history.

The project has involved appraising, processing, arranging and describing mixed media items from the Manitoba Pool Elevator (MPE) fonds. These graphic materials document the entire history of MPE, from 1924 to 2001. The mixed media materials are only part of a collection that includes organizational records, minutes of

meetings, correspondence, photographs, slides, audio tapes and reel-to-reel recordings. Also included in the fonds are books from the MPE Library, the entire run of MPE's first newspaper, *The Scoop Shovel*, and bound copies of the *Manitoba Co-operator*.

The \$10,000 project has been funded in part by a \$4,500 Heritage Grant from the Province of Manitoba. Additional funds were provided by the Eileen McFadden Endowment for the S.J. McKee Archives

and the Fred McGuinness Endowment for Rural Archives.

The National Archival Appraisal Board declared the MPE fonds to be of provincial and national significance, describing it as "clearly one of the most important fonds related to agriculture existing in Manitoba and one of the fundamental collections for the study of the settlement and farm economy of Manitoba in the 20th century."

BU students head to The Hague for human rights study

A pair of Brandon University students have doubled up on their international exchange options to earn a coveted semester abroad, studying human rights and international policy development at The Hague University, Netherlands.

And for Ursula Geisler and her boyfriend Drew Spicer, just arranging the exchange provided some lessons in international negotiation—including a virtual stop in Green Bay, Wis.

Because BU doesn't have a direct exchange agreement with The Hague University, Geisler and Spicer first secured an exchange from BU to the University of Wisconsin in Green Bay. Then, as registered students at Green Bay, they applied for and were accepted into the programs they wanted at The Hague.

Since the Dutch educational calendar doesn't line up precisely with BU's dates, Geisler and Spicer had to very carefully choose which classes they'd take at The Hague, to ensure they'd be back in Brandon in time to start their second semester.

And, of course, their credits in The Hague first had to be transferred back to Green Bay, before being transferred from there back to BU.

The courses, they say, are worth all that trouble.

"It will be very beneficial," says Geisler, who is in her third year of an Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies (ADES) degree—a program she sought out at BU from her and Spicer's home in Whitehorse. In the future, she says she hopes to be involved in an international response team.

BU to welcome 2017 Special Olympics Manitoba Provincial Summer Games



Dr. Steven Robinson, Vice-President (Academic & Provost) at Brandon University, speaks during a news conference held to announce that BU will host the 2017 Special Olympics Manitoba Provincial Summer Games.

Brandon University will be an important venue and athlete's residence this summer for the 2017 Special Olympics Manitoba Provincial Summer Games.

"Special Olympics Manitoba is very excited to host our 2017 Provincial Summer Games in Brandon," said Jenn Campbell, Special Olympics Manitoba President and CEO. "We know that Brandon will be a fantastic host for our athletes from across the province!"

About 400 Special Olympics athletes will be coming for the three-day-long Summer Games this year. They'll compete in 10 different sports, at BU's Healthy Living Centre and other venues, while staying in the Athletes Village on campus and dining at Harvest Hall.

Along with other BU volunteers, the University's Student Accessibility Services Co-ordinator, Michelle Magnusson, has taken a role as Chair of the Host Committee for the 2017 Summer Games.

"These Games will provide the opportunity to promote physical activity and sport opportunities for athletes in Brandon, Westman and Manitoba. I am excited to help highlight the inclusiveness and team spirit of the athletes, families and Special Olympics in our community," Magnusson said. "Brandon has a long history of strong volunteerism when hosting events and I look forward to our community continuing this tradition. There has already been tons of enthusiasm from our community to make these games a successful and positive experience for everyone involved."

Black Canadian Studies Association Conference to be held at BU this year



**Black Canadian Studies Association
2017 Conference • May 11-13 • Brandon, MB**

The history, present and future of African Canadians will be explored when Brandon University hosts the 2017 Black Canadian Studies Association (BCSA) Conference.

The goal of the conference, held every two years, is to promote dialogue, critical reflection and broad engagement around developments affecting the Black and other communities in Canada.

The 2017 conference, entitled "Blackness, Indigeneity, Colonialism, and Confederation: 21st Century Perspectives," will take place from May 11-13.

Organizers expect about 200 people to attend the event, with Canada's 150th birthday forming the backdrop as the participants discuss what this milestone means to Canada's diverse Black community in light of their achievements, challenges and contributions to the country.

"I had the honour of being an invited speaker at the 2015 conference, and I am tremendously pleased that Brandon University will host this prestigious event for 2017," said Dr. Gervan Fearon, BU's President and Vice-Chancellor.

Preparing for the worst with B.E.S.T.

Nearly 80 emergency managers and local government officials from across western Manitoba came to Brandon University for the annual Brandon Emergency Support Team (B.E.S.T.) conference looking at emergency preparedness.

The daylong conference tackled three main topics under the heading "Managing the Future." Participants looked at climate change scenarios with a focus on the Prairies, addressed communications and dealing with the media, and explored processes to design and develop emergency preparedness exercises.

"There are many things we can learn about disasters through research and improve our emergency management practices," said Jack Lindsay, chair of BU's Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies program, and facilitator at the conference. "Whether it is floods or fires, disease or drought, there are common elements in ensuring resiliency, supplies of food and water, and lines of communication. Conferences like this one help us share best practices and practice some of our skills."

Bountiful harvest for expanded campus community gardens

Green Futures, a pilot project to help grow fresh food on the Brandon University campus for a local food security initiative and the BU student food bank, has harvested huge success in its first year.

“We were astounded by the volume of produce that we were able to grow!” says Dr. Serena Petrella, chair of the BU Sociology department and a sustainability and food security researcher who helped organize and start the project.

Working with Enactus, a non-profit organization of business students engaged in green activism, Petrella scouted out underused green space on campus and recruited staff, faculty and student volunteers to turn it into a community garden.

“Our volunteers planted, weeded and watered the crops throughout the summer, they were wonderful,” she said. “And a shout-out to George Manby in Physical Plant for



Green Futures BU volunteers grew an astounding amount of produce for the student food bank and Brandon's Good Food Box program.

all his help this past season. He helped us keep things sustainable by composting all our green waste. We couldn't have done it without him.”

Food grown on campus supplied the Good Food Box program, run by the Canadian

Mental Health Association, with produce. Those boxes, filled with fresh produce from the BU gardens and other local producers, were then brought back to the Brandon University Students' Union food bank so that students could access fresh produce, for free.

Partnership with ACD Systems creates opportunities for computer science students

When students in the Systems Programming course at Brandon University are looking for feedback on their projects, they're now able to go right to the source.

A new partnership between BU and ACD Systems International, a software developer with clients around the globe, provides computer science students with valuable hands-on experience. The students are working with advanced code from ACD Systems for their Systems Programming projects.

“This is an exciting opportunity for BU students,” says Gautam

Srivastava, an Assistant Professor in BU's Department of Mathematics and Computer Science.

“These are third-year students and they're ready for a new challenge. They'll be communicating with professionals in the industry and applying what they've learned.”

In the class, students focus on developing code for sharing and syncing media between mobile devices as well as displaying media on a mobile device. As they work on their projects, they are able to get feedback from experts at ACD Systems.

Capitalizing on broadband boom requires action in Manitoba: RDI

There's a cloud on the horizon, and a new report from the Rural Development Institute (RDI) at Brandon University points to a need for rural Manitobans to tap in.

Data use and data requirements are rising rapidly. Late last year, the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) declared that broadband is a basic service and set a target that download speeds of 50 megabytes per second (Mbps) be available to Canadians.

RDI is studying the use of broadband in rural areas in Southern and Central Manitoba. The researchers

have found that particularly in sparsely populated areas, both access and use are issues that must be addressed together to keep up with worldwide trends.

“Everybody treats broadband with a mentality of build it and they will come,” said RDI Research Associate Wayne Kelly. “What we're finding though is that there is a need to encourage use so that people can fully take advantage of the availability of high-speed Internet. This will become even more essential as rural communities get access to the level of service recommended by the CRTC.”

Karen Batson of Health Studies faculty elected Chief in Pine Creek

A Brandon University professor has made history in Manitoba's Pine Creek First Nation.

Karen Batson was elected as Pine Creek's first-ever female Chief earlier this month. She said her priorities for Pine Creek will be to increase educational opportunities, enhance economic development and address infrastructure and social issues.



Karen Batson

"I am truly honored and humbled to be chosen as the first woman Chief of Pine Creek First Nation," Batson said. "Historically, Indigenous women had power and influenced decisions affecting their communities. My community has bestowed this honor upon me, and I am determined to create

positive change for the entire community with the guidance and teachings of the Elders and our Anishinaabe culture."

Batson joined the Faculty of Health Studies at BU in 2010. She has taken a four-year political leave from her position as an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Health Studies at BU.

"At Brandon University we are very proud of the contributions that members of our faculty make to the various communities they serve in addition to their fine work educating our students," said BU Dean of Health Studies, Dr. Dean Care. "Karen has brought insight and experience to our Psychiatric Nursing program, and I'm confident that Pine Creek First Nation will benefit from her leadership. I congratulate Karen on this tremendous accomplishment."

Voice scholarship honours memory of BU Biology Professor Emeritus Bill Paton

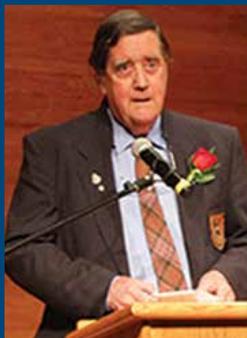
Dr. William (Bill) H.N. Paton was known for lending his voice to a long-running call-in show helping Westmanites cultivate their gardens. But Paton also had a long history loaning his voice to local choirs Prairie Blend and Bel Canto.

To honour his love of singing, a new scholarship was formed in Paton's name after he passed away suddenly last summer. The Dr. Bill Paton & Mrs. Eileen Paton Scholarship in Voice is expected to provide approximately \$475 annually to a promising voice student at Brandon University

Paton joined BU's Department of Botany (later Biology) in 1974. He taught at the University for 40 years, retiring in 2014 and earning the designation of Professor Emeritus.

He was a driving force in the establishment of the HortLine, which was launched in 1976 and developed into a popular call-in show at radio station CKLQ.

Gifts to the scholarship may be made online at BrandonU.ca/Donate, by phone at 204-727-7374 or toll-free at 1-877-282-4483, or made out to Brandon University Foundation and mailed to 270-18th Street, Brandon MB, R7A 6A9.



Dr. Bill Paton was a respected Biology professor at BU, and his love for singing is reflected in a new scholarship.

Open textbook fills need for Psychiatric Nursing students

With no textbook available for her third-year Brandon University Psychiatric Nursing course, Developmental Challenges, Debra Dusome found the help she needed in her fellow teaching professionals.

"I spent eight years asking publishers for a book on supporting people with intellectual disabilities and mental illness," Dusome told Campus Manitoba, a consortium headquartered at BU that helps students find and access educational opportunities at Manitoba's post-secondary institutions. "There wasn't one available."

Dusome's fortunes changed when she met Sherri Melrose of Athabasca University, who was also experiencing the same problem. At Melrose's suggestion, they reached out to their colleagues at universities across Canada, hoping to co-author their own textbook. The results were a smashing success as they enlisted several other teaching professionals, including John Simpson, who taught in the Psychiatric Nursing program in BU's Faculty of Health Studies, before his retirement.

With support from BCcampus, an organization that assists teaching and learning in British Columbia, they wrote the book on helping those with intellectual disabilities and mental illness. "Supporting Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities and Mental Illness" is now in use at universities across Canada.

Even better, it's available for free to students and openly licensed through Creative Commons (CC-BY). This allows it to be distributed to anyone who needs the material, and permits other faculty to adapt it for their own teaching needs.

"We saw a real need to educate people who don't have a lot of resources to learn about mental illness," Dusome told Campus Manitoba. "We wanted it to be accessible and have the widest impact."

BU welcomes expert on multiculturalism in the arts for public lectures and performances

An expert in the relationship between multiculturalism and arts funding is visiting Brandon University this semester.

The School of Music is hosting Dr. Parmela Attariwala as this year's Stanley Knowles Distinguished Visiting Professor. Attariwala is conducting public lectures in conjunction with the Institute for Research in Music and Community (IRMC) and will perform at the BU New Music Festival on March 26.



Dr. Parmela Attariwala

“Dr. Attariwala is a leading authority on Canadian cultural policy as it relates to multi-culturalism and arts funding,” said Greg Gatien, Dean of Music at BU. “While in residence here at Brandon University, her teaching, research collaborations, public performances and lectures should provide significant opportunities to consider the evolution of both our musical community and our curriculum.”

Attariwala's final lecture will be held on Tuesday, March 21, and her insights have fit in well with the IRMC's mandate of studying the relationship between community and music.

“The Institute for Research in Music and Community is about music-making in its infinite array of styles and how we as performers, composers, listeners and scholars share sounds and ideas with each other,” said Dr. T. Patrick Carrabré, Director of the IRMC. “Dr. Attariwala creates and performs across an incredible range of genres, from classical and avant-garde to fiddling, free improvisation and rock. She is also one of the most thoughtful commentators on how public policy impacts the types of music we get to hear. The IRMC is honoured to have her with us this semester and host her public lectures.”

Rare and fully-restored grand piano centrepiece of presentation and concert

Last year an authentically-restored, century-old grand piano was featured onstage at Brandon University.

This rare Blüthner grand piano, made of exotic Rosewood, was built in Leipzig, Germany in 1905. Blüthner pianos, known for their singing-tone, featured a mysterious, patented over-string that adds a unique silvery-quality to the sound.

Over the course of a year the instrument underwent extensive renovations, including

replacement of the piano's delicate soundboard, which is considered the heart of the piano.

“The original soundboard was so badly cracked reusing it simply wasn't an option,” says Mark Cramer, Brandon University's resident piano technician, who directed the restoration. “The art of restoring pianos of this vintage, is to have a guiding-vision of the instrument's original tone and touch, so that we can hear music today, the way it would have sounded over a century ago.”

Brandon music students earn third-place finishes at National Festival



Jammie Lee, right, and Kayla Solomon have earned many honours for their performances, including third-place finishes at the National Music Festival.

While many eyes were on the Olympic athletes at Rio last year, two Brandon students were among 55 of Canada's best young musicians performing and competing at the National Music Festival in Edmonton.

Jammie Lee, on piano, and Kayla Solomon, on trumpet, are Brandon students who were among those chosen to represent Manitoba at the national competition. Solomon and Lee returned with the National Festival equivalent of bronze medals: each placed third in their category.

A native of Winnipeg, Solomon is in her third year of Brandon University's Bachelor of Music program. The winner of many scholarships and awards, she studies trumpet with Dr. Ed Bach, himself an award-winner at the National Festival in earlier years. She was accompanied by pianist Danielle Guina in Edmonton.

A Grade 10 student at Vincent Massey High School, Lee has been nationally recognized before. In 2011, then aged 10, Lee placed second in his age category in the Canadian Music Competitions at the finals in Montreal, playing a Mozart piano concerto.

Nolan
Thiessen

Clean Sweep

BU alumni hurried hard to get curling past Broomgate

As a world champion curler, Nolan Thiessen knows exactly what a 20 kg chunk of polished granite should and shouldn't do as it slides down a sheet of ice.

Thiessen knew that the things that he and other top curlers were able to make a rock do last season shouldn't be possible.

"I think everybody more or less could see where the sport was going and I don't think anybody was really comfortable with it going there," said Thiessen.

Dr. Christa Homenick is not a professional curler like Thiessen, but she also heard the curling club chatter at her recreational games about the controversial brooms that were giving sweepers too much control over the paths of the rocks.

Despite attending Brandon University and Brandon's Vincent Massey High School at the same time, Homenick and Thiessen didn't meet until they ended up partnering on a project this year that helped curling get its house in order by brushing aside a raging controversy that became known as Broomgate.

Both took very different paths to get to that point. After receiving his Bachelor of General Studies from BU in 2001, Thiessen left for the University of Manitoba to complete his Bachelor of Commerce degree. While there, he reconnected with his roots briefly, joining a team skipped by BU's Mike McEwen to win gold for Canada in curling at the 2003 Winter Universiade, basically the Olympics of university sport. Thiessen's career as an accountant took him west to Alberta, but he continued to work his way into curling's elite, playing lead for teams that won three Brier Canadian men's championships and the 2010 world title.

A polymer chemist at the National Research Council of Canada (NRC) in



National Research Council of Canada

Dr. Christa Homenick, BSc '04, is a materials expert who helped design the scientific tests that turned innovation into data.

Ottawa, Homenick graduated from BU with a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in 2004 before going on to earn her PhD from McMaster University and complete her post-doctoral fellowship at University of Western Ontario. Her expertise in materials and faith in her colleagues at NRC told her they could help the sport of curling.

"The curlers needed to bring things back so it was actually about their athleticism again and their skill."

"The curlers needed to bring things back so it was actually about their athleticism again and their skill," she said.

Homenick enlisted an ice expert at NRC, physicist and former competitive bobsled racer Dr. Louis Poirier. Together they went to the Brier when it was in Ottawa in March 2016 and met with Curling Canada, which put them in touch with the World Curling Federation (WCF), the agency that sets the rules for the sport internationally.

By that time, Thiessen and his teammates had already been approaching the problem from another angle. Many of the top teams agreed that they wouldn't use the brooms in question and lobbied curling's governing bodies to make changes.

Those governing bodies took the requests seriously and the WCF booked North Grenville Curling Club in Kemptville, Ont., for a Sweeping Summit in May 2016, assembling 11 elite curlers, four NRC scientists and a team of support staff for three days of on-ice testing.

The first thing they needed to do was figure out exactly what the problem was.

A sheet of curling ice is coated with water droplets that freeze to form a pebbled surface. Friction causes the rocks to curl, following the direction of a rotation applied by the curlers who deliver the shots. Rocks travel in a straight path while moving fast, but begin their curl as they slow down.

Sweepers aren't just there to make the ice look nice on TV. Their brooms remove debris that could send a shot off course and heat up the ice, reducing friction and allowing the rocks to maintain

momentum. Sweep hard all the way up the ice and the rock will travel faster and straighter; stop sweeping and the stone will curl to a halt sooner. This delicate interaction between shooter and sweepers allows teams to pull off clever tricks like drawing a rock safely behind another stone guarding the front of house, making it virtually impossible for the other team to remove the rock in the rings.

That's basically the way the game has been played since at least the 19th century. But brooms have changed dramatically since Manitoba's Gordon Hudson and his team became the first winners of back-to-back Brier titles with brooms that looked as though they could have been whisked straight out of a hallway closet. Since then, brooms designed for a whole

“I looked at it from a view from 30,000 feet, saying this is how far the game has come in eight months.”

different kind of housework emerged. Manufacturers of modern brush-style curling brooms have experimented with different fabric, waterproof coatings, ridges and inserts such as foil and plastic. The prevailing theory among curlers was that the direction of rocks was altered by tiny scratches on the ice left by these brooms, giving the sweepers serious influence on the rocks.

So what's the problem? More control over the rocks equals better shots and better curling, right?

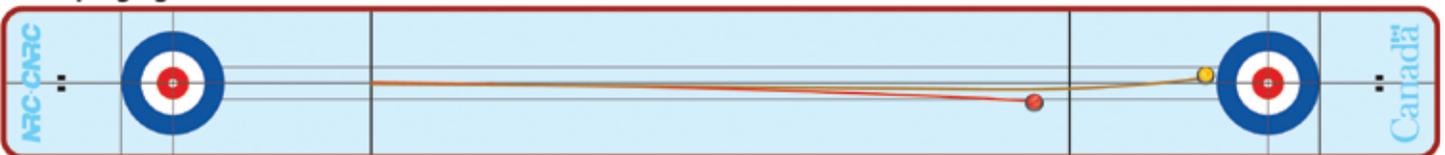
Indeed, shotmaking percentages were through the roof, but the sport had gone to great lengths in recent decades to increase offence. Now, curlers were suddenly able to knock rocks out of the house that were previously well protected or place their final rocks virtually anywhere, sapping the drama out of many games.

“I looked at it from a view from 30,000 feet, saying this is how far the game has come in eight months. If we do this again the next year and then in the Olympic year (2020), people are going to have this so figured out that every score is going to be 2-1 because there's no offence,” Thiessen said.

Sweeping with the curl



Sweeping against the curl



Sweeping full face



Snowplowing



Swept by WCF Approved Broom



Swept by WCF Unapproved Broom

These graphics, supplied by the National Research Council of Canada illustrate how the distance and direction of rocks could be affected by using certain models and colours of brooms versus brooms with the yellow fabric that were approved by the World Curling Federation following the sweeping summit. Techniques included sweeping in the direction of the rocks' curl, against the curl, full face (90 degrees in both directions in front of the rock) and snowplowing (in the same direction as the rock is travelling).

The roaring game was in jeopardy of becoming the boring game.

Try to take a favourite broom away from curlers, however, and some of them are bound to bristle. Thiessen heard from many colleagues that new sweeping techniques were the problem—that a return to old sweeping methods would fix it—but after watching video of old competitions he remained unconvinced.

“A lot of us athletes had done a lot of testing and could do a lot of things with the brooms,” Thiessen said. “But we needed science to back it up and prove what we were saying was too much.”

That’s where Homenick, Poirier and their team came in. They installed speed traps along the ice to make sure the velocity of the rocks remained consistent throughout testing. The rocks were also fitted with sensors to track their rotation and position. The scientists even measured how hard each player swept and had WCF experts monitor their performance throughout the summit to make sure the curlers were getting enough rest to stay safe and keep their sweeping consistent through long days of testing that lasted up to 13 hours.

They also played a few tricks on the curlers, in the name of science of course.

“Nolan, he’ll joke that he got mad at us and the athletes were frustrated with us because we were putting in placebo effect tests on them because we needed controls,” Homenick chuckled. “We needed to know that what we were seeing was real.”

What they saw was that while sweeping technique did indeed play a role, the effect of the brooms was remarkable. In one instance, by combining certain brooms and techniques, a rock that should have ended up in the rings right on the tee line that runs up the middle of the ice, could be swept over to the sideboards well short of the rings.



Dr. Christa Homenick and Dr. Louis Poirier

In some instances sweepers were actually able to make the rocks “back off” or curve slightly in the opposite direction from their natural curl.

Materials and waterproof coatings were put under scrutiny. Even the colour of the brooms made a difference as darker fabrics exaggerated the effect of the brooms.

What they finally settled on was something called Oxford 420d fabric in mustard yellow, with no waterproof coatings allowed. The group submitted a series of recommendations, and the WCF wasted no time putting them in place for major competitions this season, including the Canada Cup of Curling that was held in Brandon in November and early December.

Ironically, Thiessen hasn’t had to worry about the new regulations. He decided to step away from competitive curling last season and moved with his family to McKinney, Texas. Thiessen has remained close to the sport though by working as a consultant with Curling Canada, work that brought him back to Brandon for the Canada Cup, and he likes what he’s seen on the ice so far.

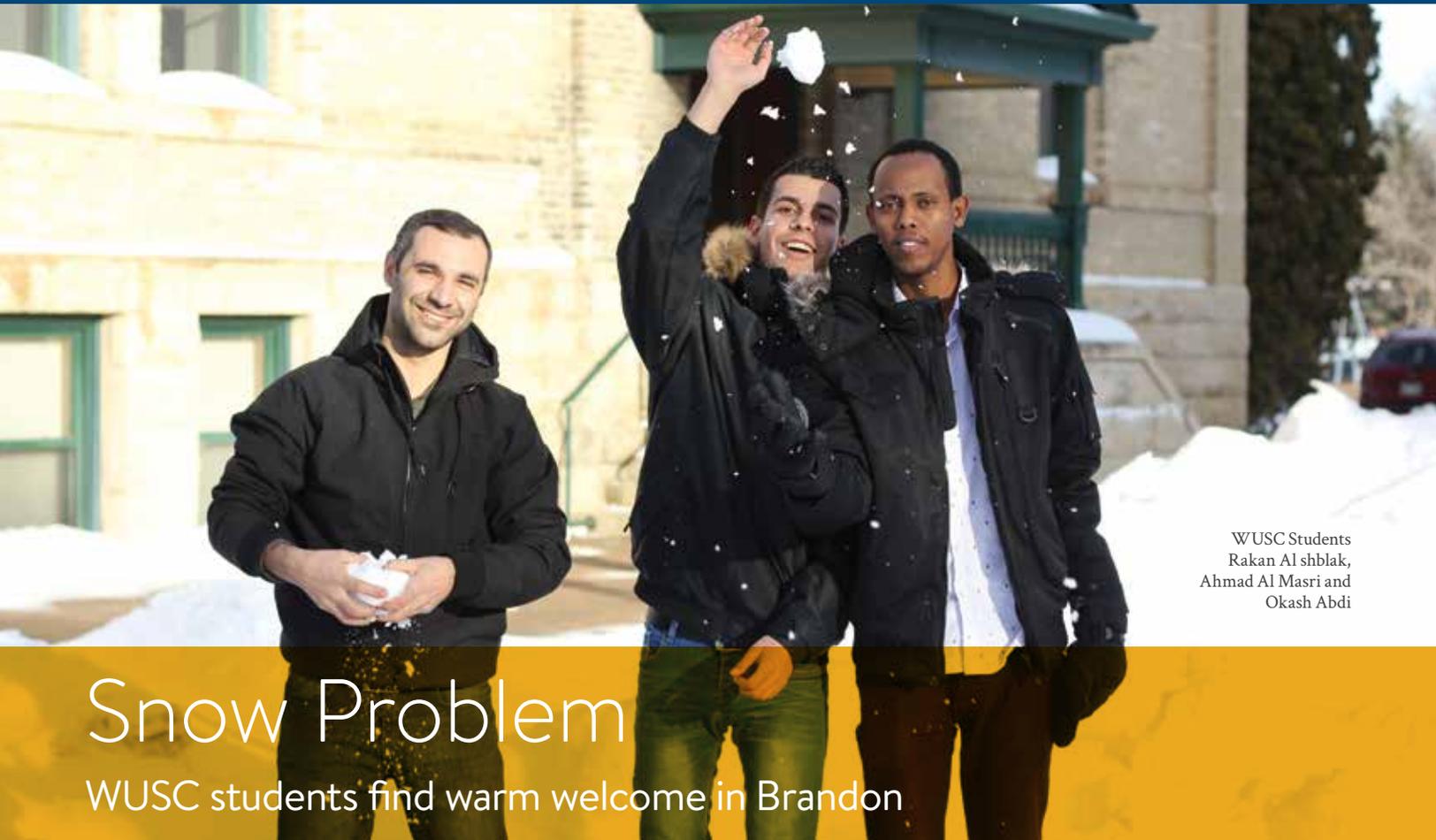
“They (the WCF) put a lot of faith in us as athletes to make recommendations and it was pretty cool that they backed us up,” Thiessen said. “I think the results this year bear out that the game is in a better place now.”

The project isn’t quite over for Homenick and Poirier, though. While the WCF got the data they needed to make their decisions, the scientists still have plenty to brush up on, with a paper planned for the coming year.

In the meantime, she gets the satisfaction of knowing that her team carved out its own little spot in the history of one of the iconic establishments of Canadian culture.

“One of the reasons I made the decision to become a government scientist is that I like that the research that I do is for Canada and not just for my own personal interest,” she said. “Working on the curling project is perfect because I’m helping a sport that is huge in Canada.”

With estimates that anywhere from two-thirds to more than 90 per cent of the world’s curlers live right here, it doesn’t get much more Canadian than that.



WUSC Students
Rakan Al shblak,
Ahmad Al Masri and
Okash Abdi

Snow Problem

WUSC students find warm welcome in Brandon

With big, beaming smiles, they're standing in the snow for a photographer. It's warm for January in Brandon, and the snow is soft, so the photographer suggests they get playful: "How about a snowball fight?"

There's a pause.

Maybe it's a language barrier, maybe it's cultural. Do they know what a snowball is? They do now! A few moments of miming helps the communication click, and the photo shoot takes on new laughter.

In some ways, these students are just like any other: Going to class, writing papers, sitting for exams. But moments like these remind us that the route they took to come to Brandon University is more than a little unusual.

Thanks to World University Service of Canada, and our local WUSC committee at BU, these students have been sponsored to come from around the world, some from refugee camps, to do their post-secondary studies in Brandon.

This year, thanks to ongoing fundraising, and one couple's donation in particular, BU has been able to welcome a fourth sponsored student, for the first time.

"I'm very impressed with all the students. They have such enthusiasm and their commitment is apparent," says Russell Lusk, BA '65. He and his wife, Corinna, committed to sponsoring a WUSC student this year, and recently re-committed their sponsorship for the 2017-2018 academic year.

The Lusks' donation, along with those from other donors and fundraising efforts by students, staff and faculty at BU, has been transformed into these smiling faces, learning to toss snowballs in the air. It's a transformation that the

students say would have been difficult to imagine.

"The weather in Brandon is completely different from where I came from," says Rakan Al shblak, who was originally from Daraa, a city in Syria near the border with Jordan. "Actually, I had got an idea about the weather in Canada before I came. But I did not expect a temperature degree like -40 or at least I did not know what such a degree meant! I am surprised at having a thick layer of snow and not melting for three or four months."

Al shblak, who is studying English literature with plans for graduate school, says that he and his fellow WUSC students are getting adapted gradually.

Volunteers have been helping introduce them to Canadian culture. In the winter, that has included sledding and skating and now snowballs.

"Skating was hard! Sledding was easier," says Okash Abdi, who is originally from

Somalia. “The WUSC volunteers are always around to have some fun around the city. They’re mentors.”

“Skating was something new for me,” Al shblak agrees. “I went skating twice. At first, it was a frightening experience but was worth trying. I could not count the number of times I fell but they were too many. The second time I noticed I had improved. Skating was really fun. I would never spare any chance of skating.”

Of course, it’s not just winter sports that require some adjustment.

“It is different,” says Abdi. “Coming to a new area, there is a hypothesis you form in your mind. You’re facing a new environment. I feared it would be different.”

“It is the best chance ever I could think of to be accepted by a university in a Western country known for its high-quality education,” Al shblak adds. “I thought it would take a lot of time to get adapted. Brandon is a friendly setting. People are quite helpful.”

Lusk says he’d like to see even more people pitch in to help bring refugees to study at BU.

“In the midst of the devastation in Syria, my wife, Corinna, and I decided to do something to assist Syrian refugees,” he said. “Knowing the many benefits that higher education can provide not only to the recipients, but to their families and communities, I approached Brandon University with the idea of sponsoring a student refugee. We were of the view that the presence of refugee students would also benefit BU students by providing them with an opportunity through association to broaden their outlook and education by learning of the students’ particular experiences and perspectives.”

Casting back to his time as a BU student himself, he remembered that Tony Chow, a student from Hong Kong then

in attendance, had been the first WUSC student at BU. So, when he reached out to the University, he had some idea that sponsoring a student might be possible.

“I was pleasantly surprised to learn of the extensive work that WUSC was involved in,” he said. “There was an established program under which WUSC, the umbrella organization, vetted potential candidates, interviewed those meeting their criteria and worked with Canadian government representatives responsible for approving the admission of refugees to Canada. With that structure in place, the sponsorship by my wife and myself was greatly simplified.”

Donations cover the many expenses required for each student, including travel to Brandon, books and school supplies, a laptop, clothing, towels, toiletries, proper winter wear, emergency funds and a monthly allowance. The University provides the tuition, residence and meal costs for each student.

Essentially, all expenses are covered for the student for the first year, notes Angie Nor Addin, president of the student WUSC Club at BU. Students each pay a levy of \$11.05 to help fund the sponsorship.

“It has been such an incredible experience to help the students on their journey learning about Canadian culture, from skating, to Thanksgiving supper, to crazy things like trying bubble soccer,” she says. “It is always an experience and so great to get the chance to learn about their culture, too. I strongly encourage others to reach out and get involved with our group or help any other newcomers to Brandon.”

She said it’s easy to find out more information about their activities on Facebook, in the “Brandon University WUSC” group. It’s a way for people everywhere to keep up to date on the support that the students are receiving.

“All refugees admitted to Canada need the support of people in the community where they are settled. Initially, we were concerned about how that support could be provided,” Lusk says. “However, upon their arrival in Canada, the day-to-day support of the students was carried out by the WUSC Committee at BU. Having met with the Committee and the four sponsored students, it appears that the Committee members have provided great support, and continue to do so. That is reassuring and I take my hat off to all of them.”



Members of the Brandon University WUSC committee with donor Russell Lusk '65 (second from right) and the student he sponsored from Syria, Rakan Al shblak (far right).

Caribbean Classroom

When most people visit a tropical island, they'd rather not spend their time wondering, "What's the worst that could happen?"

Yet a group of Brandon University students went to Jamaica for a recent two-week field course specifically so that they could ponder that question.

Far from being pessimists, the six students are members of the Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies (ADES) program at BU. Envisioning worst-case scenarios and learning how to manage them is what they do.

The trip, in August 2016, was for the course Field Studies in ADES, taught by Dr. Balfour Spence. Raised in Jamaica, Spence taught at the University of West Indies in Jamaica for 16 years as well as in the Philippines and Indonesia before arriving at BU in 2008. With ADES attracting students from across Canada and around the world, and graduates scattered in a similar manner, Spence says there is great value in studying emergency management around the world, where potential disasters and the infrastructure in place can be much different than in Canada.

"We need to understand the disaster management landscape beyond Canada," Spence said. "When something happens here it affects more than Canada. When something happens in a developing country, it affects us in Canada because we have become globalized economically, socially and environmentally."

The students made the most of their time in Jamaica, traveling all over the Caribbean island. Based out of the capital of Kingston, in the southeast, they visited Negril on the west coast and Ocho Rios on the north shore. Along the way they visited Jamaica's Office of Disaster Preparedness & Emergency Management, learned how climate change is threatening some of the country's tourist centres and studied mining hazards ranging



Participants in the Field Studies in ADES course met and exchanged ideas with disaster management professionals in Jamaica, including a visit to the Office of Disaster Preparedness & Emergency Management.

from the typical dangers of the industry to issues such as an uneasy co-existence between the mining companies and squatters.

The students also visited a small-scale mixed farming community in the foothills of the Blue Mountain Range, providing them with insight into international cooperation in emergency management. They learned about the challenges of subsistence agriculture and the intervention of the Canadian government in mitigating landslide risks and promoting livelihood sustainability in the rural community. Among the methods for landslide prevention was the planting of pineapple plants, whose roots provide support to the soil of the farms.

A visit to the impoverished community of New Haven, which would rarely be seen by tourists or even most Jamaicans, introduced them to issues heightened by economic distress. As an informal settlement New Haven has virtually no official infrastructure in place, leading residents to come up with their own measures to support one another during disasters such as frequent floods from the Duhaney River. Their local initiatives include a hand-drawn disaster awareness map.

"Because we spent most of our time in residential areas we were incorporated into it," said ADES student Danielle Currie. "There's almost this glass wall between the tourist and residential areas, and we were able to go on the other side of the glass wall."

Thanks to a recent memorandum of understanding between the institutions, the BU contingent was joined by a group from Jamaica's University of Technology, which arranged for their transportation. A further partnership with the University of West Indies allowed the BU group to stay at residences there, providing significant savings for the students, who paid their own way on the trip.

More than just cost savings, the partnerships allowed the BU students to share ideas and experiences with their Jamaican colleagues. Learning to take into account the differences between communities and regions continues to shape the students' outlook following their return to Brandon.

"It's about learning to look at things from another perspective. You can even do that in Canada," said ADES student Shelae Richards. "Dr. Spence can show us pictures, and we can understand, but actually being there gives you greater perspective."

Homecoming 2016 Highlights and Awards

Brandon University alumni and friends reunited during Homecoming Weekend, held October 14 – 16. A number of events were held, including class reunions, campus tours and the Alumni Dinner & Awards evening, recognizing alumni for their outstanding contributions. For more Homecoming photos, go to BrandonU.ca/Homecoming/Gallery.

Alumni Award Recipients



Wall of Fame Award
Dr. Cheryl (Pizzey) Craig,
BA '76, BEd '85



Distinguished Award for
Career Achievement
Mitch Taylor, BSc '65



Distinguished Award for
Career Achievement
Dr. Allan Ryan, BGS '75



Distinguished Award for
Community Service
Barbara (Robertson) Martin, Assoc. '65



Distinguished Young
Alumni Award
Whitney Kreller-Lamont, BSc '07,
BEd (AD) '09

Call For Nominations

The Brandon University Alumni Association is accepting nominations for the following awards:

- ▶ Award for Exceptional Service
- ▶ Distinguished Alumni Award for Career Achievement
- ▶ Distinguished Alumni Award for Community Service
- ▶ Distinguished Young Alumni Award
- ▶ Wall of Fame Award
- ▶ Excellence in Teaching Award

Deadline for Awards:
April 1, 2017. For more
information visit
BrandonU.ca/Alumni/Awards
or call 204-727-9697.

Class Photos

Class of 1951 – Celebrating 65 Years



L-R: Gerald Jerrett, Pat (Magnacca) Coleman, Angus Juckes, Bill Fraser

Class of 1956 – Celebrating 60 Years



Back (L-R): Lorne Day, Joan (Cressey) Meyers, Jean (Hannah) McIntosh, Margaret (Basham) Gustafson, Marina (Townsend) Laking, Harold Stewart.
Front (L-R): Hilt Stewart, Allan Johnson

Class of 1956 Bachelor of Paedagogy



L-R: Ben Ward, Verda (Peden) McDonald, Allen Hattie

1966 Teacher Training Class



L-R: Enid (Watt) Graham, Marguerite (Blain) Yung, Carol (Waldon) Milne, Carole (Pearn) Sangster, Linda (Johnson) Downey, Barbara (Burton) Brown, Agnes (Finlayson) Moir

1956 Teacher Training Class



Back (L-R): Gerald Brown, Anna (Rempel) Eaton, Delce (Haslen) Shanks, Derlene (Armstrong) Olson, Janyce (Mote) Fraser, Shirley (Armstrong) Langan, Shirley (Ivey) Welch, Mary Ellen Roach. Front (L-R): Liz (Smith) Hinch, Marg (Kinnaird) Simms, Janice (Gusdal) Ward, Eileen (Simpson) Campbell, Clara (Mansfield) Ramsay, Leona (Hutton) Kucher

Class of 1976 – Celebrating 40 Years



L-R: Lori Kiesman, Joyce McGinnis, Lesley (Shamray) McFadden, Colin Cassidy, William Hargreaves, Bruce Craig, Cheryl (Pizzey) Craig, Irene (Belisle) Coderre, Suzanne (Poirer) Hasiuk, Debra (McLenehan) Carnegie

Class of 1966 – Celebrating 50 Years



Back (L-R): Donna (Zimmerman) Kennedy, Mel Montgomery, Pat (Carter) Psaila, Diane (Lytwyn) Fox, Rodney Mykle, Colleen (Clark) Miller, Carol (Johnson) Smith, Cyril Fox, Henry Klassen. Front (L-R): Al Josephson, Terrilyn (Moore) Kerr, Bill Sparling

Dedication of the McCutcheon Alcove



Pat Bowslaugh, TTC '60, BA '71, BEd '76, Dr. Heather Duncan, Dean of Education, and Dr. Gervan Fearon, President and Vice-Chancellor, cut the ribbon for the official dedication of the McCutcheon Alcove in honour of Dr. Wilfred McCutcheon (1919-2008), a project spearheaded by Gerald Brown, TTC '56, BA '63. Dr. McCutcheon served as Dean of Education from 1954 – 1967 and was instrumental in the formation of the first Teacher Training Program at Brandon College. The Alcove is located on the main floor of the Education Building.

Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies 15th Anniversary

During Homecoming Weekend, BU's Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies department (ADES) welcomed a dozen alumni and many current students to an all-day workshop to mark the 15th anniversary of the program. The participants discussed how their ADES degrees have influenced their professional careers. ADES grads are working in emergency management careers across Canada and overseas.



Presentation of the Senior and Lady Sticks

For decades, the Senior Stick and Lady Stick were two of the most senior roles in the student executive at Brandon College, generally seen as president and vice-president of the entire student body. Not just a title, each Stick also carried an actual stick — a ceremonial wooden staff, about three feet

long, topped in silver, and covered in silver rings that bore the name and year of every previous officeholder. After the positions were phased out in 1967, when Brandon College became Brandon University, the staffs were placed on display in a custom-made case in the university library. At some point, the Senior

Stick had gone missing, and last year a group of alumni decided that it was an important symbol and had a replica produced. Both the Senior and Lady Sticks were presented back to the University and will be on permanent display in the library once again and used for ceremonial purposes throughout the year.



Following a successful alumni fundraising campaign to replicate the missing Senior Stick, Class of 1966 Senior Stick Bill Sparling and Lady Stick Terrilyn (Moore) Kerr present the symbolic Senior and Lady Sticks to BU President Dr. Gervan Fearon and BUSU President Mr. Nick Brown during the Homecoming Dinner and Awards Ceremony.



Past Senior and Lady Sticks. Back (L-R): Ron Keeler '62, Verda (Peden) McDonald '55, Elaine (Fraser) Rust '58, Jean (Hannah) McIntosh '56, Russell Lusk '65, Anne (Franklin) Taylor '65, Terrilyn (Moore) Kerr '66, Bill Sparling '66. Front (L-R): Alixe (Meadows) Ryles '42, Pat (Magnacca) Coleman '51, Angus Juckes '51, Verna (Moore) Keeler '63

Dick & Verda McDonald Sports Wall of Fame Inductees

The Wall of Fame is named in honour of Verda McDonald and her late husband Dick.

1996 CIAU National Championship Team



1996 Bobcats Men's Basketball Team. Back (L-R): Roger Martin, Larry Dudevoir, Greg Walker, Mark Plamondon, Garfield Parke, Shawn Gray, Keith Vassell, Jason Scott, Donald (Tex) Phillips. Front (L-R): Neil Kordalchuk (Manager), Brett Nohr (Assistant Coach), Jerry Hemmings (Coach), Bill Gordon (Assistant Coach), Dean Oakden (Adopt-a-Cat program), Erin Mills (Sports Information Coordinator).

Individual Inductees



Back (L-R): Kerri (Robertson) Hayhurst, Glennis Scott, Alan Murdoch, Allan Robertson. Front (L-R): Keith Vassell, Verda McDonald (previous inductee), Shawn Gray.

Historic success for BU researchers



Associate Vice-President of Research Dr. Heather Duncan speaks to the audience at the Celebration of Research in October.

Brandon University had a remarkable year of research in 2016.

This past fall BU held an event to recognize 34 researchers working on projects funded by national Tri-Agency grants. These grants from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and Canadian Institutes of Health Research support a wide range of cutting-edge research.

“This year we have had nine new Tri-Agency grants announced to support projects based right here at BU” said Dr. Heather Duncan, Dean of Education and Associate Vice-President, Research. “This is our greatest success since the current grant programs were introduced, and it is only the tip of the iceberg in projects by BU researchers. Our faculty members are also playing key roles in other important research projects being carried out at universities across Canada.”

New and ongoing research projects housed

at BU have generated \$6,252,230 in federal Tri-Agency grant money. BU researchers’ work based at other universities would increase the total value well beyond that figure.

In addition to driving innovation and providing insight on key issues, the projects also provide BU students with valuable research experience.

In many cases, they are able to do research at an undergraduate level that might only be available to them through post-graduate work at other universities.

Banner year for Faculty of Arts

Brandon University scholars in the Faculty of Arts had a momentous year in 2016. Twenty-one faculty members were recognized at a Nov. 18 event for their active research nationally and abroad, awarded international grants and Tri-Council grants. Some of the faculty members secured residencies and fellowships, others published books, edited collections and wrote plays.

The members of the Faculty of Arts shared short snapshots of their work at the special celebration.



Members of the Faculty of Arts were recognized for their research, publications and other accomplishments in 2016.

Students get boost with graduate scholarships

Five Brandon University students have been rewarded for their research with BU Manitoba Graduate Scholarships worth \$15,000 each.

Kathryn Barr, Jillian Perreaux and Shawna Philpott of the Master of Science (Environmental and Life Sciences) program received scholarships along with Master of Rural Development students Naomi Finseth and Eva Therese Goulet.

Funded by the Province of Manitoba, the scholarships are awarded to students who have demonstrated academic excellence and research potential.

New publication highlights innovative research projects at BU



Dr. Rachel Herron's work on dementia care in rural areas was featured in the first issue of Research Connection.

A new periodical publication is reporting brief summaries of the ground-breaking research being achieved at Brandon University.

"Research Connection" is a new two-page format that's designed to highlight and help researchers distill their findings into a quick-to-read and easy-to-understand digest. The summaries, which help promote research results to readers throughout Manitoba, are produced and printed approximately twice a month. They are housed online at BrandonU.ca/Research-Connection.

"Of course, we will always point people to the full publication of any research, so those who want to learn more can dig into the details," said Dr. Karen Rempel, Director of BU's Centre for Aboriginal and Rural Education Studies, who spearheaded the launch of the new publication. "But now it will be possible for everyone to get a quick sense and understanding of some of the research that's being done without needing to read all of the background and work their way through what can be specific, technical language."

For Dr. Serena Petrella, who is featured in one of the issues discussing the positive impacts of community gardening, pausing at the end of a project to take a broader view was a valuable way to take stock.

"After spending much time putting together the surveys and interviews, it was rewarding to step back and review just how much we had done, and why it was important," she said. "We found that Brandon's community gardens helped build food security, helped neighbours meet and interact, and strengthened family bonds. That's information that can be directly useful not just to city planners or activists involved in the food security and sustainability movement in our city, but to everyone who is struggling with their family food budget, or interested in making a difference in their community and being a good neighbour, or simply improving their family time. And that's everyone."

Researcher's project helps new mothers form bonds with their babies

A new mother sees a smile on her baby's face and smiles back.

Subtle interactions like this are vital to a baby's development, but can be difficult for mothers with postpartum depression (PPD).



Dr. Penny Tryphonopoulos is working on research to help mothers with postpartum depression connect with their babies.

Brandon University researcher Penny Tryphonopoulos is working on a project that uses video feedback

to help women with PPD see and understand how positive interactions benefit their babies. Tryphonopoulos and Nicole Letourneau of the University of Calgary are leading the project, which is being funded by a Canadian Institutes of Health Research grant of nearly \$570,000.

"Postpartum depression is experienced by about one in five mothers and also affects their families," says Tryphonopoulos. "Research has shown the early months of babies' lives are extremely important in their development.

"By encouraging and enabling positive interactions between moms and their babies, we can help to foster a new generation of happy and healthy children."

Nurses use a video system Tryphonopoulos has dubbed VID-KIDS to record interactions between mothers and their babies. In a supportive fashion, a nurse can review the footage with a mother to show her the signs of healthy interaction.

Researchers at universities across North America are working on the system, although for now the trials will take place at Calgary Public Health facilities, where Tryphonopoulos built many contacts while working on her PhD. If the trials are successful, the researchers hope to expand the system, and Tryphonopoulos would love to make it available to mothers in Brandon and the surrounding area.

New bursary to honour renowned heart surgeon

Brandon University lost alumnus and friend Dr. Jim Parrott in October 2016. Raised in Oak Lake, Man., in the years following World War II by a single mother on social assistance, James (Jim) Parrott persevered to graduate from Brandon College in 1964, becoming a distinguished heart surgeon, medical teacher and politician. His career accomplishments include a research fellowship at Stanford University, being head of cardiac surgery at the Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg, and starting the New Brunswick Heart Centre. In 2010 Dr. Parrott was elected to the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick and in 2015 he was presented



Dr. James (Jim) Parrott

with the BU Alumni Wall of Fame Award. In a past interview, Dr. Parrott recalled, "I didn't have the money for my second year of tuition ... fortunately, the Science Dean, Dr. Henry Stewart Perdue, heard about my situation and pulled together the cash." He added that he became the first in his family to obtain a university degree.

In keeping with this theme of helping

others to achieve their education, an endowment has been created to fund the Dr. Jim Parrott Memorial Bursary. It will be awarded on the basis of financial need to a Biology major, with preference to a student in the Biomedical Science stream.

In Jim's memory, friends and former classmates are welcome to contribute to the fund. Gifts may be made online at BrandonU.ca/Give/Donate, by phone at 204-727-7374 or toll-free at 1-877-282-4483, or made out to Brandon University Foundation and mailed to 270 18th Street, Brandon MB, R7A 6A9.

Kelvin Colquhoun Memorial Physics Scholarship

A Physics and Mathematics major, Brandon native Kelvin Colquhoun '90 graduated with honours from Brandon University. He married the love of his life, fellow BU graduate Melanie (née Caryk) '90, in 1989 and their son, Jarod, was born in 1997.



Kelvin Colquhoun '90 with son, Jarod, and wife, Melanie (née Caryk) '90

Kelvin enjoyed a successful career as a Professional Geophysicist starting with Shell Canada in 1990 and then Apache Canada in 1999. He was passionate about his profession. A lifelong learner, he devoured technical journals and took courses to stay on top of the latest developments in his field. Over the years, he mentored several colleagues and contributed to several major discoveries.

He loved to travel, ski, golf, trap shoot, mountain bike, hike and play guitar. Later in life he obtained his pilot's license and amassed hundreds of hours flying.

Kelvin passed away in July 2016 at the age of 47 following a battle with cancer. He will be remembered through the Kelvin Colquhoun Memorial Physics Scholarship, which will provide approximately \$1,350 annually to an outstanding major in Physics.

Nursing students to benefit from legacy gift in memory of Norma June Freeman

Norma June Freeman was born in 1932 in Franklin, Man. In 1955 she graduated from the Brandon General Hospital Nursing program, which was the precursor to the present-day nursing programs at BU. She went on to become an operating nurse specializing in both eye and open heart surgeries and provided aid to assisted living patients at the Eisenhower Hospital in Palm Desert, Calif.



Norma June Freeman

She married David George Wilton. Through a gift of stock valued at \$15,400, their only child, Christy Ann Fitzpatrick, has established two awards in her mother's honour, the Norma June Freeman Memorial Nursing and Psychiatric Nursing Bursaries. This contribution has been matched by the Manitoba Scholarship and Bursary Initiative. Fitzpatrick has also established a bequest which will provide additional funds for these awards in the future, with the intention that each of the bursaries will provide the funding required for a student's tuition, books and housing.

Creating Opportunities



L-R: Jaqueline Sinclair – BEd '17, Seth Friesen – BSc '19, Ashley Taron – BBA Honours '19



Titus Lee – BMus '17



Stanley Akhile – BN '17

Thank you, BU alumni, for contributing more than \$110,000 through the Annual Fund appeal since its launch in the fall.

If you haven't yet made your gift, please consider doing so today. Your contribution will make a difference to students like Stanley, Titus, Jacqueline, Seth and Ashley. As they and their fellow students go on to become doctors, teachers, nurses and business people, they will reflect on how your generosity impacted them, much like donor support impacted your Brandon College or University experience.

Whether you make an undesignated gift or direct your donation to a specific scholarship, bursary, faculty or program, you are providing exceptional opportunities for BU students.

For more details call 204-727-9715 or go to:
BrandonU.ca/Give/Annual-Fund

Give online at: BrandonU.ca/Give/Donate

Choose Your Area of Support

Yes! I want to help create opportunities for BU students.

- ▶ Area of Greatest Need (Unrestricted Gift) \$ _____
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- ▶ Aboriginal Student Success \$ _____
- ▶ Faculty of Arts \$ _____
- ▶ Faculty of Education \$ _____
- ▶ Faculty of Health Studies \$ _____
- ▶ School of Music \$ _____
- ▶ Faculty of Science \$ _____
- ▶ Library \$ _____
- ▶ Athletics \$ _____
- ▶ Other (*specify below*) _____ \$ _____

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Call 204.727.7374 Toll-free 1.877.282.4483 (BU.2.GIVE)

Advancement@BrandonU.ca

All donations are tax deductible. THANK YOU.

Mark Your Calendars

Toronto

MONDAY, MARCH 6 | 7 PM – 9:30 PM

Alumni Reception

Birreria Volo | 612 College St. | Toronto

A night of specialty beer and live Jazz featuring Greg Gatien, Dean of Music on saxophone.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7 | 6 PM – 8 PM

Alumni Reception

Kingsway Room | InterContinental Hotel Toronto Centre | 225 Front St. W.

Hosted by BU and the U of M in conjunction with the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada International Convention, March 5 – 8. All are welcome.

Vancouver

THURSDAY, MAY 4 | 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Alumni Reception

Royal Vancouver Yacht Club | 3811 Point Grey Rd.

Network with fellow alumni and friends as you enjoy appetizers, refreshments and the beautiful view at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club.

Brandon

MONDAY, JUNE 12 | 5 PM – 7 PM

Brandon University Alumni Association AGM

Louis Riel Room, BU

All alumni are invited to attend the meeting followed by a reception.

Winnipeg

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21 | 5 PM – 7:30 PM

Alumni Reception

St. Charles Golf & Country Club

100 Country Club Boulevard

Catch up with old friends and learn about what's happening at your alma mater.

Homecoming

OCTOBER 13 – 15, 2017

Celebrating the class years of 1957, 1967, 1977 and 1987. Plan your reunion now for your class, group, or club! The Alumni Association can help.

For more information or to register for these events contact: Alumni@BrandonU.ca | 1.877.282.4483 | BrandonU.ca/Alumni. Please send us your email address so we can communicate electronically.

In Touch

Stay connected with University friends and classmates.



Robert Lane, BSc '57

– Robert and his wife, Gail, have been regularly involved with community and environmental

activities. Robert is on the Environmental Advisory Council for the City of St. Albert, Alta., and is a Vice President for an environmental group that cares for the Lois Hole

Provincial Park, west of St. Albert. Their son, Christopher, is a lawyer and was recently awarded the Q.C. designation. They have two mature grandchildren, Carlie and Jared.

Terry McNamee, BA '76 – Terry graduated from BU in 1976 as one of the first students in the four-year Bachelor of Arts (Specialist) program. In 1979, she moved to Ontario and has been there ever since. She has

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

Donald Boguski, BSc '66, BEd '76
July 29, 2015

Lynne (Ferguson) Cheslock, TTC '66, July 1, 2013

Kelvin Colquhoun, BSc '90
July 5, 2016

Janice Cullen, BA '94
September 20, 2016

William Graham, BSc '55
April 2, 2016

Darren Gusdal, BGS '84
June 21, 2014

Dahl Allen Harvey, BSc '53
March 31, 2016

Kenneth Hughes, Assoc. '54
June 10, 2016

David Hughson, BSc '73
July 14, 2016

Alasdair Kellie, BSc '66, BEd '76
July 7, 2016

Douglas Kutcher, BEd (AD) '94
August 28, 2016

Audrey (Morrison) Martin,
Assoc. '70
October 31, 2016

Elaine (Cameron) McCrorie, BSc '55
September 12, 2016

Kay (Russenbolt) Neubuhr, BT '76
January 9, 2015

Brian Parker, BSc '62
April 1, 2016

James W. Parrott, BSc '64
October 4, 2016

Murray Patterson, TTC '58,
BA '69, BEd '70
May 13, 2016

Myrtle Refvik, BA '81
April 19, 2016

Douglas Reynolds, BEd '73
October 1, 2016

Hazel Rose, Assoc. '78
May 3, 2016

Douglas Stoski, BSc '86
August 13, 2016

John Templeton, BA '72
March 20, 2016

Robert Whitmore, BSc '91
October 5, 2016

FACULTY/STAFF

Dr. Hans W. Burmeister,
Associate Professor, Faculty of Arts
1969 – 1995, April 24, 2016

Melville Lall,
Professional Associate III, 1983 - 2014
October 10, 2016

spent nearly 30 years working as a community newspaper journalist for several different newspapers. Terry is a Life Member of the Canadian Kennel Club and does art and photography featuring dogs, horses and wildlife.



Dave Botterill, BSc '87 – Dave has been living in Calgary for the last 25 years. He owned a computer company for several years, which he sold to Telus in 2001. He now works as an account manager for NetApp. Dave is married and has three daughters. He enjoys giving his time to charity and has been building houses in Tijuana for the last five years. He is also involved with his own group (friendsofhaiticanada.com) which raises money to help with education in Haiti.

Kenneth C. Stelnicki, BA '92 – Following graduation, Ken joined the Treasury Department at HudBay Minerals Inc. where he held a number of positions within the company. After receiving his Certified General Accountants designation in 2004, Ken worked for Enbridge Pipelines and became Sr. Manager of Business and Commercial Services. Ken also served on the Board of Directors for the CGA of Saskatchewan during this time. In 2014, Ken started his own business, Red Roan Consulting. He is currently working for RBC Financial as a Commercial Account Manager, in the South Saskatchewan Region. Ken and his wife Angela are horse enthusiasts and enjoy their time riding and showing their horses.

Daryn Galatiuk, BA '94 – Daryn began his teaching career in South Korea where he taught for three years. Upon his return, he taught in Oxford House, Manitoba for two years. For the last 16 years, Daryn has been teaching at Glendon School in Northeast Alberta. He is currently the Assistant Principal and Athletic Director and teaches physical education and social studies. He is the President of the NorthEast Athletic Association and has

served on the Executive of the Alberta Schools Athletics Association. He coaches various sports and has taken students on school trips to 15 foreign countries. Daryn is an avid traveller and was recently married.



Guillermo Rosabal-Coto, BMus '01 – Guillermo recently earned a Doctor of Music in Music Education degree from the University of the Arts Helsinki-Sibelius Academy (Finland). He is now a professor at Universidad de Costa Rica.

Steven Leveque, BGS '08, BEd (AD) '10 – Steven is currently a grade one teacher. He says, “I wouldn’t be where I am today without attaining my education at BU. Thanks to all my professors and colleagues.”

Ryan Henry, BSc '09 – Ryan is among three professors from Indiana University to receive a \$1.8 million National Science Foundation grant to protect security of “internet of things” technology. For more info visit news.indiana.edu.



Emily Diehl-Reader, BMus '14 – Emily completed her BMus in Vocal Performance at BU in 2014. She is currently a Master’s student at the

Desautels Faculty of Music at the University of Manitoba. Emily most recently appeared as First Lady in Manitoba Underground Opera’s production of Mozart’s *The Magic Flute*. Previously, she appeared as First Bridesmaid in Manitoba Opera’s *The Marriage of Figaro* in November 2015. She took the stage this past fall in the chorus of Falstaff, also with the Manitoba Opera. Emily’s recent awards include runner-up in the 2016 Winnipeg Rose Bowl (as well as the Doris Mills Lewis Memorial Trophy for outstanding J. S. Bach aria), and winner of the Orville J. Derragh Memorial Scholarship in 2016 and 2012.

Alumni Authors

Carol Rankmore, BA '66



Journey with Carol Rankmore as she tells her story from polio survivor to the previously unknown condition now called Post-Polio Syndrome. Her sensitive memories of childhood coupled with wry humour and historical background make this book a must-read memoir that has major implications for aging polio survivors today.

Despite her medical trials, Carol’s memoir is one of hope. With frank insights into the challenges of PPS, this book offers the possibility of managing it successfully through careful exercise, a determination to never give up and a positive attitude. *Polio Child* will prove an invaluable resource for those living with—or care-giving for someone with—Post-Polio Syndrome or other disabilities.

FriesenPress.com

Terrilyn Kerr, BA '66



Terrilyn is a published author who began writing several years ago. She has written a play, poetry, several short stories and two children’s books: *The Little Red Marble* and *The Little Red Marble: Adventures in the Ocean*.

Terrilyn lives on Prince Edward Island and is inspired every day by the sights and sounds of the Island waterways and shores. Terry is involved with an Island environmental group and keeps busy in the community teaching traditional rug braiding, participating in an artisan’s group, kayaking and gardening. For a copy email: terrylincerr@gmail.com.

Bobcats capture first-ever MCAC championship

The Brandon University women's soccer team made history last fall by capturing the program's first-ever Manitoba Colleges Athletic Conference (MCAC) championship.

The Bobcats beat the Red River College Rebels 3-1 in the final to cap off an undefeated season with an overall record of 9-0-3. It was BU's third consecutive appearance at the Final Four tournament, which included a runner-up finish in 2015.

"I am just incredibly happy for them that they can experience winning a league championship," said Bobcats' coach Rainer Schira. "When it all comes together and the final whistle goes and you know that you



2016 Bobcats Women's Soccer Team

have achieved something as a team, there is no better feeling than that, especially when we came so close last year."

The title game was a rematch of last year's final where Brandon dropped a hard-fought 2-1 decision against the Rebels.

The conference recognized Bobcat Jaycee

Castle with the tournament's most valuable player award. She finished the regular season tied for the team-lead with eight goals and she added three more at the Final Four tournament. Castle scored once in the final and twice in the Bobcats' 2-0 semifinal win over St. Boniface.

BU celebrates as Isabela Onyshko goes for gold in Rio

When Westman's Isabela Onyshko competed in the women's all-around gymnastics finals at the Rio Summer Olympic Games, she had the support of friends and family cheering her on as they watched live at Brandon University.

Onyshko entered BU in the fall to study in the Faculty of Science and BU rallied behind one of our newest students with public viewing of the Olympic broadcast from Rio de Janeiro.

A great crowd showed up to watch the gymnastics finals as they were projected onto large screens in Harvest Hall for the public viewing.

"I am so excited for Isabela, and I am thrilled that everyone here at Brandon University is so excited and supportive as well," said BU Associate Professor Kelly Saunders, who is also board president at the Brandon Eagles Gymnastics Club where Onyshko trains.

"She's unbelievably talented, intelligent, and most of all, she's a lovely, lovely young woman," Saunders said. "It's one of the great things about BU, that we have such amazing people in our midst."

Hundreds return for Bobcat hockey reunion

Ninety-three years of hockey history were celebrated at Brandon University and BU Athletics was thrilled with the exceptional turnout of familiar faces.

BU welcomed home over 270 alumni and guests for a special Bobcat men's hockey reunion from November 4-5. Among the activities were a pair of alumni games at the Sportsplex, including a 50-and-older game and a 49-and-younger contest.

Hockey on campus first started in 1909 at Brandon College and continued until the university program came to a close in 2002.

Bobcat and Brandon College Caps alumni left a lasting legacy and BU Athletic Director Russ Paddock said it is important to celebrate their accomplishments.

"This event was a long time coming for our hockey alumni," said Paddock. "The bond created by our hockey alumni is unbreakable and the reunion shows that. They have a special place in our history that deserves full recognition."

Former players, coaches and staff travelled near and far to attend the festivities, including Rod Winkler. He played with the Bobcats for two seasons from 1979 to 1981, before going on to a professional career in Norway. He travelled all the way from Europe to attend.

"I wanted to see some of the best guys I have been around on and off the ice," said Winkler, who lives and works in Asker, Norway and Geneva, Switzerland. "Just seeing the guys one more time, it is a hard thing to pass up."

Bobcats who blazed a trail – Gladwyn Scott

Gladwyn Scott's legendary stature on the western Manitoba sports scene grew from humble roots. His tenure at Brandon College helped lay the foundation for his lasting legacy.

Scott was a multi-sport star in football and hockey with the Brandon College Caps. He played the 1953-54 season and returned for two more years from 1959-61.

"They were memorable and definitely a highlight," Scott said. "You take your courses and some you enjoyed and some of them you were happy when you were done. You always look forward to going to practices and playing games. It was a good situation for a small town country boy."

Scott was a member of one of the most successful hockey teams in the history of the College Caps era in 1960-61. He helped the club capture the Southwest Hockey League's regular-season pennant with a 19-6 record.

He and his brother Glennis tied for third in team scoring with 47 points that year. The season was also highlighted by a 4-3 road win over the Saskatchewan Huskies.

The prestigious Jim Casey Award was presented to Scott in his senior season, and his College Caps career was impacted by iconic figures including Doug Clark, R.H. Doc Hannah and H. Stewart Perdue.

"They are very memorable in my life," he said. "My recollections at Brandon University were likely the best recollections."

Scott poured his heart and soul into the public school system for 60 years. He started teaching in Hamiota and later Carman. Scott also served as school division superintendent living in Souris and Warren.

He made sure sports were prominent in school and community. Scott coached seven provincial championship teams in a five-year stint at Hamiota, including three titles in one season.

The Manitoba High Schools Athletic Association (MHSAA) was also co-founded by Scott.

"You always look forward to going to practices and playing games. It was a good situation for a small town country boy."

"You were helping kids and hopefully teaching them skills and making them feel good about themselves," Scott said.

Scott's contributions have been well recognized. He is a member of the Brandon University Sports Wall of Fame, the MHSAA Hall of Fame, the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame, the Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame, the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame and the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame.

His long list of accolades is a reflection of a positive upbringing on a small farm in McConnell, Man.

"Our parents taught us to work hard and do whatever you could."



Carberry News-Express

His parents, Jim and Merle, provided a positive message and Scott passed along those same words of wisdom to his children.

His son, Rick, is the head coach of the Dalhousie Tigers women's volleyball team and is a former Atlantic University Sport coach of the year. Like father like son, Rick followed in his dad's footsteps.

"My dad has had a huge influence on my life and in sports," said Rick Scott. "I am very thankful and appreciative of having his guidance and leadership of the value of sports and the importance of making a difference in young people's lives."

Gladwyn Scott's guidance is second nature thanks to the strong support he received growing up. It has led to a rewarding run as a role model in teaching, coaching and sports.

"If your parents and family are supportive that is going to be a big motivator. There is no doubt about it."



Sharing our
successes

A MADE-IN-BRANDON SUCCESS STORY

Brandon University is proud to help all students develop their full potential, and early results from our Success1 program show we're on the right track. Designed right here at BU, soft-launched last year, and expanded this year, Success1 offers fundamental skill-building courses, academic advising, coaching sessions and workshops that are designed to help students make a smooth transition to university. It's working: Success1 has helped us improve our retention rates for students who enter BU with high school grades under 70 per cent. The best part? We're sharing our program with universities across Canada. Now that's success.

BrandonU.ca/Success1



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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 or write to us at the above address. Thank you.

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