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University of St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto Alumni Magazine

Spreading their Wings

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taking on the world

St. Michael's

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Contents



04

04 50 years of love, laughter and friendship

College friendships last over the years and distance

By CHRISTINE HENRY 9T6



08

08 The story behind the picture

Digital Storytelling helps us create a genuine relationship with others and with God

By EMMA GRAHAM 1T8

12 Spreading their wings

These grads first learned to soar at St. Mike's

By CHRISTINE ARTHURS 0T0

20 HONOURS

22 CAMPUS NOTES

26 BULLETIN BOARD



12

Columns

03 FROM FOUNDERS HOUSE

A time of renewal

07 GIVING

Every gift tells a story

17 KELLY CAFÉ

A cup of joe with Manda Vrkljan

18 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

What is a Catholic education?

31 ART ON CAMPUS

Memories from a simpler time



A Time of Renewal

THE MONTH OF JUNE FEATURES two highlights of our year: Spring Reunion, which celebrates current alumni, and Convocation, which creates brand new alumni. This is a time for celebration and reflection. I find myself pondering how we ensure that we are adding, with each graduating class, to that joyous, loyal and deeply dedicated community who make up our alumni.

A lot has been happening on campus over the past several months, and I want to be sure that in sharing the highlights I'm also faithfully capturing the larger themes and ideas that connect these activities to the mission and life of the University. I have been sharing the story of renewal at St. Mike's with a number of key audiences. This includes the exceptional young scholars who have applied to our Gilson Seminar in Faith and Ideas. Principal Randy Boyagoda and I have split the recruiting phone calls between us. These conversations have given me a wonderful opportunity to connect with the incoming class of students, learning more about them and what they hope to achieve in university and beyond. In addition, I've been hosting a series of breakfasts, lunches and dinners with the new and returning Dons, who serve as the front line of support for our students.

I've also had plenty of opportunities to connect with alumni on campus at special events such as the Salman Rushdie talk, the opening of the Conservation Studio in the Kelly Library, the recent Christianity and Arts lecture at which we honoured Fr. Dan Donovan, and gatherings during Spring Reunion.

Each of these conversations was unique, but I have distilled from them a few major recurring themes, the most salient of which



Principal Randy Boyagoda, Mississauga Mayor Bonnie Crombie 8T2 (Convocation speaker) and President David Mulroney at USMC Convocation on June 16, 2017.

is widespread enthusiasm for the renewal and enrichment of student life.

Not surprisingly, many of these recent conversations have focused on the Gilson seminar, which offers a wonderful opportunity for us to reconnect with what it is we're known for, in other words, our brand. Étienne Gilson was a towering figure in the intellectual history of St. Mike's. The program we're launching in his honour will encourage students to find points of intersection between the life of faith and the life of the mind, something that was at the heart of Gilson's work and that remains the *raison d'être* for our University.

But there is more to our renewed focus on student life. We have recently announced the hiring of six new teachers for the programs we teach in the College. This represents an exciting and long-overdue investment in undergraduate education at St. Mike's. We

are currently expanding the Student Life and Campus Ministry team under the leadership of Oriana Bertucci. In August, we will welcome Giancarlo Mazzanti as our new Director of Student Services and Registrar. And we will shortly be providing details on plans to reinvigorate Brennan Hall, something that will restore it to its traditional role as a centre for campus life.

I am looking forward to discussing this and other examples of renewal with you in the weeks and months to follow. Your advice matters: who better to help us reanimate student life in the best traditions of St. Mike's! ♦

David Mulroney 7T8,
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50 YEARS OF LOVE LAUGHTER & FRIENDSHIP

College friendships last over the years and distance

By CHRISTINE HENRY 9T6



Paula and Titus Owolabi were married in the chapel of St. Joseph's in 1968 and held the reception in the International Student Centre there. Her mother, whom she had not seen in four years, came from Trinidad with Paula's wedding dress (handmade with Irish crochet by a seamstress in Trinidad), the flowers (anthuriums) and a traditional Trinidadian wedding cake (fruit cake).

A lot can happen in three years, not to mention 50. When Greta Paula Owolabi (Paula) and her classmates at the University of St. Michael's College graduated in 1967 after three years of studies, there was a national mood of excitement and optimism as Canada marked its centennial. Festivities were held across the nation to mark the country's achievements, history and cultural heritage.

As Canada celebrates its 150th birthday this year, Paula and her classmates shared in the renewed excitement as they gathered back on campus for their 50th anniversary at Spring Reunion. They had the chance to reminisce about a seminal time in their youth, and how Canada has grown along with them over the past five decades.

They also took the opportunity to recall how their time at university changed the course of their lives. It certainly changed Paula's. She arrived at the University of St. Michael's College from Trinidad in 1964 one week after her 18th birthday. Three years later, she had earned an undergraduate degree, met her boyfriend (and soon-to-be-husband), as well as friends she would keep for a lifetime. "It was my destiny," she says.

High expectations

Paula's parents always expected her to attend university in Canada. Her father, Dr. Lionel McHenry Mapp, was a Canadian-trained (McGill University) physician. Her mother, Ursula (Mapp) Bleasdel—an internationally renowned Catholic charismatic preacher and author known as "Auntie Babsie"—was pleased with Paula's choice of St. Michael's because it was Catholic and affiliated with the Sisters of St. Joseph, who had played a significant role in Paula's early education.

As Paula settled in at St. Mike's and her new home in St. Joseph's residence, she began her studies towards a BA with a major in Sociology. "Above all, the nurturing and teaching by the faculty provided what I needed for a well-rounded education, emotional and spiritual growth, and the development of life skills that have allowed me to cope with life in every way," says Paula.

Within her first week, Paula had met her future husband, Titus Owolabi (6T8, MD 1971, ObGyn specialization 1976) as well as close friends like Margaret Anne Charles (6T7, School of Graduate Studies U of T 1969, career Canadian ambassador).

Many extracurricular activities captured Paula's imagination. She took

part in Student Council and Residence Council, the chapel choir and the Hart House theatre—they were a perfect outlet for her natural leadership and creativity. She also took paying jobs in the Registrar's office and on the College switchboard.

While studious and disciplined, nothing got in the way of Paula and her friends having a great deal of fun, and laughing...a lot. They were the last class to wear academic gowns at dinner and "we soon turned them into academic dusters," she says with a chuckle.



Fr. Robert Madden, CSB, was a constant in the life of the Owolabi family. In his role as pastor, he celebrated Paula and Titus's marriage in 1968, he baptized their children Kemi in 1972 and Kunle in 1978 (Olukola was born in New Brunswick when the family lived there during Titus's residency), and he was proud to welcome Kemi and Kunle to St. Michael's as undergraduates in 1990 and 1997 respectively.

She recalls that while they didn't have much money to spend, when there was something to celebrate—or just because—they would treat themselves. On one occasion after Easter Sunday Mass, Anne, Paula and Titus decided to celebrate at the Colonnade at Yonge and Bloor with a fancy piece of cake and a cup of coffee. It was raining heavily that day, and there was mud everywhere. As they made their way over to Bloor, they came to a particularly muddy spot that blocked their trek. Titus, always a gentleman, offered to carry them each to the other side. Paula turned him down, but Anne accepted. Titus obliged, but he quickly lost his balance and dropped Anne into a massive puddle of mud. "Her beautiful tailored white coat was filthy. And Titus's trench coat was a mess," says Paula. "It was really quite comical—it was hysterical." Anne was embarrassed at the time, but now, she says, "it is one of our funniest moments." And they still made it to the restaurant for their treat.

Paula's ability to laugh has helped her throughout her life. "Trinidadians and Africans laugh at themselves," she says. "They laugh with you, not at you. Laughter truly is the best medicine. As my mother used to say, 'If you don't laugh, you go cry. You choose.'"

Civic duty calls

Both Paula and Anne also possess a deep sense of duty and dedication to community service that was ultimately reflected in their career

choices. As young women in the mid 1960s, they couldn't help but be shaped by what was going on around them. It was a time of profound social change: things were changing politically in the wake of President John F. Kennedy's assassination, the civil rights movement and the Vietnam War.

They felt it was important, even essential, to be socially engaged. Paula remembers some "healthy civil disobedience" when she and other students spent nights outside the American embassy in Toronto in peaceful protest, often singing "We Shall Overcome." "The world was opening up," says Paula. "It was an exciting time to be alive and to be young."

After her marriage to Titus in 1968, Paula completed her graduate studies towards her Master's degree in Social Work at U of T. As she began her career, she knew she had found a calling as a social worker—she had a gift for helping others, a gift Paula feels she inherited from her mother. Even from an early age, Paula was encouraged by her mother to give back. "The more you have been given, the more you give back," she taught us," Paula recalls. "I used this philosophy with my children too."

Paula's professional career as a social worker was largely with the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB), where she worked from 1989 to 2011, but it also included some stints in psychiatry, medical social work, geriatrics, discharge planning and palliative care at Women's College, Toronto Western, Scarborough and St. Michael's hospitals.

As her professional life blossomed, so did her family life. Titus and Paula soon started a family: their daughter, Olukemi (Kemi) (Dey) (9T4), came first, followed by son Olukunle Patrick (Kunle, 0T1, organist and choir director at St. Basil's Church 2003/4) and Olukola Paul (McGill, B. Music, Organ Performance, 2000).

The family relocated on occasion to support Titus's medical training and work. In 1982, they moved to Nigeria, Titus's homeland, where they lived until 1987. Paula feels their time in Nigeria was an important event in the lives of her children. "This experience, although difficult, was fundamental to the development of my children and their self-esteem as young, professional and ethical black Canadians."

Regardless of where circumstances took them, Paula fondly remembers the late Fr. Robert Madden as a constant and encouraging figure in the life of her family. "He shared our joys and our sorrows, which were particularly significant because of our lack of extended family in Canada." Also pivotal in Paula's life, and in Anne's, was Sister Dorothy O'Connor (Sister St. Stephen), Dean of Residence at St. Joseph's. "Sister Dorothy always had time for everyone—she looked out for us



A lifetime of love, laughter and joy: Paula and her family and friends have enjoyed a full life, from the joy of new life to the excitement of starting a new path after graduation.



as students," says Paula. "She was a wonderful person. We kept in touch with her until she died."

Binding ties

Anne and Paula remain loyal friends; Anne is Kemi's godmother, and has always been a tremendous support to each of Paula and Titus's children. "Anne is amazing," says

Paula. "Regardless of how busy she was in her career, she always found time for us."

Anne, in turn, is grateful for being embraced by Paula and her family. "Paula is a wonderful mother," she says. "She has an indomitable spirit; she is constant, loyal, disciplined and hardworking—and she has a wicked sense of humour. It's remarkable what she achieved while balancing everything: work, home and children. She did it all."

Importantly, Paula has remained a woman of great faith. "Faith is still important to me and to my kids," she says. "It was nurtured at USMC and although there were times when it was easy to be derailed at school, I was held accountable at USMC and so were my kids."

Now retired from her job as a social worker at TCDSB, Paula remains connected as a volunteer with St. Mike's, in particular by promoting and assisting with the musical selection and overall direction of the Annual Lenten Twilight Retreat Committee. She also sings with the St. Michael's Schola Cantorum singing group at various events. In addition, she is a 2016 Arbor Award winner.

In every way, Paula appreciates her time at St. Michael's. "I feel more than gratitude. It's a great place. It is part of who I am: I met my husband there, and my kids were nurtured there," she says. "I met a wonderful group of friends who have helped me throughout my life in countless ways, and I could not imagine my life without them, or without St. Mike's." ♦

Every Gift Tells a Story

Here's the story behind one of our many generous donors

BY KATHRYN ELTON, CHIEF ADVANCEMENT OFFICER

EVERY DAY, MY COLLEAGUES AND I ARE inspired by the loyalty and generosity of the alumni of the University of St. Michael's College, and by their commitment to supporting the next generation of students. As I write this, our 2016-2017 fiscal year has just ended. During that period, more than 1,500 alumni and friends made gifts to USMC.

Behind each and every gift there is a personal story. Many of these stories involve conversations and relationships that began years ago. In early March we received a bequest of \$1.2 million US from the estate of Dr. William D. Sharpe, a 1950 St. Mike's graduate. At Dr. Sharpe's behest, this planned gift (and an additional disbursement to follow later this summer) is being directed to an endowment fund that will support the Head Librarian position at the John M. Kelly Library in perpetuity. This position will soon be known as the "Dr. William D. Sharpe Chief Librarian" in honour of this donor's generosity.

I was curious to know more about Dr. Sharpe. His obituary read simply: "Born in Canton, Ohio, on Jul. 7, 1927. Departed on Feb. 3, 2016 and resided in South Orange, NJ." A Google search revealed that he continued his education at Johns Hopkins University, graduating as an MD in 1957, and became Associate Professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School. I could not find a recent photo anywhere.

However, by reading correspondence between Dr. Sharpe and Fr. Robert Madden,

former President Rick Alway, and Brian O'Malley (one of my predecessors in Alumni Affairs and Development), I gained a much fuller picture of the man behind the gift. I learned that Dr. Sharpe was an eloquent and witty letter writer, a keen political spectator, and a generous host with an intelligent, irreverent spirit. Though he described himself

about the Library's plans.

USMC staff and faculty who connected with Dr. Sharpe over the years clearly earned his trust. He made annual donations for many years, which he directed to the area of greatest need or to the Kelly Library. In 2008, he donated his collection of 750 hard-cover books about the American Civil War

My colleagues and I are privileged to have the opportunity to carry on the traditions of building on the relationships and trust they established, and to get to know our alumni family.

as "the least sociable of men," he enjoyed welcoming USMC representatives for long and lively conversations at his home and over lunches at his favourite New York City restaurant. Rick Alway remembers him as "the most unforgettable character I ever met."

Dr. Sharpe was also an astute donor. He regularly offered fundraising advice that he had gleaned from meetings with Johns Hopkins fundraisers. He was especially emphatic about the importance of an institution's accountability. As he wrote: "Contributors want exact (read 'audited') accounts of their funds, i.e., where did it come from? How much did it cost to raise and where did it go?" St. Mike's followed his advice. In addition to frequent visits and letters, Dr. Sharpe received reports from former Kelly Librarian Jonathan Bengtson, who provided updates

to the Library. Jonathan Bengtson certainly went "the extra mile" to receive this gift: he drove to New Jersey to collect the books and bring them back to campus.

Though many organizations sought Dr. Sharpe's support, he remained loyal to St. Mike's. His gifts and his bequest will benefit his Canadian alma mater for generations.

I am grateful to Fr. Madden, Rick Alway, Brian O'Malley and many others for their commitment to USMC and to alumni such as Dr. Sharpe. My colleagues and I are privileged to have the opportunity to carry on the traditions of building on the relationships and trust they established, and to get to know our alumni family. Each and every one of you is an important part of this dynamic community and you have wonderful stories to share. ♦

THE STORY BEHIND THE PICTURE

Digital Storytelling helps us enter into a space of genuine and authentic relationship with those around us and with God

BY EMMA GRAHAM 1T8

FOR DR. MARY HESS, THE PRACTICE OF DIGITAL STORYTELLING arises from humanity's great desire to share stories and communicate with one another through narrative. Dr. Hess, a Professor of Educational Leadership and Chair of the Leadership Division at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, brought this practice to the University of St. Michael's College with a workshop, "Digital Storytelling as Faith Formation," held as a presentation in the Charbonnel Lounge on January 24 and expanded upon on March 28 at the Keenan Lecture.

As the Patrick and Barbara Keenan Visiting Chair in Religious Education at USMC for the 2016-2017 academic year, Dr. Hess conducted research here as well as teaching a course on education, media and evangelization. She has been involved in Christian education at Luther Seminary for the past 20 years, since graduating in 1998 from Boston College. A great deal of her time has been spent focusing on the ecology of media in our times, and its uses and misuses in the educational sphere.

Digital Storytelling, Dr. Hess says, is a participatory media practice focused on self-representation—essentially, a form of self-reflection within a community, that is inextricably tied to the tools of modern media. She sees media, and Digital Storytelling in particular, as a means to faith formation in our present media-enriched age.

In her workshop, Dr. Hess introduced the idea that because humanity is made in the image and likeness of God, we are inherently communicative, just as God is communicative. She asserts that through reflecting on the stories of our lives, we can reveal who God is and how God works in our own personal experiences. In this self-reflexive way, Dr. Hess uses Digital Storytelling as a platform for getting people to take time to carefully reflect—listening closely for the presence of God in the everyday.

Not only does Digital Storytelling help storytellers discover the role God plays in their own lives, it is also focused on the listeners, who participate in the tradition of communication and active listening. This emphasis on the importance of communication in our daily experience was expressed deeply by Pope Francis in his address on World Communications Day:

"Communication has the power to build bridges, to enable encounter and inclusion, and thus to enrich society. How beautiful it is when people select their words and actions with care, in the effort to avoid misunderstandings, to heal wounded memories and to build peace and harmony. Words can build bridges between individuals and within families, social groups and peoples. This is possible both in the material world and the digital world. Our words and actions should be such as to help us all escape the vicious circles of condemnation and vengeance which continue to ensnare individuals and nations, encouraging expressions of hatred. The words of Christians ought to be a constant encouragement to communion and, even in those cases where they must firmly condemn evil, they should never try to rupture relationships and communication."

For Dr. Hess, the inherent communicative nature of humanity sprouts from the story of God as Trinity. God the Father creates all that is in existence, Christ the Son shares himself with humanity through the Incarnation, and the Holy Spirit—born out of this creative and sharing nature—spurs on faith and belief in humanity. This circle of creating, sharing and believing is at the heart of the identity of the Triune God, and has the power to inform our interpersonal practices. Often, we mistake this circle of communication for a linear one, assuming that the only way to enter into this relationship is through the vehicle



Theology student Christine Way Skinner (left) with her eldest daughter, Beth. Christine participated in the workshop "Digital Storytelling as Faith Formation"; her post-workshop reflection is on page 11.

of belief. However, Dr. Hess argues that through practices of creation and sharing, we can bring faith and the Church to people who lack spiritual hunger or have a strong aversion to religious institutions. She asserts that one of the many ways we can use creation and sharing to bring our communicative God to others is through Digital Storytelling.

Putting theory into practice

While the practice of Digital Storytelling can manifest in a number of ways, in her workshops Dr. Hess begins by having participants select two or three photos that evoke emotions of forgiveness and joy. Then, she has each person detail what is happening in the photograph, as well as provide what is not discernable from the photograph itself. Next, Dr. Hess asks the participants to develop a narrative around the photograph that has a beginning, conflict and resolution. After this, participants share their newly created narratives with the others at their table, who seek to identify facts, feelings and values related through the story. In this way, each table enters into a space of creativity and sharing that has the potential to spur on belief and relationship.

With communication at the heart of the Digital Storytelling movement, it seems fitting to use this article as a space to show some of the ways in which communication can manifest. One of the attendees of the workshop, Christine Way Skinner, who is a Catechist at St. John Chrysostom Parish in Newmarket, has agreed to share her stories as well as her interpretation of how they may be used in catechetical settings. Christine, who received a Bachelor of Arts from St. Francis Xavier University and a Masters of Divinity from Harvard Divinity School, has a special interest in sacraments and liturgy, inclusive catechesis, the neuroscience of ritual, and the use of art in religious education.

Christine's testimony shows the deep and pervasive way in which Digital Storytelling can evoke not only internal reflection but also external relationships and understanding. Dr. Hess describes this coming alive and accessing the deep bones of our community through this practice through the lens of the Triune God. She says, "Confessing God as Trinity is a confession of deep commitment to communicative practice, deep commitment to relational understanding, deep commitment to wading into the heart of adaptive challenges facing us in digital media, and doing so with profound hope and faith." She encourages religious educators not to shy away from digital practices, fearing the change



Dr. Mary Hess

“ These are the stories that form the fabric of our belief. ”

Through Digital Storytelling, sharing the stories of our lives with others in an intentional and directive manner, we are able to enter into a space of genuine and authentic relationship. “These are the stories that form the fabric of our belief, and entering the circle dance of ‘creating, sharing, believing’ through these stories can and will invite us ever more deeply into the mystery of God,” Dr. Hess says.

Though Dr. Hess will be leaving us here at St. Michael's this summer, we have benefitted deeply from the wisdom and authenticity she has brought. We are indebted to her for all of her work, both in and out of the classroom, truly representing what is most admirable about this wonderful institution. ♦

The Keenan Chair was established in 2002 thanks to the generosity of Patrick and Barbara Keenan, and was designed to launch a major graduate teaching initiative in religious education in Canada's largest English-speaking Catholic university.

Emma Graham is in her third year of study in the Christianity and Culture Undergraduate Program at the University of St. Michael's College.

A Participant's View

BY CHRISTINE WAY SKINNER

What you can see

It was picture day. My mother had just bought me the most beautiful pair of white vinyl dress boots (I think we called them go-go boots) and I wore them with my favourite smocked blue dress. Mom had done my hair up in a bun with little ringlets. I felt like I was the most beautiful little girl on the planet.

What you cannot see

Each time I walked by the refrigerator door where my mother had put up this picture, I felt puffed up with pride. Then one day, I walked by it and the word BRAT was written across my face in

permanent blue ink. My sister and I had had a fight (which was not at all uncommon) and she did the one thing that she knew would get me back for whatever horrid thing I had done to her. (Neither one of us has any recollection to this day what that act was.) No one ever threw that picture away. It lasted for years and became a bit of a family joke. When my grandmother died some 30 years later, my aunt found her copy of my kindergarten picture and returned it to me. Here it is—not the picture in question, but no evidence of the sisterly defacement to be seen. If only all our sins could be erased so!



What you can see

This is an image of my eldest daughter, Beth, at her confirmation. She asked us to take a photo of her jumping through the air in her robe. She is so full of joy and enthusiasm.

What you cannot see

The past that this child left behind. Even she cannot see this. Her mother was schizophrenic, homeless and addicted to cocaine. But Beth was given to us at birth. She knew none of this. Instead, she was celebrated in every way. And she in turn learned how to celebrate. She cherished her life and jumped into life as she is jumping in this picture. Fully, completely and enthusiastically.

Workshop Reflection

When I attended Mary's workshop on Digital Storytelling, I immediately began to think of ways to apply her ideas in our parish programs. I was especially compelled by the listening strategy Mary asked us to use as we shared our stories with one another. Each of us was assigned a particular listening task. One of us was to listen to the "facts" of the story, one to the "feelings" and one to the "values." We then recounted what we had heard. This evoked in me a great sense of responsibility. I felt a heightened sense of consciousness about listening carefully and recounting with fidelity. It was as if a treasure had been entrusted to me. The other experience I noted was that I listened quite differently, and definitely more intently, when I was listening for something specific in the stories of others. I heard things that I might not have heard otherwise.

So how might this be beneficial for use in a parish context? As Catholics, we believe in God's revelatory presence in human history, and that includes our individual lives. We can "read" the

stories of our lives in ways similar to the way we read the lives of biblical characters and the lives of the saints. Just as we take a prayerful and intentional approach when we reflect on the lives of those people, we ought to take this same prayerful and intentional approach when reflecting on our own lives or the lives of the people around us. When we listen to the stories of people's lives, we are on holy ground!

How can we integrate this type of storytelling into our parish programs? One idea would be to ask families that are preparing for baptism to bring a picture of their own baptism and reflect on what they can see, and what they cannot see, in the photos. Or we might have an adult education group use this process to do theological reflection on their lives. (Even the process of looking through my own digital pictures for an image of reconciliation or joy was revelatory!) I can see using this for Confirmation candidates or in the catechetical sessions for adults in the initiation process. It might even be a wonderful activity for a pastoral team retreat.

Spreading their Wings

These grads may have flown the COOP, but they first learned to soar at St. Mike's

By CHRISTINE ARTHURS OT0

RECENTLY WE CAUGHT UP WITH FOUR ST. MIKE'S ALUMNI WHOSE IMPRESSIVE résumés have the capacity to bowl over ordinary folk: performing a Mahler symphony in London, England; living in a war zone in Kabul, Afghanistan; interning with the Clinton Foundation in New York City; following in the footsteps of generations of officer cadets hoping to serve their country in Cornwall, Ont.'s historic Armoury. Whatever their path, it is clear that these individuals have never shied away from a challenge. What is perhaps equally noteworthy about them, however, is a consistent drive to evolve into positive contributors.

Their mutual interest in the wider world began to surface while they were undergrads at the University of Toronto. Their courses allowed them to gain in-depth theoretical knowledge of the complexities of our extended global community, and most likely sparked their nascent passion to become involved citizens. But for that initial engagement to occur, a solid, nurturing community was also vital. For these alumni—as they each attested in turn when we spoke via Skype—the University of St. Michael's College played a major role in providing the essential tools of engagement that would serve them well beyond their years on campus.

Mary Crane-Charef (OT2) is a seasoned global citizen now based in Paris, France, with a demanding yet satisfying career, a French husband and two young children. For the past eight years, she has worked in a variety of capacities for the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), whose headquarters are located in a chateau once owned by Baron Henri James de Rothschild. The organization's international scope means that Mary's job has involved a fair amount of

Work for Mary Crane-Charef has involved a fair amount of travel to countries such as Zimbabwe, Greece, Lithuania, Slovakia, Ireland and Japan.

travel to countries such as Greece, Lithuania, Slovakia, Ireland, Zimbabwe and Japan. Her current job title is as impressive as it is arcane: Policy Advisor for Anticorruption, Office of the Secretary General. Given Mary's noteworthy position, it is hard to imagine that back in the day she worked part-time in the John M. Kelly Library.

The Crane family's connection with the College dates back to the late 1960s. Mary's mother, Catherine Atkins (7T1), met her future husband, Stephen Crane (7T4), while she was selling popsicles outside the COOP. Like many other romantically allied alumni, they were married in St. Basil's Church, but afterwards returned to Stephen's home town of Rochester, New York, and raised a family of four children. Over the years the couple occasionally visited their old stomping grounds and their favourite teacher, Fr. David Belyea, with their young family in tow. It's not too surprising, then, that their daughters, Annie (OT4) and Mary, decided to attend St. Michael's themselves and live in St. Joseph's residence, just as their mom had a generation before. Mary fondly recalls how intently her parents felt about the inherent value of being involved in extracurricular activities at college.

And Mary most definitely got involved. In addition to working as news editor for *The Mike*, helping with the *Grammateion* (the College's annual journal) and serving on St. Michael's College Student Union, she found time to volunteer at the Hospital for Sick Children. That's on top of carrying a double major in English and International Relations, with some of her courses at the newly opened Munk School of Global Affairs. In third year, Mary participated in an exchange

program at the University of Warwick in Coventry, England. When she returned to Toronto for her fourth year, she became a Don at St. Joe's. At graduation, she received the Father Robert Madden Student



Leadership Award (St. Mike's) and the Gordon Cressy Student Leadership Award (U of T).

Her fledgling flight, though bold, was a difficult time, especially after the comfort of St. Mike's supportive community, according to Mary. For 12 months she worked in the UK for the Association of Commonwealth Universities via a program supported by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Next, she went to NYU, where she pursued a Masters Degree in International Relations from 2003 to 2005. Afterwards, having landed a gig as a reporter with the prestigious *Forbes Magazine's* online news service, *Forbes.com*, she stayed in New York for a while, but knew it wouldn't be forever. It wasn't long before she found a job posting online that piqued her interest: working for the United States Agency for International Development on the Afghanistan Rule of Law Project. An interview was set up in the spring of 2007, and Mary found herself in Kabul by June. While with USAID, Mary worked in a fortified compound with 20 foreigners and 100 Afghans. Helping to roll out the country's new constitution, train the judiciary, and helping to set up legal, academic and civic institutions, was meaningful and crucial work. Despite the real potential for danger, Mary remembers it as a beautiful and amazing experience. §



Minah Ahn always felt at home at St. Mike's, but studying in Seoul has provided her with a unique opportunity to explore her heritage.

The youngest of our featured alumni, Minah Ahn (1T5), is only 24 years old, but she has been spreading her wings since she came to U of T in 2010. Minah was born in South Korea but considers Vancouver her hometown: she moved to Canada with her parents and her younger brother when she was a small child. Her decision at age 18 to move 3,000 kilometres away from home to attend university was a daunting one—fortunately, she chose St. Mike's College, and that made a world of difference. According to Minah, she found that as soon as she walked onto the campus after a busy day of classes, she felt like she was arriving home. She lived in Elmsley Hall for her first year, then moved into Sorbara Hall for second and third year before moving into an apartment downtown for her remaining student years. A gifted violinist, Minah was active in the U of T Symphony Orchestra and Hart House Orchestra throughout her time at U of T. Despite these heavy commitments, she found time to participate in residence and College life. She decided to extend her studies for a fifth year in order to write an undergrad thesis. In her final year, she started working for a professor in Peace and Conflict Studies, which helped ignite her passion for human rights.

After completing an honours BA in International Relations and Political Science, Minah found herself thirsty for more intellectual stimulation, so she set her sights on the distant horizon of London, England. Winning the Routledge-Round Table Award (an award presented by the *Commonwealth Journal of International Affairs* for students from Commonwealth countries outside the UK) allowed her to become a candidate for a Masters Degree in Understanding and Securing Human Rights at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies at the University of London's School of Advanced Study. The generous Routledge bursary helped make this amazing opportunity a reality. While in the UK, she lived in privately run student residences and found a community among fellow musicians. As part of the University of London Symphony Orchestra—widely recognized as one of the leading student orchestras in the UK—she attended weekly practices and performed in occasional concerts at St. Stephen's Church.

After finishing her Masters last December, Minah felt an urge to explore her cultural heritage and reconnect with relatives, so she packed up once again, this time for Seoul. Never one to rest on her laurels, Minah is taking courses through Seoul National University to hone her Korean language skills. What does her future hold? Potentially, applying for law school back home in Canada. Ultimately, she wants to work in the human rights sector, ideally for a non-profit or non-governmental organization (NGO). For now, she is doing some "Seoul" searching (pardon the pun) before taking off in a new direction—destination as yet unknown. §

Justin Towndale (OT7) hit the ground running when he arrived on campus in 2002, and he hasn't lost momentum since. Perhaps that has something to do with the fact that Justin's decision to attend U of T was deliberate: he knew from the outset that, coming from the small eastern Ontario city of Cornwall, the experience would be transformative. Where he comes from, the tendency is to opt for the smaller, closer campus of the University of Ottawa.

Choosing St. Mike's College, on the other hand, was more or less incidental—his father, Angelo Towndale, had lived in Elmsley Hall while he was taking his Masters of Social Work—but it turned out to be a tremendous boon. In first year, Justin lived in McCorkell House, but then he moved to Sorbara Hall for the next four years, where he made friends with housemates from all over the world: Dubai, Costa Rica, Bangladesh, the UK and Russia. The location on the edge of campus suited him, as well. With the downtown core on one side and Queen's Park on the other, urban life beckoned, enabling Justin to broaden his horizons to his heart's content.

In addition to a variety of College activities, in his final year Justin ventured into the pressurized domain of provincial politics. That venture was a success: upon graduating with an honours BA in Political Science and History, he landed what he considered an ideal entry-level position as Special Assistant to John Milloy (then Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities), and moved into a condo in downtown Toronto. The four years he spent at Queen's Park were a major growth period for the burgeoning politico. Justin spent 2012 as a fundraiser for the Ontario Liberal Fund and for Sandra Pupatello's bid for the party's leadership. After Kathleen Wynne's victory in January 2013, Justin experienced one of the unavoidable hazards of politics: he was out of a job.

PHOTO: JASON MCNAMARA

Today, the last thing you would say about Justin Towndale is that he is underemployed. After moving back to Cornwall in 2013, he did what he does best: he put himself out there and got involved in the community, throwing his hat into the ring to run for City Councillor in 2014. The campaign was fiercely competitive: 29 people ran for 10 positions. At election time in October 2014, he clinched a seat on Council.

Although the position is technically part-time, you'd never know it by looking at the long list of committees and boards on which Justin serves, including local charitable organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, the St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Studies, and the Cornwall and Area Chamber of Commerce. He also has interests in two local businesses: the Stomping Grounds Bistro and the Mindful Cookery and Food Market.

But that's not all. Last year Justin joined the Canadian Armed Forces. He is a Second Lieutenant in the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders, something he's been intent on doing for quite some time, saying he has long admired the amazing humanitarian relief projects the military is involved in at home and abroad. As a reservist, he is able to pursue a civilian career but can also volunteer for deployment. For now, he is focused on completing the rigorous training requirements. §

After moving back to Cornwall in 2013, **Justin Towndale** did what he does best: he put himself out there and got involved in the community.



John Evers (1T1) is something of a trailblazer. As of this month, he will be the only St. Mike's alumnus with a Masters Degree in International Affairs from the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin, Germany. That's because he's part of the first cohort to complete this innovative program at the Hertie School, an English-language-based private university located a few blocks away from the famous Brandenburg Gate and the historic Reichstag Building. It's given him an opportunity to rub shoulders with other potential leaders and delve into the nitty-gritty of current global issues as they unfold.

Without a doubt, John is leadership material, and this did not go unnoticed when he was a student at St. Mike's. He was encouraged to choose the alma mater of his father, Grant, and grandfather, John—but he didn't need much convincing. On his first visit to the College in Grade 12, he was immediately impressed, especially by its unique architecture and the heritage houses on Elmsley Place. John, who hails from Toronto's west end, moved into More House in first year and by fourth year was Don of his residence. He was also a member of the Varsity Rowing team and several other intramural sports teams. Not too surprising, then, that he was presented with the Father Robert Madden Leadership Award upon graduation.

Berlin wasn't John's first foray away from his native city. In third year, he

participated in a study abroad program at the elite Sciences Po (the Paris Institute of Political Studies) in Paris, France. For a brief time he lived in the renowned Cité Universitaire de Paris, but then found an apartment on his own. After graduating with an honours BA in International Relations, he did a four-month stint as an intern with the Clinton Foundation in New York City. A few unpaid internships later, John landed a position that was closer to home and offered a real paycheque. That work—research analyst at the Toronto law firm Appleton and Associates International Lawyers—helped fund his next adventure: the two-year Masters program at Hertie. Now, with two degrees in hand, and with connections from Paris, New York and Berlin in his back pocket, he's bringing his expertise home as a Senior Policy Advisor on Trade Policy for the Ontario government. ♦

John Evers is a trailblazer: studying in Berlin gave him an opportunity to delve into the nitty-gritty of current global issues.

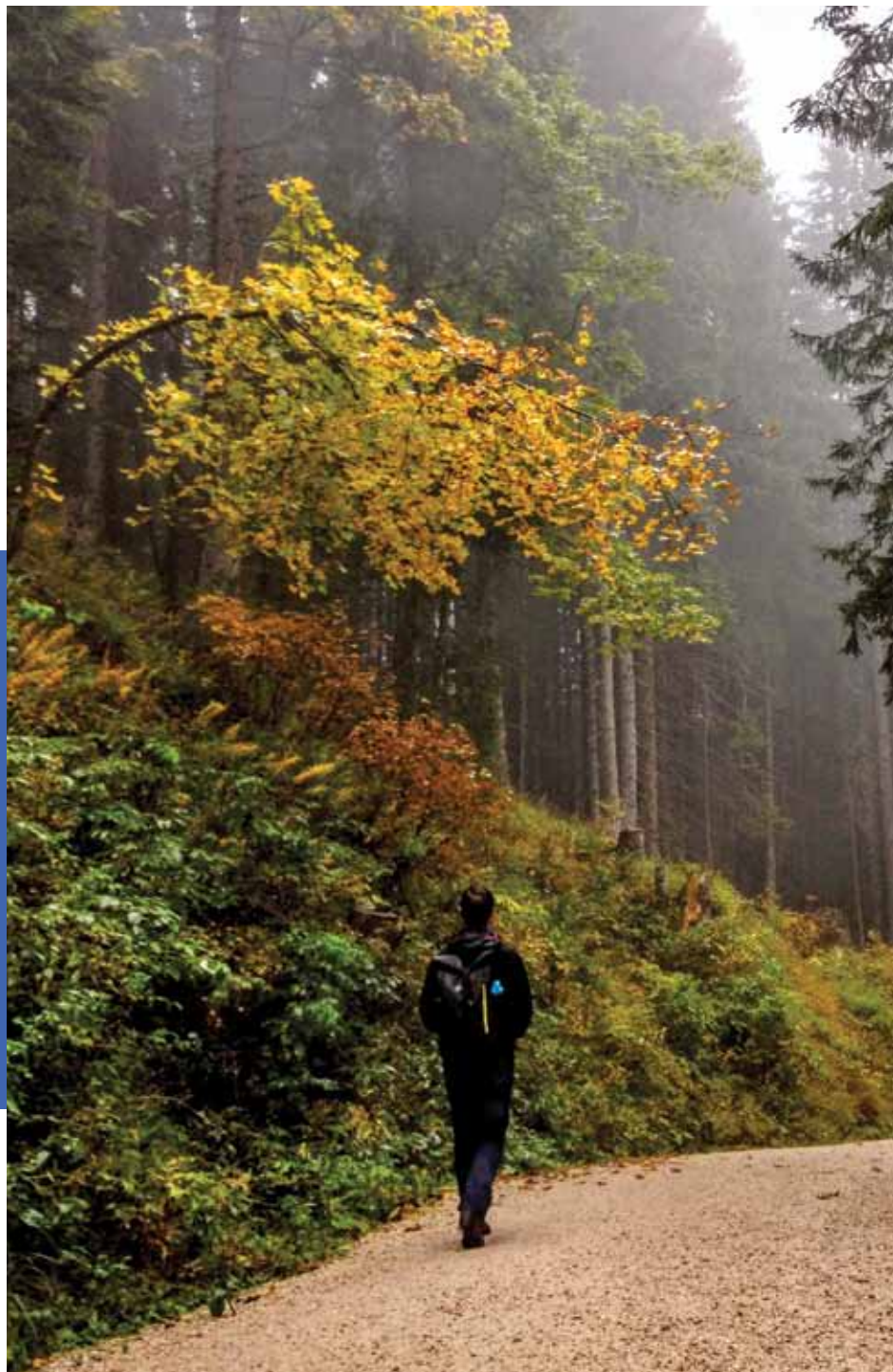


PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN EVERS

THE KELLY CAFÉ

A Cup of Joe...

...with Manda Vrkljan

IT WASN'T EASY TO CATCH UP WITH MANDA Vrkljan! When she's not busy running the InfoExpress service at the John M. Kelly Library, she is often seen helping students at the front desk. In addition to being a vital part of the library's Circulation Services department, Manda is pursuing a Master of Information at the University of Toronto. She recently won a scholarship and had her poster accepted for this year's Association of College Research Libraries' (ACRL) conference—one of only 35 per cent of the proposals to ACRL to be accepted.

USMC Chief Librarian Sheril Hook describes Manda as “an exemplar employee, who is creative in meeting the needs of the users of the library and the greater community.”

St. Mike's: *How long have you worked at the College and what attracted you to working here?*

Manda Vrkljan: I was attracted to the possibility of working at my undergraduate university, and 10 years later I still count myself very fortunate to work here.

SM's: *What is your favourite part of the job?*

MV: Providing research support to faculty and students, and working with our Friends of the Kelly Library volunteers.

SM's: *Who are the Friends, and what do they do?*

MV: They are St. Mike's alumni and Kelly Library lovers who volunteer to organize the multi-day St. Michael's College Annual Book Sale, which is a success thanks to donations from alumni, students and the general public. The volunteers weed through all the donations, as well as overseeing the Kelly Café's mini book sale table. All money raised by the Friends goes directly to improving the student experience.

SM's: *What are the biggest challenges you face when organizing the Book Sale?*

MV: We never have enough volunteers, and they do such valuable work! This is a great opportunity for volunteers of all ages and stages to reconnect



with former classmates, current students, professors, the Library and the campus itself. If you want to volunteer, please contact me at manda.vrkljan@utoronto.ca.

SM's: *What sort of things do the volunteers do?*

MV: The opportunities are year-round, and orientation is provided. In the months leading up to the Book Sale, tasks include collecting and sorting the donations, and planning for the Sale. During the Sale, volunteers assist with setting up, restocking, checking bags, staffing the cash desk and cleaning up afterwards. You never work alone—the Friends promote

a community of good times with good company.

SM's: *What do the funds raised from the Book Sale support?*

MV: Over the years, more than \$300,000 has been raised. Some of the projects funded by the Friends include revamping the study rooms, providing students with loanable laptops, installing 43 individual study carrels, publishing informational handbooks about the Library's special collections, and providing student employment within the Library.

SM's: *Anything new about the Book Sale this year?*

MV: It will be in Father Madden Hall. The Kelly Café has become a central hub for student activity, and the Friends want to ensure that student life on campus continues as usual throughout the Book Sale. Moving to Father Madden Hall is an opportunity to enhance the Book Sale experience for everyone.

SM's: *Is there a book that you came across in your work with the Book Sale that was especially meaningful for you?*

MV: It introduced me to The Folio Society, which republishes influential literary works into beautiful hardcovers that include a slipcase. My favourite is Siegfried Sassoon's *Memoirs of an Infantry Officer*, which is a fictionalization of his personal experiences during the First World War.

SM's: *How do you take your coffee?*

MV: Black. ♦

What is a Catholic Education?

A refreshing look at teachers and students in relation
to each other and to the world

BY ANDY LUBINSKY '79

A NEW BOOK BY FR. MARIO O. D'SOUZA, CSB, takes a fresh look at what a Catholic education should, and could, mean to today's students and teachers as well as for today's reality of cultural and religious diversity. Fr. D'Souza is dean emeritus of the Faculty of Theology at the University of St. Michael's College, where he currently holds the Basilian Fathers Chair in Religion and Education. A Basilian father, he celebrated the 25th anniversary of his ordination last year.

A Catholic Philosophy of Education: The Church and Two Philosophers (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2016) explores major Catholic documents on education, both from the Congregation for Catholic Education and pre-Vatican II documents, and places them in "discussion" with two major Catholic philosophers on education—Jacques Maritain (who taught at USMC) and Bernard Lonergan. In so doing, D'Souza develops an argument for a Catholic philosophy of education, as distinct from a philosophy of Catholic education.

"I have been interested in the way the Catholic philosophy of education changed after the changes ushered in by the Second Vatican Council," says D'Souza. "Maritain and Lonergan present a before-and-after-the-Council perspective.... They help in further elucidating what such a philosophy offers the Catholic educational community, and one

that is pertinent and applicable for our age."

Another major thread in the book is D'Souza's views on students themselves. He believes they must be educated for personal and communal freedom and authenticity, and to strive for the common good. The book delves into how a Catholic philosophy of education can help manifest this personal and communal transformation. "A Catholic philosophy of education can show how it serves students from all religious and cultural traditions," says D'Souza, "in particular its understanding of who the human person is; its worldview, moral and social values; and...how each student grows and matures as an individual human person, but within a community of learning."

The book is not exactly an "easy read," but D'Souza—whose lifetime of teaching and research focuses on Maritain, Lonergan and the Catholic philosophy of education—pulls the reader into the discussion with his clear prose.

The first chapter outlines key pre- and post-Vatican II documents, while the next chapter introduces Maritain and Lonergan, and their ideas. In the next four chapters, D'Souza focuses on one specific topic in the documents—such as the Catholic school, students, the teacher's vocation, and the common good—and develops a "conversation" with Maritain and Lonergan on that topic. In his final chapter, D'Souza goes back to his own spiritual base, discussing

how the Basilian charism—"teach me goodness, discipline and knowledge"—relates to a Catholic philosophy of education.

"This book offers a breath of fresh insight into the commitments Roman Catholicism makes to education," says Dr. Mary Hess, the 2016 Barbara and Patrick Keenan Visiting Chair in Religious Education at USMC. "Anyone who cares about education in general will find that this book invites a refreshing look at teachers and students in relation to each other and to the world."

A FOUNDATIONAL BOOK

The book is a natural outgrowth of D'Souza's research and teaching. He has long taught a course called Catholic Educational Documents at the Faculty of Theology, which is a required course for students of the Master of Religious Education (a degree usually taken by Catholic teachers, principals and administrators). D'Souza says he finds that "students are always surprised by the wealth of the Church's teachings on education, and say the



Andy Lubinsky (79) is President of the University of St. Michael's College Alumni Association Board.

“I maintain that this worldview...offers all students the capacity for critical engagement and reflection...as to what it means to grow in authenticity, integrity and responsibility.”

– FR. MARIO O. D’SOUZA, CSB

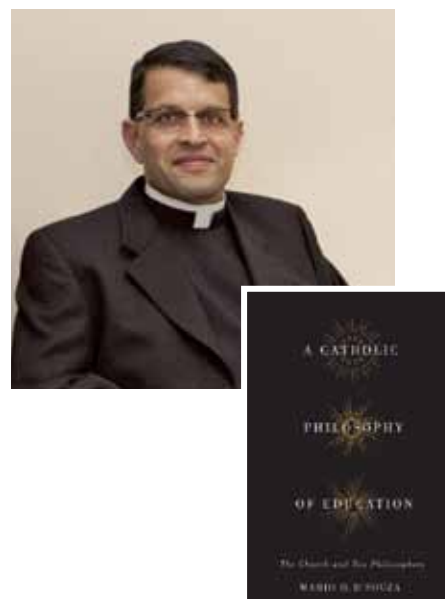
larger Catholic educational community could benefit from such documents. I structured my book as a way of introducing Catholic teachers and other school leaders to these documents.”

It’s important to provide a strong foundation for the teachers who will one day be teaching in Catholic schools, he believes. That’s because well-prepared teachers who teach from a Catholic standpoint throughout the entire curriculum—not just in religion class—will engender a spirit of catholicity in the student body.

“You cannot expect that a young person today who goes through school and then goes through a secular university in Canada, then goes to a secular faculty of education and suddenly as a result of a B.A. and a B.Ed., or a B.Sc. and a B.Ed., is magically transformed into a Catholic teacher,” D’Souza said in an interview with *The Catholic Register*. “A Catholic teacher requires a particular way to look at the world.”

D’Souza writes not only from his experience in teaching but from his own school-days growing up in Pakistan. He was educated in Catholic schools where Catholics were a minority. The only times students were separated was during religious instruction, when Catholics studied the Catechism and religious education, Muslim students the Koran. “These schools were streets ahead of their time,” D’Souza writes in the introduction to *A Catholic Philosophy of Education*.

As he told *The Catholic Register*, the Second Vatican Council “helped us to understand that we have a duty and responsibility of contributing to how the world sees itself in its pilgrimage, not just Catholics—how we contribute to the greater glory of God not just in a Christian sense but in the sense of human persons created by God who are moving toward our final destiny. That means, in a pluralist society, people of different religions and different cultures.” ♦



A Catholic Philosophy of Education: The Church and Two Philosophers (McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2016) by Fr. Mario O. D’Souza, CSB, is available at indigo.ca and amazon.ca.

5 PERSPECTIVES GAINED FROM THIS BOOK

1 The Church has a distinct philosophical conception of education; it possesses a comprehensive pedagogy, which is ultimately crowned by a theology of education, but its foundation is a philosophy of education.

2 All knowledge and learning that searches and serves the truth is a source of transformation for the intellectual, moral and religious life of the student.

3 The personal unity of the individual student is manifested in their personal growth in freedom—not simply a freedom of choice, which is something our world reduces freedom to, but the freedom that comes from choosing truth and the moral life.

4 The teacher’s vocation is indispensable. Indeed, the documents say that in ultimate terms, who the teacher is, is more important than what is taught.

5 Society, culture and the common good are not already existing realities, but come into being through the active choices and decisions of persons and communities. Like history, society, culture and the common good are living and breathing realities, and they are realized through active human agency, choice and actions. This is a particularly Catholic way of understanding education and its implications.

HONOURS

2017 Cressy Awards



**Nicole
Bazzocchi**



**Claudia
Jiang**



**Anah
Mirza**

FOR A TRULY REWARDING UNIVERSITY LIFE, STUDENTS NEED to realize that learning is not just about classrooms and books, but about diving into life full-heartedly. The Gordon Cressy Student Leadership Awards recognize graduating students who have made outstanding contributions during their time at the University of Toronto.

The Awards, which were established in 1994 by the University of Toronto Alumni Association and the Division of University Advancement, are named in honour of Gordon Cressy, a former Vice-president of Development and University Relations.

More than 200 students received this honour in 2017, during a ceremony in April. The honorees from the University of St. Michael's College have interests as wide-ranging as the world itself; here is just a taste of their stories.

NICOLE BAZZOCCHI IT6 was an inspiring presence as Senior Don at her residence, and as Artistic Producer for the St. Michael's College Troubadours. As President of Destination Imagination, Nicole ran programs that increased young children's exposure to the arts and sciences. She is continuing her involvement in our St. Mike's community, as a Director for the Trek for Teens, a not-for-profit that increases awareness of homelessness.

CLAUDIA JIANG 1T7 is a dedicated advocate for gender equality and leadership development. She has been involved in student organizations, from Women in Business to Peer Mentorship, since her first year. One of her signal achievements was working with the Rotman Commerce Emerging Leaders Program to oversee the development of 12 student organizations and a newly implemented Year One House System.

ANAH MIRZA 1T7 has served as an academic mentor and peer, an orientation marshal, and this year as editor-in-chief of *The Mike*. As one of five U of T Mosaic Fellows, she has moderated dialogue through seminars and panels. Anah was VP Administration for the Ethics, Society & Law Students' Association; and Communications Director for the Peace, Conflict & Justice Society. She has also dealt with issues closer to home, as Commuter Ambassador.

DARREN PEREIRA 1T7 (not pictured) has been a catalyst in forming and supporting the Newman Catholic Students' Club, and was this year's President. His efforts have led countless students to engage more deeply in communal life, leadership, social justice, dialogue and faith on campus. He has lived out the integration of faith and reason in his work as a summer research assistant in condensed matter physics at the Department of Physics.



Nidaa Rasheed



Farah Rasmi



Caroline Seiler



Daniel Shonibare



Claudia Tersigni



Arnold Yung

NIDAA RASHEED 1T7 has been a strong member of the Executive Team of the U of T Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) Chapter, and a director of the annual U of T WISE National Conference. As a volunteer teaching assistant for the Research Opportunity Program, she has been a mentor and first contact person for the whole lab, which includes second-, third- and fourth-year students.

FARAH RASMI 1T7 has provided a nurturing environment for residents of Loretto College as Residence Don. Her involvement on campus included being Food Bank Coordinator for the U of T Students Union, and a section editor of *The Mike*. She also has a global view, as a past Undergraduate President of the Egyptian Students Association, and a General Assembly Delegate representing U of T to the Harvard National Model United Nations.

CAROLINE SEILER 1T7 has demonstrated clear leadership in steering the Hart House Farm Committee to achieve its mandate of giving U of T students and the wider Hart House community experiences with outdoor activities and local agriculture. She was central in efforts to source primarily vegetarian and local food for programming and events, and organizing work days to educate volunteers about agriculture and gardening.

DANIEL SHONIBARE IT6, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology, is a Senior Mentor, leading a team of more than 20 Academic Peers. He was key in the St. Michael's College Grad Weeks, organizing events to help students prepare for a life in grad school or a career. INSPIRE 2015, for which he helped recruit various inspirational and famous leaders to empower students, had the largest attendance for this event on the St. Mike's campus.

CLAUDIA TERSIGNI, as Co-President of the Neuroscience Association for Undergraduate Students, has developed events to foster a sense of community for students in the program, including a lunch-and-learn outreach program for second-year students. As well, she has been a peer mentor for students with learning and other disabilities. In the larger community, she volunteers as Outreach Director for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America.

ARNOLD YUNG has been an important member of the student community at the Asian Institute, and especially the Contemporary Asian Studies Student Union and the Interrogating Notions of Development and Progress (INDepth) Conference. His leadership skills were shown most effectively in his role as Co-Chair of the multi-day INDepth Conference. ♦

CAMPUS NOTES

LECTURES

IRELAND PARK FOUNDATION/ CELTIC STUDIES ANNUAL LECTURE

On the evening of November 29, students and friends gathered in Charbonnel Lounge as the Ireland Park Foundation and the Celtic Studies Program at the University of St. Michael's College hosted Dr. Jason King, who spoke on the lives of Stephen De Vere and Robert Walsh. Dr. King is Head of the Irish Famine Archive and Researcher for the National University of Ireland, Galway, and has recently become Historical Advisor to the Board of Ireland Park Foundation. This free event was open to the public, and was presented with the support of the Embassy of Ireland in Ottawa.

ANGEL LAB WITH MARK AND TONY



Angel Lab, a student-founded lab that encourages other students to become more involved in startups focusing on social issues, was pleased to welcome former St. Mike's residents Mark Palma and Tony Lacavera to speak in Charbonnel Lounge on December 5. The two entrepreneurs spoke with St. Michael's College



SALMAN RUSHDIE AT USMC

On March 30, the University of St. Michael's College was delighted to welcome author Salman Rushdie, whose new book is titled *The Golden House*. Rushdie discussed his writings during an interview with Ato Quayson, a University of Toronto Professor and the Director of the Centre for Diaspora and Transnational Studies. The audience, which drew from the U of T community as well as St. Mike's students and alumni, was thrilled to be the first to hear Rushdie read from his much-anticipated new novel.



Dr. Janine Langan

LANGAN LECTURE – THE MYSTERY IN THE MANNERS: DOCUMENTING THE LIFE OF FLANNERY O'CONNOR

A full house of students, alumni, faculty and friends joined special guests His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins, Chancellor of USMC; and Dr. Janine Langan, Emeritus Professor in Christianity and Culture; in the Dodig Family COOP on March 15 for the first annual Langan Lecture in Christianity and Culture on the life, work and faith of American fiction writer Flannery O'Connor. The lecture was given by Professor Mark Bosco SJ, Director of the Hank Center for the Catholic Intellectual Heritage at Loyola University in Chicago.

Principal Randy Boyagoda about their memorable time at USMC and their wildly successful careers in the tech industry.

THE POSTMODERN GAZE: PAINTING THE PRODIGAL SON, MERCIFUL FATHER

Hosted by the Faculty of Theology and held in the Cardinal Flahiff

Basilian Centre, this event on December 8 featured a presentation and discussion of the painting *Prodigal Son, Merciful Father*. The discussion at the event, which celebrated the close of the Holy Year of Mercy, was presented and led by Emmaus O'Herlihy, OSB, a Benedictine monk of the Glenstal Abbey, Ireland; the Artist

in Residence at the Dominican Institute of Toronto; and a student in the Master of Theology Studies program at USMC.

THE DIFFERENCE NOTHING MAKES: THE DOCTRINE OF CREATION AS CONTEMPLATIVE INSIGHT

This inspiring lecture by Dr. Brian Robinette, an



USMC ANNUAL CHRISTIANITY AND THE ARTS LECTURE

This year’s Christianity and the Arts Lecture, entitled “The Church and Contemporary Art,” was presented by Bishop Paul Tighe, Adjunct Secretary of the Pontifical Council for Culture, Rome. The well-attended lecture, held on May 16 in Muzzo Family Alumni Hall, was followed by a reception and celebration of Fr. Dan Donovan’s 80th birthday, held in the John M. Kelly Library. This lecture was sponsored by the Christianity and Culture Program at USMC through the generosity of Angela and George Macri.



Associate Professor in the Theology Department of Boston College, focused on the

role a core Christian doctrine (God creating from nothing) can play in a person’s spiritual life. Organized by the Faculty of Theology, it was presented in Charbonnel Lounge on February 8.

THE CONSERVATION STUDIO AT THE JOHN M. KELLY LIBRARY: OPENING CELEBRATION



On the evening of February 28, alumni, students, faculty and staff from across the University of Toronto joined

to celebrate the opening of The Conservation Studio at the John M. Kelly Library. A presentation by Mark Osbaldeston (9T0) entitled “Unbuilt U ofT: Images from the Archives,” and the exhibit “Preserving Our Collections,” highlighted the important conservation work being done by the Library. At the reception that followed, staff and faculty who are involved with this important work

were available to discuss the presentation and exhibition with attendees. You can read more about the Studio in the March 16 issue of the *Catholic Register* (available at <https://stmikes.utoronto.ca/> and <http://www.catholicregister.org>).

MUSLIM-CHRISTIAN PRAYER FOR PEACE

On the afternoon of March 8, the Muslim Chaplaincy at

CAMPUS NOTES

U of T and the USMC Faculty of Theology came together in Charbonnel Lounge to pray for victims of the shooting at the Centre Culturel Islamique de Québec in Quebec City. The prayer service was followed by refreshments and fellowship.

USMC FACULTY AND FELLOW PUBLICATION SHOWCASE

What do professors do when they're not teaching? Librarian Richard Carter from the John M. Kelly Library and Reid Locklin, an Associate Professor in the Christianity and Culture Program, organized a forum to find out. This USMC Faculty and Fellow Publication Showcase, held on the afternoon of March 9, was a great opportunity to explore recent publications by faculty, fellows and librarians; talk with them about research and publishing; and enjoy snacks and drinks.

MIKETALKS WITH MIKE GOREV 1T0



USMC alumnus Mike Gorev spoke to the College community in Brennan Hall Lounge on April 5. Gorev, who has a very successful career in finance, spoke about his passion for fun and adventurous activities outside of the workplace, which is ultimately what led him to create PVP Sports. Beyond the workplace, he is always looking for an adventure,

and engages in exciting activities such as back-country camping throughout North America.

ALUMNI CELEBRATIONS

ROCHESTER ALUMNI EVENT



On the evening of November 29, President David Mulrone, Principal Randy Boyagoda and Chief Advancement Officer Kathryn Elton were delighted to meet and mingle with USMC alumni from the Rochester, New

York, area in the lovely setting of the Memorial Art Gallery at the University of Rochester. Many connections were made and old friendships were rekindled. The group has expressed a desire to keep connected—if you are an alum from the area, please join our Facebook group or call Leslie Belzak at (416) 926-7286.

ST MICHAEL'S ANNUAL ALUMNI CHRISTMAS TEA & CAROLLING



On the afternoon of December 8, more than 100 alumni and

friends came back to campus to enjoy Christmas carolling led by Dr. Michael O'Connor and the St. Mike's Singing Club, which is made up of students, faculty and staff. Guests were treated to a delicious array of seasonal treats and, of course, tea. Alumni and friends who attended were very generous in their donations to USMC's 2nd Annual Toy Drive, and all toys were donated to St. Vincent de Paul to help families during the holidays.

USMC STUDENTS AND STAFF RAISE OVER \$1,700 FOR HOMELESS YOUTH

Congratulations to St. Mike's Student Philanthropy Council (SPC) and all the students



SPRING REUNION

This year's Spring Reunion, held the weekend of June 2-4, was a wonderful event for all those involved, from the Class of 1967 50th Anniversary Mass and Brunch on Friday morning to our final event, the historical plaque installation ceremony on Sunday to recognize Fr. Henry Carr, CSB. The campus was filled with lively discussions and friendly banter as our alumni, their families and friends reconnected with St. Mike's and each other. President David Mulrone and Principal Randy Boyagoda used the opportunity to spend time with grads, engaging in their warm memories and talking about all the exciting new things happening at USMC. Principal Boyagoda's lecture on Saturday afternoon, "The World is Charged with Faith and Beauty: Three Writers, Three Visions," gave alumni a preview of what students can expect for the new Gilson Seminar in Faith and Ideas. The warmth and fellowship of the weekend will surely be remembered by all.



and staff who took part in the Pie-A-Thon on February 3 in Brennan Hall. Eleven students graciously volunteered to take a “Cool Whip” pie in the face to raise money for homeless youth in Toronto. Inspired by the student spirit, Principal Randy Boyagoda and Campus Minister Angelo Minardi put their faces forward too—and by the end of the event, President David Mulroney had also joined in and was “pied” for charity.

Onlookers and participants alike were whipped up by the fun, and after all the Cool Whip- and shaving cream-filled pie plates were thrown, more than \$1,700 had been raised to support homeless youth in Toronto.

This was SPC’s second annual Pie-A-Thon, and was organized in collaboration with Trek for Teens, a not-for-profit student-run organization created to raise funds and awareness for homeless youth in local communities. Kudos and thanks to SPC Executive members Tyra Yah and Carmen Wong, student volunteers, participants, and all the donors who contributed to this hugely successful event.



MUSIC

STAR OF THE SEA: A CONCERT OF MUSIC FOR ADVENT

St. Basil’s Church was near capacity the evening of December 9 as music by Monteverdi, Tallis, Byrd, Gibbons, and Medieval and Renaissance plainchant, songs and carols were presented by The Musicians In Ordinary, Ensemble Pneuma, St. Michael’s Schola Cantorum (directed by Michael O’Connor) and Musicians in Ordinary String Band (led by Chris Verrette).

CHRIST MY HOPE: A CONCERT FOR LENT

Many members from the USMC community gathered in St. Basil’s Church on the evening of March 27 for this wonderful concert. *Christ my Hope: Music for Lent* by Schütz (*Cantiones Sacrae*) and *Schein (Fontana d’Israel)* were performed by Christopher Verrette with St. Michael’s Schola Cantorum directed by Michael O’Connor.

ALUMNI AND FRIENDS ANNUAL LENTEN TWILIGHT RETREAT

Fr. Norman Tanck, CSB led this year’s Retreat, “On Earth as It Is in Heaven,” on March 7. The evening began with dinner, fellowship and conversation in Charbonnel Lounge, followed by Mass at Loretto College Chapel as well as a discussion and reflection.

APPOINTMENTS

DR. MARA BRECHT TO HOLD THE KEENAN CHAIR IN THE 2017-2018 ACADEMIC YEAR

Dr. James Ginther, Dean of the Faculty of Theology, is delighted to announce the appointment of Dr. Mara Brecht to the Patrick and Barbara Keenan Visiting Chair in Religious Education for the 2017-2018 academic

year at the Faculty of Theology. A graduate of Oberlin College, Harvard Divinity School and Fordham University, Dr. Brecht is Associate Professor of Theology and Religious Studies at St. Norbert College in De Pere, Wisconsin, where she teaches courses on systematic theology, world religions, Christianity and cultural diversity, and interreligious dialogue. ♦

BULLETIN BOARD



BULLETIN BOARD publishes interesting information about recent developments in the lives of St. Michael's graduates and friends. Thank you for keeping the news bits coming; please send them to Duane Rendle at smc.bulletinboard@utoronto.ca.



Michael Cheung (1T6) has been promoted to Senior Associate Business Development at Think Research, a rapidly-growing healthcare software company based in downtown Toronto. Michael graduated with an Honours Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, Human Geography and Environmental Studies. He was also a member of the St. Michael's College Student Philanthropy Council and was a St. Michael's College Orientation Leader.

We are so proud of **Kathleen O'Neill (7T5)**, who has been named one of Canada's Most Powerful Women by the Women's Executive Network. A CPA by training, Kathleen has successfully transitioned from partner and corporate executive at PwC and BMO Bank of



Montreal, respectively, to experienced corporate director. The three-time WXN Top 100 award winner has also been involved in the non-profit sector for the past 30 years as a board member of several organizations, including the Finance Board of the University of St. Michael's College.



Theo with Mom, Dad, and Uncle Wes and Aunt Lynne (Theo's godparents).

On March 8, 2017, at 10:52 a.m., Lorretta and **Christopher Deans (0T4)** welcomed their first child into this world. Theodore Joseph Clayton Deans is the third generation of Deans to arrive at St. Michael's Hospital. Chris and Grandma **Marie Deans (7T5)** are hoping for a potential third-generation St. Mike's grad (ETA ~ Class of 2040), but Lorretta and Theo may have something to say about that!



Paul Carson (6T7) has received the prestigious Mary Jo Haverbeck Trailblazer Award at the College of Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) annual convention in June in Orlando, Florida. Although Paul has retired as Sports Information Director for the University of Toronto, he continues to be actively engaged at the university as Chairperson of the U of T Sports Hall of Fame Selection Committee.



Thank you so much to **Alex Greco (1T1)** for coming back and speaking to students at MIKEtalks. Alex is currently Public Affairs Manager with GS1 Canada, the world's leading supply chain standards organization. He spoke to

students about how he started his career in public affairs, what worked, and what he needed to do to succeed in this very competitive field.



We are so proud of **Theresa (Theri) Reichlin (1T6)** (pictured, far right), who is one of two Canadians to be awarded The Prince of Wales Forest Leadership Award for 2017. This award is a UK-Canada partnership initiative between the Institute of Chartered Foresters and The Prince of Wales' Duchy of Cornwall in the UK and the Canadian Institute of Forestry in Canada, funded by TD Bank. The award, which is fully endorsed by His Royal Highness, offers Theresa the chance to take part in a work placement exchange at leading forestry and natural resources management employers in the UK.



Mike Gorev (1T0) (pictured, centre) sees life as an opportunity to engage in activities that entice his imagination and challenge his spirit of adventure: leading him into the back country of Canada and the US through his off-roading, camping and portaging trips. His desire to get more out of life than a 9-to-5 job pushed

him to take a leap of faith and start a business with friends. PVP Sports invites participants to come play tag with bows and arrows, chase each other through offices with Nerf guns, and bounce around in a bubble to find their inner child. As a full-time manager working in finance and as an entrepreneur, Mike has to balance the needs of both worlds.



Congratulations, **Kevin Collins!** Even before graduation, he has been scooped up and is enjoying his new position as Junior Coordinator Football Operations for the Canadian Football League. Kevin, who was an outstanding member of the University of Toronto Varsity Team, was also a member of Team Canada in 2013 and Team Ontario in 2012.



Congratulation to **Rajiv Surendra (0T9)** on his new book, *The Elephants in My Backyard*, which reflects on

the life-changing role he didn't get: the lead in *Life of Pi*. Pop culture fans remember Rajiv for his hilarious turn as Kevin G, the rapping "mathlete" in 2004's smash hit *Mean Girls*.



Professor **Joanne Tompkins (8T3)** has been appointed Executive Director for Humanities and Creative Arts at the Australian Research Council.

This important role involves providing strategic policy and operational advice, liaising with the higher education and research sector, and offering funding scheme and discipline expertise. Joanne, who left her position as Associate Dean (Research) in the University of Queensland Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences to take up the three-year role in April, said she was looking forward to the challenge.

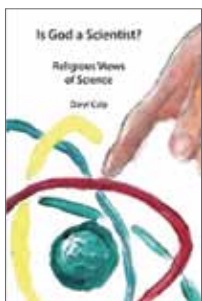


Congratulations to **Grace Ji-Sun Kim (9T2)** for her recent publications, *Mother Daughter Speak* (soon to be released) and *Intercultural Ministry: Hope for a Changing World* (March 2017). Grace has also published *Embracing the Other: The Transformative Spirit of Love* (October 2015), *Here I Am:*



We love the fact that the boys from the Class of 1982 still get together on a regular basis! Lasting friendships are what makes the St. Mike's experience special. Back row: Jerry Cachia, Scott McNally, Frank Baldanza, Denis Gubert, Paul Steiner, Roger Mehta. Front row: Mark Drury, Peter Farrell, Patrick Cooper, Jim Harrington.

Faith Stories of Korean American Clergywomen (October 2015) and *Making Peace with the Earth: Action and Advocacy for Climate Justice* (February 2016).



Daryl Culp (9T8) has recently published a book that is based on a course he taught in the Christianity and Culture department of the University of St. Michael's College from 2004 to 2006. *Is God a Scientist? Religious Views of Science* surveys different ways

in which science has been interpreted by religions around the world.



We are very happy to announce that **Andrew Kiel (1T5)** has

accepted a new position as Coordinator of Spiritual Life at St. Michael's College School. A double St. Mike's grad, we know Andrew will accomplish great things for the students.

Joan Cavanagh Sherwood (5T1, and PhD in History, University of Toronto), is the proud mother of Barbara Sherwood



Lollar, who was named a Companion of the Order

of Canada in November 2016. Barbara is a Professor in the Department of Earth Sciences at the University of Toronto, and Canada Research Chair in Isotopes of the Earth and Environment, as well as a Past President (2014-15) of the Geochemical Society.



St. Mike's was so happy to help **Laura Robb (8T2)** organize a mini reunion for her friends and classmates on the weekend of June 24. The group had a private tour with noted art collector Fr. Dan Donovan, then a trip down memory lane with a

campus tour hosted by **Chantal Brasil (1T7)**. The evening ended with a wonderful dinner in the Senior Common Room.



We are delighted to announce the engagement of **Apostolo (Post) Zeno (0T9)** to Sara Gray. Wedding plans are in the works and we know we will be kept up to date, as Post is currently working as Supervisor

of Housing Operation here at St. Mike's.



It's 50 years and counting for USMC super couple **Tim** and **Mary Elia (6T7)**, who celebrated the special day by coming back to campus to host their friends and family for an afternoon filled with music, memories and joy in Charbonnel Lounge.



Meet the Rossi's! **Laura Fallico (1T0)** and **Nicholas Rossi (1T0)** were married on October 29 at St. Basil's Church.

Kennard Wong (1T3) has moved to New York City, as a Senior Associate at BMO Capital Markets. Toronto's loss is certainly going to be New York's gain. Kennard completed his Bachelor of Science

REST IN PEACE

Anderson, Ann M.	8T7	Dzioba, Martha	6T5	McGough,	
Annett, James E.	5T0	Glynn, Paul T.	5T3	Rev. Lawrence T.	4T8
Banelis, Nijole	5T9	Gregorovich, John B.	5T0	McKeown, Thomas J. F.	5T6
Bodnarchuk,		Gutierrez, Anne Marie M.	7T3	Milligan, James N.	6T3
The Rev. Myron D.	7T5	Higgins CSB,		Moran OLM, Sr. Susan	9T6
Boisselle, Denis	6T0	Rev. Brian P.	4T9	Mrusek, Fulvia T.	7T2
Bolland, Joan A.	5T8	Jan, Michael F. J.	7T3	Mungovan, Deirdre	5T9
Bond, Allan	4T8	Keith, Alvin R.	6T3	O'Donnell, John V.	6T1
Browning, Lucy K.	4T7	Keon CSB,		O'Hara, Philip N.	7T2
Callaghan, Thomas M. P.	4T5	Rev. Howard J.	4T7	O'Neill, Gregory P.	7T7
Carlton, Edward C.	5T5	Komorowski, Barbara A.	7T4	Opperman, Jo A. M.	6T9
Carmela, Henry L.	4T4	Lenton, Sylvia M.	6T1	Panyan, Edward A.	5T3
Carney, John M.	6T6	Lockett, Carolyn J.	8T3	Prendergast, Joseph B.	5T0
Chorostil, Ewhen A.	5T8	LoPresti, Elizabeth	9T6	Regan, Dr. Daniel T. E.	5T8
Coates, Stephen J.	5T0	MacDonald, Roberta M.	7T2	Reidy, Edward J.	5T8
Cronogue SSE,		MacDonell, Charles O.	5T0	Van Anerongen,	
Rev. Michael P.	7T6	MacLean, Hugh J.	4T8	Marthe L. J.	5T8
Crosariol, John L.	8T1	Marshall, Eleanor M.	5T6	Wadman, Kerry G.	7T3
Dranitsaris, Niki	8T3	Mascurine, Horace C.	7T1	Watt, Rodney A.	5T2
Durst, Donald K.	5T1	McCormack, John R.	4T9	Weber, James A.	6T0

THE 2017

USMC BOOK SALE

BOOK SALE HOURS

Wednesday, Sept 27

1 p.m. – 8 p.m. \$5 ENTRY FEE

Thursday, Sept 28

10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Friday, Sept 29

10 a.m. – 8 p.m. ½ Price Sale 4 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Saturday, Sept 30

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. \$15 A BOX ALL DAY

NEW LOCATION FOR 2017

Father Madden Hall, Carr Hall,
100 St. Joseph Street
(ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE KELLY LIBRARY)

Every fall, the *Friends of the John M. Kelly Library* host a used book sale to raise funds for the University of St. Michael's College Kelly Library.

The sale features more than 100,000 donated books and other media items, which have been sorted into an array of scholarly and general categories.

BULLETIN BOARD

at St. Mike's and then received a Master of Finance from Queen's University.

We are so proud of Captain **Matthew Boire (OT9)**. At the May 2015 commemoration of the Battle of Frezenberg (the first major action of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry in World War One), which was attended by the Second Battalion

of P.P.C.L.I., Matt was Senior Subaltern and entrusted with the Queen's Colour of the Second Battalion of the Regiment.



Congratulations to **Genevieve Zingg (1T4)**, who has started to pursue her MA International

Human Rights at Columbia University in New York City.



Thank you to **Delores Lanni (OT8)** for organizing a 10-year

Wall House Reunion for the young women who lived on her floor in 2007. "The experience that I had with this remarkable group of women shaped my life and the direction of my career," Delores says. "Gratitude does not even begin to describe how I feel about my experience as a Don at St. Mike's, and the amazing people it brought into my life." ♦

UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

Garden Party to Welcome MASI

Tuesday, July 25

On behalf of the Sheptytsky Institute, all USMC Alumni are warmly invited to a Garden Party to welcome MASI to St. Mike's. The celebration begins at 5:00 p.m. Festivities will include the Blessing of Windle House, at 6:30 p.m., by Bishop Borys Gudziak, Bishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Paris, with the participation of His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins. At 8 p.m., Bishop Gudziak will make an address entitled "The Unique Importance of the Sheptytsky Institute for The Church Universal: Some History and a Lot of Encouragement." All are welcome; please RSVP to sheptytsky@utoronto.ca.

Orientation Week

Sunday, September 3 to Wednesday, September 6

Join us in welcoming the Class of 2021 to the University of St. Michael's College. Included in our welcoming events will be a fun Alumni and New Student get-together. More details to follow. Check out our website and Facebook page; we will post information as soon as possible.

Parent Orientation Day

*Sunday, September 24
10:30 a.m.–2 p.m.*

Come visit the University of St. Michael's College. Join us for Mass and Orientation to hear about the services and resources available for your son/daughter, meet University faculty and staff, and tour the USMC campus.

10:30 a.m.: Mass at St. Basil's Church
11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.: Information fair and brunch, Brennan Hall
1 p.m.: Campus tours

Feast of St. Michael the Archangel St. Michael's Day Campus Celebrations

Friday, September 29
Campus-wide celebrations to mark the feast day of the patron saint of our University, including Mass and a reception. More details to follow.

Beendigen: Come In To Our Tent

*Friday, October 13, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 14, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.*

Sam Sorbara Auditorium, Brennan Hall
The Faculty of Theology hosts a two-day event to take the post-Truth and Reconciliation Commission conversation forward. Events include a Blanket Exercise on Friday and a Study Day on Saturday.

SAVE THE DATE

What's So Funny About a Joke?

Tuesday, October 24
The University of St. Michael's College

and the Toronto Chapter of the Notre Dame Alumni Association co-present the 2017 Hesburgh Lecture by Professor Mark Roche. More details to follow.

38th Annual Cardinal's Dinner

Thursday, October 26
This year's Dinner is chaired by USMC President and Vice-Chancellor David Mulrone. For more information, contact Leslie Belzak at leslie.belzak@utoronto.ca.

Faces of Theology Event and Theology Convocation

*Thursday, November 9
7 p.m.:* Faces of Theology, Charbonnel Lounge
*Saturday, November 11
2 p.m.:* Theology Convocation, St. Basil's Church
The Faculty of Theology's annual Alumni event and Convocation Ceremony are a celebration of what our graduates have already achieved and what they aspire to.

SAVE THE DATE

USMC Dante Celebration

Thursday, November 16
The Dante Lecture, exhibit and dinner celebrate USMC's unique Dante Collection and the life and work of the medieval poet, writer and political thinker, whose seminal work *The Divine Comedy* continues

to shape literature today. More details to follow.

Santa Claus Parade Party

*Sunday, November 19
11:30 a.m.*
Father Madden Hall
Join us as St. Mike's opens its doors to our alumni and their children. Enjoy children's crafts, cookies and hot chocolate before venturing out to see Toronto's 113th annual Santa Claus Parade.

8th Annual John Meagher Lecture

*Tuesday, November 21
7 p.m.–9 p.m.*
Charbonnel Lounge, Elmsley Hall
This year's lecture, *Theology in the Church*, will be presented by Dr. Michael Vertin. Admission is free and no registration is required.

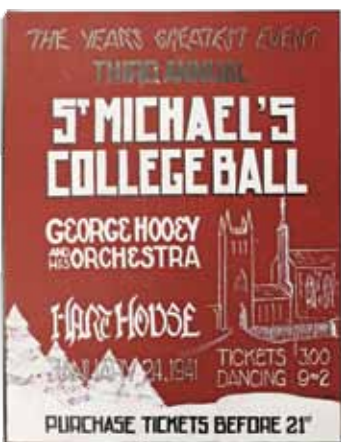
SAVE THE DATE

Spring Reunion 2018

*Wednesday, May 30 to
Sunday, June 3, 2018*
University of St. Michael's College, 81 St. Mary Street
Calling all alumni from years ending in '3 and '8: 2018 is your Reunion Year! Please mark your calendars for Reunion 2018 at USMC. Plans are underway and we have lots of events for all alumni—we hope that you can join in the fun! Much more information will follow in the coming months.

For details on events, contact 416-926-7260 or smc.alumni@utoronto.ca, or visit our website at stmikes.utoronto.ca.

Memories from a simpler time



These hand-drawn posters were made by Herbert Rossberg, a student at the University of St. Michael's College from 1938 to 1941. Born in the US, he moved back home in 1941 after Pearl Harbor, and upon graduation from St. Bonaventure University in Buffalo, NY, he trained to be a pilot in the US Air Force. Sent overseas in November 1943, he was shot down and killed in February 1944, at the age of 24. Afterwards, all of his artwork, including these posters, was given to his sister, Rita.

Rita's daughter-in-law, Beth McCain, reached out to us recently to see if USMC would like to have the posters back after all these years. "Our mother told us how much her brother loved attending St. Mike's," adds Mary Kay Polly, Rita's daughter. "It's such a relief to know that [the posters] are where they should be, at the place that meant so much to him." ♦

making a bequest

supports future
generations at St. Mike's

“My university experience strengthened my moral and faith foundation, and gave me incredible friendships that have lasted a lifetime. I cannot repay the people who made St. Mike's what it was for me. But I can make a bequest and help future students benefit from the St. Mike's experience just as I did.”

— Karen Beckermann 8T6 remembers with gratitude the scholarship support she received, and how it allowed her to fully immerse herself in the rich student life at the University of St. Michael's College.



Including a gift to the University of St. Michael's College in your estate plan will help shape students' lives for generations to come while your estate will benefit from significant tax savings. For information, please contact Kathryn Elton, Chief Advancement Officer, in confidence at 416-926-7261 or 1-866-238-3339, or kathryn.elton@utoronto.ca. Whether your bequest is large or small, it will make a lasting impact.

University of St. Michael's College
Office of University Advancement
81 St. Mary Street, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1J4