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PRESIDENT’S REPORT 2006
Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada
Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada

A culture and natural environment like no place on earth

Where you are does more than define who you are ... it becomes part of your essence – that which makes you unique. For Memorial University of Newfoundland, the rare location and culture in which we have grown has helped to weave the rich fabric of what makes us distinct.

A rugged environment has helped us become resilient – and some say it keeps us grounded. Being on the edge of Canada has fostered “on the edge” ingenuity and resiliency, and has helped us become independent and creative. The powerful forces of nature and our innate drive to solve problems that get in our way have bred a university recognized as a world leader in a diverse set of fields such as cultural heritage, naval architectural engineering, linguistics, recreation, rural health care and the natural sciences.

So Memorial is the natural place for 21st century explorers – a place where people and ideas become ...
Since its establishment, Memorial University of Newfoundland has been true to its founding principles of innovation, exploration and the provision of a stimulating, world-class academic environment that nurtures the intellect and ambitions of our students, faculty and staff. While Memorial University has a unique relationship with Newfoundland and Labrador, our work is equally important to the wider world.

It is this commitment to both home and abroad and a tradition of innovation that has put Memorial University at the forefront of higher education.

During 2005-2006, Memorial continued to develop its national and international profile. This publication is a précis of just some of the interesting information that you will find in this year’s detailed report, available on the web at www.mun.ca/2006report. I encourage you to delve into the rich body of information we are presenting on our university’s progress.

Student enrolment was level this year after an eight year trend of increases. Our total enrolments for graduate, undergraduate and international students for September 2005, now stand at 17,803. A new study showed that our first-year students are getting better grades than ever before. Not only is their overall average mark increasing, but a greater proportion of students are receiving grades of 80 per cent or more and fewer have marks below 50 per cent.

I am also pleased to report that we continue to build a stronger university by enhancing the quality of our teaching programs and others have recognized our efforts. For example, after undergoing a review by the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (CEAB), all five programs
in the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science at Memorial University were granted full six-year accreditation, the maximum accreditation period possible for engineering degree programs in Canada. We introduced a new International Bachelor of Business Administration (IBBA) program in 2005, which provides our students not only with standard business skills, but also the hard and soft skills necessary for business in the international marketplace.

Research funding from external sources continues to rise. In 2005-2006, our research funding increased by $8.5 million and now exceeds $90 million per year. These funds were used to support a wide range of research projects including high-profile projects such as the Department of Geography’s tracking the impact of climate change on fish stocks in the Northwest Atlantic, to basic studies aimed at understanding more about the causes of Parkinson’s disease. In addition, we moved forward with research infrastructure projects like ACEnet, a $23 million high-performance computing network organized in collaboration with a number of universities in our region.

This year, Memorial researchers were awarded $8.5 million from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency under its Atlantic Innovation Fund and we also established five new Tier 2 Canada Research Chairs worth $2.5 million. Our technology transfer arm and high technology incubator, the Genesis Centre, won a national award for the innovative ways in which it helps fledgling technology-based ventures get a healthy start in business.

This past year, we also engaged in a re-branding project to promote our university more widely and effectively. Starting from the idea of Memorial University as a place of transformation and potential, the new institutional brand highlights the university as a place where people and ideas “become”. Some of the re-branding is reflected in the new logo, colour schemes and silhouettes which you see in this brochure.

Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, our campus on the province’s west coast has also grown. This year, it celebrated its 30th anniversary and construction was begun on a $1 million extension to its Arts and Sciences Building. It also saw the creation of a new Separately Incorporated Entity (SIE). The university began leasing the Pepsi Centre from the City of Corner Brook. Memorial will operate the facility for the next five years for the benefit of the people of Corner Brook and surrounding areas. The property includes two large ice surfaces, meeting and convention facilities, a sound stage suitable for film and television productions, as well as a privately operated fitness centre.

We also initiated a strategic planning process this past year. This plan will chart the university’s future the over the next five to 10 years. Eighteen strategic issues were identified, including undergraduate and graduate enrolments, student success and services, recruitment, distance education, funding, graduate studies, health, safety and environment.

Of course, building a university of Memorial’s caliber takes hard work on behalf of all of our employees. This past year the university was honoured with the prestigious Employer of Distinction Award by the Newfoundland and Labrador Employers’ Council. The Employer of Distinction award goes to organizations which encourage excellence in all areas of a progressive employment relationship and recognizes leadership, innovation and a fundamental belief in the value of a healthy, safe and motivated workforce.

I am confident that Memorial University will continue to grow and serve the needs of our students, faculty and staff as well as the wider provincial, national and international communities. I am very proud of the accomplishments of our faculty, staff and students.

I hope you enjoy learning more about Memorial University.

Axel Meisen, PhD, P.Eng.
President and vice-chancellor
Fruit fly

Drs. Annika Haywood and Brian Staveley
Researchers at Memorial University are using fruit flies to seek a cure for Parkinson’s Disease. Dr. Brian Staveley, Department of Biology, and his lab colleagues received funding from the Parkinson Society Canada to study the biological basis of Parkinson’s disease. The project explores the relationship between inherited Parkinson’s and mutations in a number of genes which are linked to the disease. Parkinson’s is the result of the loss of neurons that produce dopamine in the brain. A number of genes, some key to the destruction of toxic proteins, have been associated with inherited forms of the disease. Selective protein detoxification is a biological mechanism common to humans and fruit flies. Using fruit fly models, Dr. Staveley’s laboratory investigates the cellular functions that are disrupted when Parkinson’s disease is present. “The harmful proteins damage neurons that control movement and which results in the motor skill problems that are the most visible symptom of the disease. Previous research has shown that a gene called parkin is responsible for destroying these proteins. Our laboratory has demonstrated that parkin can reverse Parkinson’s disease-like symptoms in fruit flies,” explained Dr. Staveley. “In this pilot project, we will begin to examine two new genes linked to Parkinson’s that we have recently identified in fruit flies. Our goal is to determine the role of these genes, if any, in the detoxification process and expand our models of the disease.” Recent graduate Dr. Annika Haywood and Dr. Staveley have recently published a paper in the May 2006 issue of Genome (Vol. 49, pages 505-510), titled “Mutant Alpha-Synuclein-Induced Degeneration is Reduced by Parkin in a Fly Model of Parkinson’s Disease”. In that paper they analyze the effects of parkin gene co-expression with disease-specific form of alpha-synuclein on the climbing ability of aging fruit flies, their life span and on retinal degeneration. Another Staveley lab alum and doctoral candidate, Justin Moores, has received an award of excellence (silver) in the recent CIHR National Student Research Poster Competition held at the Canadian Student Health Research Forum in Winnipeg, Man., June 7-9. Mr. Moores’ poster was titled, Novel Role for Huntington Interacting Protein 1 in Neurogenesis. This winter, Mr. Moores was a participant in the first Memorial University Graduate Student Research Colloquia Series where he presented Tiny Fruit Flies Tackling Big Medical Questions. For more information on Mr. Moores’ award and the Canadian Student Health Research Forum, visit www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/medicine/research_days/index/index.html.

For more information on Drs. Staveley and Haywood’s research, visit:
www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2202/5/14/abstract
www.yorku.ca/spyro/Stp05BULLETIN.pdf
www.ou.edu/journals/dis/DIS88/Technique/Tech1.pdf
Memorial University has taken a lead role in a new high-tech study that assesses how climate change can affect future distributions and levels of fish stocks in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean. The study examines the changes in the ocean ecosystems of Atlantic Canada such as the dramatic decline in groundfish like cod; distribution shifts of pelagics, such as capelin; and increases in snow crab and shrimp. The exhaustive project will be completed in part with a $250,000 two-year grant provided by the GEOIDE Network Centre of Excellence and the Canadian Centre for Fisheries Innovation (CCFI), based at Memorial. Dr. Rodolphe Devillers, assistant professor, Department of Geography, leads the study, which is titled GeoCod – Geomatics for the Sustainable Management of Fish Stocks. His research team includes Dr. George Rose, professor of biology and chair of Fisheries Conservation at the Marine Institute. The bulk of their work will involve integrating and analyzing all available fisheries and environmental data from the past 30 years in the Northwest Atlantic. The group’s project aims to develop a Geographical Information Systems-based decision support tool to provide fishery managers with comprehensive and accurate analysis of changing marine ecosystems which could also help to develop new fisheries policies.

Memorial University

Tracking fish stocks

Dr. Rodolphe Devillers and George Rose

Marine and coastal safety champion wins substantial fellowship

Dr. Barbara Neis, a Memorial professor of sociology who has been a leader in marine occupational health, local knowledge and science research, and gender and fisheries, received one of the most lucrative social science awards in Canada this past year. A Trudeau Foundation Fellowship will give Dr. Neis greater flexibility to expand her work.

Just five of these prestigious fellowships were awarded across Canada. Each provides a $150,000 prize, paid over three years, plus money for travel and networking, to a top researcher working in key thematic areas such as human rights, social justice or people and their natural environment.

The co-director of SafetyNet, a community research alliance on health and safety in new marine and coastal work, Dr. Neis is working towards the creation of a Centre of Excellence in Occupational Health.

The award recognizes the significant impact of her work. She has helped research and document the high incidence of asthma among snow crab processing workers in the province. This work started more than 15 years ago when a plant manager mentioned breathing problems among employees. Dr. Neis reviewed the literature and discovered an issue already well-documented in other places such as Quebec. On travels to several Newfoundland communities, she found workers with respiratory problems; women appeared to be particularly at risk in this female-dominated industry.

“It’s an occupational disease. Once you’ve got it, you’re in trouble,” she said, noting the asthma – which studies found affected more than 15 per cent of Quebec processing workers after a few years on the job – sometimes becomes chronic. “Most people don’t have job options, so they keep working. That’s one of the things that keeps these issues invisible.”

Dr. Neis was a pioneer in designing research to access fishermen’s knowledge and combine it with science. “Part of the problem, before the stocks collapsed, was that social scientists were talking to fishermen, and scientists were studying fish yet using information from fishermen in their stock assessments, without taking into account changes in the fishery. We need to build collaborations,” she said, adding that Memorial has become a leader in bringing the natural sciences and social sciences together. The latest project, for which she hopes to get community-university Research Alliance funding, will combine research on communities and environment with occupational health and will involve theatre, fine arts and community radio components using expertise of faculty members at Grenfell College. This multidisciplinary project aims to identify ways to revitalize both the fish and the communities.
The Atlantic Computational Excellence Network (ACEnet), a unique, high-performance computing collaboration, was launched in May 2006. Memorial University is the lead institution in this partnership between the University of New Brunswick, Saint Mary’s University, St. Francis Xavier University, Dalhousie University, Mount Allison University and the University of Prince Edward Island. ACEnet represents an unprecedented advancement in the capacity, competitiveness and impact of R&D in Atlantic Canada. The joint infrastructure initiative will connect researchers across the region, making it possible to build clusters of expertise in strategic sectors thereby strengthening knowledge creation and innovation in Atlantic Canada.

Funding for ACEnet currently totals more than $23 million. Infrastructure is being built over the next two years with significant contributions from the Canada Foundation for Innovation, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and provincial innovation funds: Newfoundland and Labrador Industrial Research and Innovation Fund; Nova Scotia Research and Innovation Trust Fund; and New Brunswick Innovation Foundation. ACEnet was also strongly supported by Sun Microsystems which has entered a partnership to provide hardware, joint research and support a variety of innovation projects at the ACEnet member institutes. The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador’s contribution was $1.5 million over three years through the Departments of Education and Innovation and Trade and Rural Development.

In 1905 Mina Benson Hubbard became the first white woman to cross Labrador; completing the expedition that had led to her husband’s death in 1903. The Woman Who Mapped Labrador (McGill-Queen’s University Press) makes available for the first time the unguarded and personal diary that was the basis for her famous book, A Woman’s Way Through Unknown Labrador.

Three specialists have combined their expertise to enhance the richness of this original source. Dr. Roberta Buchanan’s annotation of Hubbard’s expedition diary makes it accessible to contemporary readers. Anne Hart’s biography illuminates an Edwardian woman’s transformation from teacher, nurse and devoted wife to courageous explorer and social activist. Bryan Greene’s discussion of Hubbard’s navigational, cartographical and topographical techniques shows her to have been a major explorer. His 19 newly-drawn maps make it possible to follow her journey in detail.

Carolyn Podruchny, assistant professor, History, York University, said “the authors seamlessly weave together equally compelling elements so that the book becomes greater than the sum of its parts and a model for inter-disciplinary co-operation.”

Dr. Anne Hart, one of the authors of The Woman Who Mapped Labrador.
L-R: Dr. John Ashton, principal, Sir Wilfred Grenfell College; Dr. Axel Meisen, president, Memorial University; Dr. Georgina Hedges, chair, Board of Regents; Charles Pender, mayor, city of Corner Brook and Mike Dolter, chief administrative officer, city of Corner Brook, share a moment at the Pepsi Centre after signing the lease agreement.
Memorial University of Newfoundland and the City of Corner Brook signed an agreement for the lease of the Pepsi Centre in March of 2006. The agreement was the culmination of eight months of negotiations between city and university officials. Memorial University assumed official responsibility for operating the facility in May and will do so until the five-year lease is up for renewal.

“The City of Corner Brook views this partnership as an excellent opportunity for the entire community,” said Mayor Charles Pender. “It is a win-win situation for both organizations as we both share a common vision for the growth and betterment of the facility and what it can provide to residents of Corner Brook and the region.”

The total property, which comprises the Pepsi Centre and the Pepsi Studio Annex, includes two ice surfaces, meeting and convention facilities, a sound stage suitable for film and television productions, as well as a fitness centre (privately operated).

“It’s one of our strategic directives to build bridges and foster our relationships with the community we serve,” said Dennis Waterman, director of Administration and Finance. “When we began operating the Pepsi Centre on May 1, we brought the resources of the university with us; we hope to increase offerings and expand activities open to residents of the area. Grenfell College may use some space for student programs.”

The Pepsi Centre will be managed as a Separately Incorporated Entity (SIE) of Memorial University of Newfoundland. The Works, which encompasses the Field House and Aquarena in St. John’s, is a similar example of a university recreational organization that serves both the university and the public, and operates under an SIE board.

Appointments to the board of directors of the SIE, to be known as the Western Sports and Entertainment Inc., are held for two- and three-year periods, and directors may be reappointed. Jamie Schwartz has been appointed for three years.

“I am very pleased that the Pepsi Centre has a strong board of directors,” said Dr. Georgina Hedges, acting chair of the university’s Board of Regents. “In addition to extensive business experience, the broad selection of community, educational and business leaders has the skills and knowledge related to the recreation area and are particularly aware of the needs of both Corner Brook and Sir Wilfred Grenfell College and the province’s western Newfoundland region. Having such a strong team in place to guide the Pepsi Centre’s future will undoubtedly ensure the success of the initiative.”
Gold medal alumni

In a ceremony that is the pinnacle of the academic year, more than 2,000 students accepted their degrees during Memorial University’s spring convocation in May 2006. Included among them were the six members of the Olympic gold medal curling team who received honorary degrees for their achievement. The following is some of what Dr. Annette Staveley, deputy public orator, had to say about the gold medal team at the ceremony:

“Never in the field of Olympic conflict were so many gathered around so many television screens to watch so few achieve so much. Because of their spectacular success in men’s curling, we shall always remember where we were on Feb. 24, 2006, when Team Gushue – Michael Adam, Bradley Gushue, Russell Howard, Jamie Korab, Tobias McDonald and Mark Nichols, these names now as ‘familiar as household words’ – swept to victory. Like the alchemists of old, they transformed granite rocks into gold and changed forever, how we think about ourselves. These athletes have told the world that the sources of their winning attitude and achievement are to be found in the love of their families, in the pride of their communities, and in the support of the professionals at this university. So we all share in their golden, winning moment and are inspired by it. They are role models for us all, and for the next generation of Newfoundlanders and Labrodians.”

Memorial helps revitalize Labrador festival

Western Labrador was literally abuzz with music this past winter as more than 750 performers, budding musicians and community groups took part in the newly-revived Labrador West Music Festival – an event that hasn’t happened in 25 years. The festival probably wouldn't have even gotten off the ground if it weren't for the steadfast support and help of Memorial University, which partnered with the Iron Ore Company of Canada (IOC) to help breathe new life in the event after such a long hiatus.

The results were amazing, said an ecstatic Linda Nuotio, manager of Memorial’s Labrador Institute offices in Lab West and the key organizer of the festival.

“When I first heard that there was going to be a music festival I was delighted,” said Karen Gibbs. “I thought what a great opportunity for musical performance. My son got to perform on stage at the Arts and Culture Centre, not only for a group of parents but also in front of an adjudicator…To play and then be critiqued on that performance in front of other performers and the audience was an awesome experience.”

Over a four-day period, performers were totally engrossed in music and music education. The festival, which was billed as a friendly, non-competitive event, concluded with a sold-out gala concert, attended by Axel Meisen, president of Memorial.

Three well-known musicians with strong ties to Memorial provided the performers with feedback throughout the festival as adjudicators: Dr. Donald Buell, a professor of trumpet in the School of Music and director of Memorial’s Concert Band; Jane Steege, a part-time instructor in piano; and Dr. Valerie Long, a graduate of Memorial’s School of Music who has taught at the university in the past.

Remarkable Innu leader honoured

In October 2005, at Memorial University’s fall convocation ceremonies, Tshaukuish (Elizabeth) Penashue joined the family of over 62,000 Memorial alumni when she was presented with the honorary degree of doctor of laws. President Meisen introduced Dr. Penashue during his welcome address. “Elizabeth Penashue is a mentor and teacher, a conserver and a protector of the language, culture and traditions of her people – the Innu of Labrador. Born into a hunting and trapping family, Dr. Penashue has been a beacon, reminding Innu young and old, of their traditional way of life and respect for the land. She is one of those most remarkable leaders – the ones that require no formal title. She leads by example and remains a powerful symbol to her people. But she is more than a symbol. Like all great leaders she is a person of action. Her efforts have drawn public attention to her people and their cause. Dr. Penashue is a remarkable woman and most deserving of the honour we will bestow on her this evening.”

Jean Guthrie, university orator, gave the oration honouring Tshaukuish Penashue. Among many amazing experiences and accomplishments, Prof. Guthrie described the first of Dr. Penashue’s winter walks for the women of Sheshatshiu in the 1980s, one that took them to the NATO bombing range at Minai-nipi and a vigil for a pure lake now spoiled by dead bombs.

At the fall convocation, Scott Hand, chairman and CEO of Inco Limited received an honorary degree. During spring convocation, honorary degrees were also presented to Irish poet Paul Muldoon, who was honoured during convocation at St. Wilfred Grenfell College on May 12; nursing practitioner Kay Matthews; choir leader Sister Katharine Bellamy; Team Gushue curling team (see story on this page); Roland Martin, businessman and public servant; author and academic Dr. Roland Le Huenen; businessman Gary Bruce; historian Dr. Robert Gellately; and Holocaust survivor Philip Riteman.
Although the causes of autism are still unknown, the medical and scientific community generally believes it has a strong genetic basis. Clinical geneticist and Memorial faculty member, Dr. Bridget Fernandez, is heading up the Newfoundland section of the Autism Genome Project.

Dr. Fernandez said autism is genetic in the same way as asthma – it tends to run in families but doesn’t usually involve large numbers of affected family members. “We believe that there are 10 to 20 autism susceptibility genes. It’s only when a sufficient number of these genes are present that autism occurs.”

In addition to genetic susceptibility, Dr. Fernandez said there are likely factors in the environment that contribute to the occurrence of this developmental disorder: “We’re not sure what these environmental exposures are, although we do know the incidence of autism is increasing worldwide.”

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Elaine Dobbin said it was the cry for help from a friend that first got her involved in the Autism Society of Newfoundland and Labrador’s ambitious plans for a new support centre. “When I first met with my friend Joyce (Churchill) who has a son with autism, I said to her, ‘you seem like you’re really down’,” explained Ms. Dobbin. “And she said ‘Elaine, we’ve got to do something. I don’t know what’s going to happen to my Steven. He’s 27-years-old and I have no place for him to go.’ And I said, ‘well, what can I do to help? And that’s how it all started and we went from there.’ That was in October 2003. Less than three years later; at a ceremony in June 2006, the fruits of her efforts were unveiled on the Shamrock Farm property adjacent to the Health Sciences Centre in St. John’s. In recognition of her leadership and vision, the centre was named the Elaine Dobbin Centre for Autism. It is the only provincial facility dedicated to programming and education for individuals, their families affected by autism and those professionals who work with them. The property, located on the university’s St. John’s campus, was leased to the society for $1.

Autism centre opens

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Autism research helps local families

Dr. Fernandez’ research team is enrolling Newfoundland children and adults with autism spectrum disorder in the study. Janeway child development pediatricians Drs. Cathy Vardy, Sandra Luscombe and Victoria Crosbie are responsible for detailed reviews of the participant’s medical history along with behavioural and physical examinations.

“This part of a genetic study is called ‘phenotyping’ and provides quality information for the molecular genetic studies in Toronto,” said Dr. Fernandez, adding that her research is only possible because of the skill of Dr. Vardy and her team in administering the standardized diagnostic tests.

“It’s one thing to for a pediatrician or psychiatrist to diagnose a person with autism, but when the diagnostic information will be used to identify susceptibility genes the diagnosis has to be collected in a rigorous, standardized way. Also, I think the families appreciate that the assessment is being done by a team in a structured way.”
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Andrew Critch wants the truth. “All I’ve really wanted to know in my whole life is the absolute truth,” says Mr. Critch. “I want to know definite, irrefutably correct things about the world, and pure mathematics, as a discipline, is a search for precisely that.”

When Mr. Critch was in high school in Clarenville, he completed first-year university science courses, allowing him to have a head start before entering the science program at Memorial. Taking an average of seven courses a semester, the Hillview native graduated with his undergraduate bachelor of science (honours) in pure mathematics in just two years.

Over the summer, Mr. Critch started an undergraduate research assistantship position with the University of Toronto and in fall 2006 began his master’s degree in pure mathematics.

Dr. Chris Radford, head of the department of Mathematics and Statistics, said Mr. Critch has achieved remarkable results in his degree program at Memorial.

“Andrew is certainly one of the best students the department has had the good fortune to have had in one of its programs,” said Dr. Radford. “Andrew has achieved a lot more than top grades – he has been a great role model for other students and an outstanding ambassador for Memorial in his travels to various mathematical meetings and competitions in the Atlantic region and beyond.”

In December 2005, Mr. Critch competed in the William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition and placed fifth in Canada, helping Memorial’s team place 35th out of 500 schools.

Upon entering the competition, Mr. Critch set a high personal goal. His outstanding score earned him an honourable mention and a ranking of 57 out of 3,545 contestants.

Other competitions Mr. Critch participated in included the Atlantic Provinces International Council of the Science (APICS) Competition where he and his teammate Neil McKay placed first in 2004 and 2005.

Mr. Critch was awarded the Governor General’s Medal (undergraduate) during spring convocation, 2006.

The Governor General’s Medal for undergraduates goes to the student obtaining their first undergraduate degree, who stands highest in the graduating class and has an average of first-class standing.
Memorial wins international ROV Competition

For the second straight year, the Eastern Edge Robotics Team, representing Memorial University, captured gold at the Marine Advanced Technology Education (MATE) Centre’s International Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) competition. The annual event was held at NASA’s Sonny Carter Neutral Buoyancy Lab in Houston, Texas. The competition challenges teams to design, build and operate an ROV to perform a series of tasks like those performed by an ROV in an industrial setting. This year’s competition was based on the theme of Ocean Observation Systems. The 18-member team was comprised of post-secondary students from the Marine Institute, Faculties of Engineering, Science, and School of Human Kinetics and Recreation, as well as the College of the North Atlantic. Memorial’s Marine Institute and the Institute of Ocean Technology will host the 2007 ROV Competition in St. John’s in June 2007, the first time ever this competition will be held outside of the United States.

Governor General’s Award for Grenfell alumna

Erica Samms-Hurley, left, received the Governor General’s Award in Commemoration of the Persons Case from Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean during a ceremony at Rideau Hall in Ottawa in the fall of 2005. The graduate of Sir Wilfred Grenfell College’s bachelor of nursing program is a member of the Benoit’s Cove Mi’kmaq Band and a youth director with the Native Women’s Association of Canada. She earned the award for her work promoting health amongst the aboriginal population, especially among women. Ms. Samms-Hurley was one of six women to receive one of the Governor General’s awards, which honour individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the quality of life for women in Canada.

Making science cool and fun

Dr. Geoff Rayner-Canham has become one of the most sought-after experts at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College – especially among high school students. Over the past 30 years this professor of chemistry has promoted science to countless students in western Newfoundland and Labrador. Now he has a top award for all that hard work. Earlier this year he received a Science Communication Award from the Atlantic Provinces Council on the Sciences (APICS).

Dr. Rayner-Canham was chosen for his leadership, commitment and excellence in communicating science to the general public. Through his “Chemistry is Everywhere!” show, he has reached thousands of students and teachers, including those in isolated communities in Labrador that can be reached only by plane or coastal boat. He’s also worked extensively on communicating chemistry through high school curriculum development, school textbooks and courses for non-scientists.

Lt.-Gov. receives MA

He made history as one of Newfoundland and Labrador’s noted politicians, and now, as Newfoundland and Labrador’s lieutenant-governor; he’s made history again. Forty years after he started his last year of law school, Edward Roberts sat down in a Memorial University classroom in September 2003 to begin work on a master of arts degree in history. In May of 2006, during the university’s spring convocation ceremonies, he received his MA. This is the first time a lieutenant-governor of Newfoundland and Labrador has earned a degree while in office. He may not have been following a syllabus in the decades between his courses of study, but he says he fed his passion for history – particularly the history of this province – by reading voraciously. Mr. Roberts estimates his personal library holds about 3,500 books and documents about Newfoundland. When he moved to Government House in 2002, he was determined to manage the work of completing a master’s degree, a goal he’d long considered, around the obligations of his vice-regal office. Of going back to school, he says, “I enjoyed it immensely for a whole bundle of reasons,” citing interaction with classmates and faculty as among the pleasures. “The professors know an impressive amount of Newfoundland history and were always prepared to argue and discuss,” says Mr. Roberts.
STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS INITIATED – Beginning in mid-2005, the university started a comprehensive strategic planning process towards the development of a five-year plan for the institution. In a first step, 18 key strategic issue (ksi) papers were developed by working groups and then were presented to the university community at a day-long planning forum. Participants were encouraged to highlight any issues or concerns and suggest strategic alternatives not addressed in the draft KSI papers. The strategic planning process concluded with a new plan in Feb. 2006.

NEW INTERNATIONAL BBA – Memorial’s Faculty of Business Administration launched a new international bachelor of business administration (iBBA) degree. The degree responds to an unfilled demand for graduates with training in international business. Increasingly private and public organizations are sending employees to work in different countries and in widely different environments. In the past many of those sent overseas lacked the essential training and preparation, sometimes with disastrous results for their organizations. Memorial is only the third school in Canada to offer this type of international business program.

BALL ESTATE MAKES GENEROUS DONATION – The late Dr. Warren and Catherine Ball left a generous legacy that offers tangible encouragement to future generations of students at Memorial University of Newfoundland. Following their deaths, Dr. and Mrs. Ball's estate was donated to Memorial. Valued at over $1.3 million, the bequest enables the university to offer significant financial support to new students for the duration of their undergraduate studies. The gift will be used to establish the Warren and Catherine Ball Memorial Entrance Scholarships valued at approximately $7,500 per year for up to four years of study for students entering Memorial University for the first time.

ROtherMere BURSARIES TO SUPPORT TRAVEL TO HarLOW – Four new bursaries – valued at approximately $5,000 each – are giving Memorial University students from central Newfoundland an opportunity to travel and study at the university's Harlow Campus in England. The Rothermere Harlow Travel Bursaries will enable full-time undergraduate students to attend a complete semester at the campus, which is located about midway between London and Cambridge. Students from communities in central Newfoundland will be given first preference for the bursaries, two of which were awarded during the fall 2006 semester; while two more will be presented during the winter 2007 semester. The bursaries, valued at £2,500 each (or about $5,000) will be awarded annually to students from central Newfoundland, and who are in financial need and who have a minimum grade point average of two out of a possible four.

MARKETING STRATEGY LAUNCHED – Early in 2006, Memorial University presented its new brand to faculty, staff, regents, students and alumni, as the first step in a new institutional marketing strategy. The brand concept focuses on the idea of transformation – that Memorial is the place that people and ideas become. The development of Memorial’s marketing strategy took more than a year of planning. It included focus groups, consultations with people on all campuses, brainstorming with the university’s senior officials, and discussions with alumni, donors, members of public and private sector organizations, as well as other stakeholders. The marketing strategy includes a new, more modern institutional logo and a design concept that uses silhouettes and selected fonts and colours to illustrate the meaning of the brand and unify university promotional publications and activities. For more information visit our website at www.mun.ca/marcomm/brand.

MEMORIAL’S CAMPUS MASTER PLAN UPDATED – Memorial University reviewed its master plan for its St. John’s and Sir Wilfred Grenfell College campuses this year. A team of architects, planners, urban designers, landscape architects and transportation engineers, led by Brook McIlroy Planning & Urban Design, was selected to undertake the process. The update of the campus plans will build on the assets of the university’s settings within St. John’s and Corner Brook while managing rational growth of both campuses. The primary objectives of the update process are to: provide the university with a vision for a physical framework designed to accommodate its growth in the next 10-25 years, including buildings and open spaces; analyze the use of current space and scheduling practices in order to identify opportunities for more efficient use of space in current operations; and provide design guidelines to improve the sustainability, functionality and appearance of existing and future facilities and amenities.

GREAT PLACE TO WORK: MEMORIAL WINS TOP AWARD – Memorial University was honoured with the prestigious Employer of Distinction Award by the Newfoundland and Labrador Employers’ Council (NLEC) at a gala ceremony September 2005. The university was recognized in the large employer category, along with North Atlantic Refining Ltd. The Employer of Distinction Award goes to organizations which encourage excellence in all areas of a progressive employment relationship and recognizes leadership, innovation and a fundamental belief in the value of a healthy, safe and motivated workforce.
Total Undergraduate and Graduate Enrolment by Place of Residence
Fall 2005

Total Enrolment*: 17,372
*Includes full-time and part-time students at the end of the drop period, Oct. 26, 2005.

Newfoundland and Labrador
14,497
83%

Rest of Canada
2,011
12%

International
864
5%

Total Enrolment*: 17,372
*Includes full-time and part-time students at the end of the drop period, Oct. 26, 2005.

Total International Undergraduate and Graduate Enrolment by Area of Residence
Fall 2005

Total International Enrolment*: 864
*Includes full-time and part-time students at the end of the drop period, Oct. 26, 2005.

Europe
102
12%

Latin America/Caribbean
33
4%

Middle East and North Africa
62
7%

United States
58
7%

Asia
568
65%

Sub-Saharan Africa
39
5%

Pacific Oceania
2
< 1%

The complete President's Report 2005-2006 is available at www.mun.ca/2006report and on the DVD included with this booklet.
Vital signs

Fall 2000-2005 Undergraduate and Graduate Enrolment (Full-time and Part-time)

Percentage of First-Year Students Returning for Second Year of Study Fall 1994-2004
Vital signs

Total Undergraduate Student Enrolment by Unit
Fall 2005

Total Undergraduate Enrolment*: 15,163
*Includes full-time and part-time students at the end of the drop period, Oct. 26, 2005.

Unspecified/Other
2,488
16%

Arts
3,984
27%

Education
1,037
7%

Science
2,501
16%

Engineering & Applied Science
1,226
8%

*Schools
2,404
16%

Business Administration
1,284
8%

Total Undergraduate Enrolment*: 15,163
*Includes full-time and part-time students at the end of the drop period, Oct. 26, 2005.

Total Graduate Student Enrolment by Unit
Fall 2005

Total Graduate Enrolment*: 2,209
*Includes full-time and part-time students at the end of the drop period, Oct. 26, 2005.

Education
574
26%

Business Administration
128
6%

Engineering & Applied Science
235
11%

Graduate Studies - Interdisciplinary
46
2%

Arts
339
15%

Unspecified/Other
2,488
16%

Medicine
174
8%

*Schools
231
10%

Science
477
22%

Note: Five students declared as unspecified/other are not included.
Number of Degrees* Conferred
1999-00 to 2005-06

*Degrees include Bachelors, Masters, PhDs and Doctors of Medicine.

Library Holdings per Student for Comprehensive and Selected Atlantic Universities 2005

Vital signs
Vital signs

Human Resources

2006 with Comparative Figures for 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EMPLOYEES</th>
<th>MAR. 31, 2006</th>
<th>MAR. 31, 2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PERMANENT</td>
<td>CONTRACTUAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty/Instructional Staff</td>
<td>933</td>
<td>898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Academic Staff</td>
<td>1,388</td>
<td>1,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Librarians</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affiliate Organizations*</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,357</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,476</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Affiliate organizations include separately incorporated entities (SIEs) and agencies.

Philanthropic Support

2005-06

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>GIFTS ($)</th>
<th>OUTSTANDING PLEDGES ($)</th>
<th>DONORS(#)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individuals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Alumni</td>
<td>855,138</td>
<td>503,556</td>
<td>5,623</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Other</td>
<td>287,087</td>
<td>132,805</td>
<td>625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporations</td>
<td>3,355,052</td>
<td>10,153,781</td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundations</td>
<td>525,901</td>
<td>315,650</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charitable Organizations/Associations</td>
<td>245,995</td>
<td>10,200</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,269,173</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,115,992</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,579</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Vital signs

Sources of Research Funding
2001-02 to 2005-06

Year

2005-06 Total: $90,116,790

Total Research Funding
1995-96 to 2005-06

Year
OPERATING FUND
This is an unrestricted fund used for the university’s primary operating activities.

ANCILLIARY FUND
This is an unrestricted fund used for “sales-producing” or “self-sufficient” activities supplementary to the university’s primary operating activities.

PLANT FUND
This is a restricted fund to account for the resources used for construction, maintenance and renovations. This fund also accounts for the university’s assets and depreciation.

RESEARCH FUND
This is a restricted fund to account for resources from external granting agencies.

SPECIAL PURPOSE AND TRUSTS
This is a restricted fund with limitations imposed by both external and internal sources. The major component is the endowment fund.

RELATED ENTITIES
The university has seven separately incorporated entities as follows: C-CORE, Genesis Group, Canadian Centre for Marine Communications, Canadian Centre for Fisheries Innovation, Botanical Garden, the Newfoundland Quarterly and the Memorial University Recreation Complex (The Works).

The complete President’s Report 2005-2006 is available at www.mun.ca/2006report and on the DVD included with this booklet.
### Financials

**Memorial University of Newfoundland**

**Consolidated Schedule of Operations For the Year Ended March 31, 2006**

(000’s)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Operating Fund</th>
<th>Ancillary Fund</th>
<th>Plant Fund</th>
<th>Research Fund</th>
<th>Special Purpose and Trusts</th>
<th>Related Entities</th>
<th>Total 2006</th>
<th>Total 2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government Grants</td>
<td>$191,713</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$32,792</td>
<td>$2,705</td>
<td>$15,981</td>
<td>$243,191</td>
<td>$216,332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Fees</td>
<td>54,765</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>159</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>54,924</td>
<td>52,408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>14,781</td>
<td>12,272</td>
<td>19,103</td>
<td>7,668</td>
<td>7,438</td>
<td>6,718</td>
<td>67,980</td>
<td>65,637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>1,998</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3,860</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>6,162</td>
<td>6,162</td>
<td>3,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$263,257</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,272</strong></td>
<td><strong>$19,103</strong></td>
<td><strong>$40,460</strong></td>
<td><strong>$14,162</strong></td>
<td><strong>$23,003</strong></td>
<td><strong>$372,257</strong></td>
<td><strong>$337,561</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditures</strong></td>
<td><strong>258,108</strong></td>
<td>11,566</td>
<td>18,788</td>
<td>40,460</td>
<td>12,186</td>
<td>22,805</td>
<td>363,913</td>
<td>333,471</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Current Year Results**

|                      | $5,149         | $706           | $315       | $1,976        | $198                       | $8,344           | $4,090     |
| Future Employee Benefits Liability (Note A) | (4,941) | (4,941) | (3,545) |

**Per Financial Statements**

|                      | $208           | $706           | $315       | $1,976        | $198                       | $3,403           | $545       |

**Note A:** As per the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants’ accounting guidelines, the university has this liability included in its financial statements. The university has received prior approval from the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to exclude from the current-year operating results any amounts resulting from the recognition of the liability related to future employee benefits.
The university’s operating budget funds the operations of the university, including Sir Wilfred Grenfell College and the Marine Institute campuses. A grant is also provided to Harlow Campus in Essex, England.

The university’s unconsolidated operating expenditures for fiscal year 2006 were $263 million.

The provincial government operating grant increased eight per cent over fiscal year 2005. The increase provided for salary increases and associated benefits, as well as cost of inflation adjustments.

Included in government grants is the fourth year of funding from the Canadian government in the amount of $4.040 million to offset the indirect overhead costs of research.

Although tuition fees remained frozen in fiscal year 2006, revenue generated by student fees has increased due to increased student enrolment and higher retention.

In the operating fund 78 per cent of expenditures were spent in the academic, library and student services functional areas.

Library holdings of $6 million have been purchased in fiscal year 2006.

The university’s pooled investment fund had a market value of $57 million (Book value – $52 million) and generated a return of 12.06 per cent.

The university’s external auditors issued an unqualified audit report on the financial statements for the 2006 fiscal year.

Beginning with fiscal year ended March 31, 2006, the university’s financial statements will be consolidated with the provincial government.
Financials

University Operations
Revenue by Category

- Government Grants: $192 million, 72%
- Student Fees: $55 million, 21%
- Investment Income: $2 million, 1%
- Other Income: $15 million, 6%

University Operations
Expenditures by Function

- Academic: $185 million, 70%
- Library: $13 million, 5%
- Student Services: $7 million, 3%
- Facilities Management: $20 million, 8%
- Computing and Communications: $11 million, 4%
- Administration: $19 million, 7%
- Other Expenditures: $7 million, 3%
Leadership

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
SEPT. 1, 2005, TO AUG. 31, 2006
Lorne Wheeler, St. John’s, chair
Dr. Georgina Hedges, Eastport, vice-chair and acting chair
Hon. John Crosbie, St. John’s, chancellor
Dr. Axel Meisen, St. John’s, president and vice-chancellor
Dr. H.E.A. (Eddy) Campbell, vice-president (academic) and pro vice-chancellor
Eleanor Bennett, secretary
Gail Aylward, St. John’s
Mary Broderick, Baie Verte
Ruth Canning, St. John’s
Sam Chaulk, Port aux Basques
Patricia Coish-Snow, Clarenville
Steven Cranford, Corner Brook
Dr. Wynanne Downer, Corner Brook
Sharon Duggan, Mount Pearl
Anas El-Aneed, St. John’s
Deanne Fleet, St. John’s
Leslie Galway, Goulds
Dorothy George, Halfway Point
Ann Marie Hann, St. John’s
Ed Kelly, Rocky Harbour
Dr. Brendan Lewis, Corner Brook
Earl Ludlow, Paradise
Meghan Mitchell, St. John’s
Douglas Moores, Harbour Grace
Joan Pinsent, Stephenville
David Porter, Montreal
Darlene Russell, St. John’s
Harvey Short, Paradise
Eleanor Swanson, St. John’s
Roxana Vernescu, St. John’s
Steven Winsor, St. John’s

President’s Report 2006
Leadership

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE

Gary Peddle (president), B.Comm.(Hons.) ’82, MBA ’85, LLB (UNB) ’88
Nath Sheppard (1st vice-president), BA ’74, B.Ed. ’74, M.Ed. ’81
Tom Bursey (2nd vice-president), B.Comm.(Hons.) ’83, MBA ’84
Peggy Miller (secretary), B.Comm. ’94
Ann Marie Hann, B.Comm. ’81, MBA ’83
Jim Mason, MBA ’91
Andrea Avery, B.Comm. ’93, BA ’00
Heidi Janes, BA ’77, B.Ed. ’77, M.Ed. ’88
Darlene McCurdy, B.Sc. ’81
Lori Roul, BA ’90, B.Ed. ’90
Lloyd White, BA(Ed.) ’67, BA ’72

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS
Dr. Axel Meisen: president and chairman
The Hon. Dr. John C. Crosbie: chancellor
Dr. Eddy Campbell: vice-president (academic)
Dr. Christopher Loomis: vice-president (research)
Dr. John Ashton: principal, Sir Wilfred Grenfell College
Dr. Shelly Birnie-Lefcovitch: director of Social Work
Glenn Blackwood: executive director, Marine Institute
Dr. Mary Bluehard: director, Human Kinetics and Recreation
Dr. Alice Collins: dean, School of Education
Glenn Collins: university registrar and Secretary of the Senate
Richard Ellis: university librarian
Dr. Tom Gordon: director, School of Music
Dr. Gary Gorman: dean, Faculty of Business Administration
Dr. Ray Gosine: dean, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science
Dr. Linda Hensman: director, School of Pharmacy
Mr. Bruce Hollett: deputy minister, Department of Education
Dr. Chet Jablonski: dean, School of Graduate Studies
Dr. Sandra LeFort: director, School of Nursing
Dr. Robert Lucas: dean, Faculty of Science
Dr. James Rouke: dean, Faculty of Medicine
Dr. Lily Walker: dean, Student Affairs and Services
Doreen Whalen: director, Division of Lifelong Learning
Dr. Steve Wolinetz: interim dean, Faculty of Arts

ELECTED MEMBERS
Dr. James Wyse, Business Administration
Dr. David Tulett, Business Administration
Dr. Glenn Clark, Education
Dr. Walter Okshovsky, Education
Dr. Dennis Peters, Engineering and Applied Science
Dr. John Quacico, Engineering and Applied Science
Professor Vivienne Kuester, Human Kinetics and Recreation
Dr. Peter Trnka, Humanities
Donna Walsh, Humanities
Dr. Vit Bubeniak, Humanities
Dr. William Schipper, Humanities
Christopher Dennis, Library
Bernadine Conran, Library
Kenneth Baker, Marine Institute
Cyr Couturier, Marine Institute
Captain John Ennis, Marine Institute
Edward Durnford, Marine Institute
Robert Trenholm, Marine Institute
Dr. Khalid Aziz, Medicine
Dr. Frank King, Medicine
Dr. Catherine Popadiuk, Medicine
Dr. Atamjit Gill, Medicine
Dr. June Harris, Medicine
Dr. Donald McKay, Medicine
Dr. Kati Szego, Music
Dr. Donna Moralejo, Nursing
Dr. Mohsen Daneshialab, Pharmacy
Dr. Luise Hermanutz, Science

Dr. Serpil Kocabiyik, Science
Dr. Michael Morrow, Science
Dr. Robert Adamec: Science
Dr. Edward Brown: Science
Dr. Robert Helleur: Science
Dr. David Pike: Science
Dr. John Whitehead: Science
Dr. James Wright: Science
Dr. Dennis Kimberley: Social Work
Gary Riser: Social Sciences
Dr. Christopher Sharpe: Social Sciences
Dr. Mark Tate: Social Sciences
Dr. Olaf Janzen: Sir Wilfred Grenfell College
Dr. Paul Wilson: Sir Wilfred Grenfell College
Dr. Edward Andrews: Sir Wilfred Grenfell College

GRADUATE STUDENTS
Kelly Greenfield
Kelly Hickey
Shannon Sullivan

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS
Roger Drinkall
James Farrell
Katherine Giroux-Bougard
Adam Hollett
Emilee Martin
Imoh Igho-Obiagie
Stella Magalios
Stephanie Power
Dushyant Singh
Tim Williams
THE MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND MISSION

Memorial University is committed to excellence in teaching, research and scholarship, and service to the general public. Memorial University recognizes a special obligation to educate the citizens of Newfoundland and Labrador, to undertake research on the challenges this province faces and to share its expertise with the community.

With nearly 18,000 students and 2,500 permanent faculty and staff, from more than 90 countries and diverse cultures, Memorial University of Newfoundland is the largest university in Atlantic Canada. We provide excellent undergraduate, professional and graduate programs in virtually all disciplines from our campuses in St. John’s and Corner Brook in Newfoundland and Labrador; and in Harlow, England. Outstanding research and scholarship, extraordinary teaching and a focus on community service are our hallmarks. Take a closer look at Memorial, visit www.mun.ca.

About this report

This document contains highlights of the President’s Report 2006 which is available on DVD and on the web at www.mun.ca/2006report. We welcome your feedback. DVD and web versions contain an e-mail readership survey. You can also send your comments to marcomm@mun.ca or call 709-737-9665.

The President’s Report 2006 is a product of the Division of Marketing and Communications, Memorial University of Newfoundland. The periods covered by this report are: Academic year: September 2005 - August 2006; Fiscal year: April 2005 - March 2006.