IN THIS ISSUE

Letter from Kirk Anderson | Our dean writes about accomplishments in the faculty.

Faculty Council Recap | Featuring highlights and action items from winter, 2017

Faculty News and Events | Events, news, photos, dates and deadlines

MESSAGE FROM DR. KIRK ANDERSON, DEAN

Hi Everyone,

Yes, spring has arrived, though the weather is not exactly co-operating. But that’s life in this part of the world. We must be ready for the unexpected.

And that certainly is good advice on many fronts, as we deal with the province’s continuing fiscal instability and its impact on Memorial University.

Here in the Faculty of Education we are not immune from budget reality but we continue to move forward on many fronts, and there are bright spots. (Have a look at the good news that follows, with stories and pictures that highlight, for example, Dr. Sylvia Moore’s book launch in the TLC.)

We are building our reputation and capacity in international and Indigenous education. We have had success with the IBED program and the M.Ed. cohort in Labrador and we are growing our connections as we seek cooperation on programs in other countries.

Thanks to everyone for all their hard work over a blustery winter, 2016. I look forward to connecting with you on the sunny days to come.

Regards,
Kirk

Faculty Council Minutes, Winter 2017:

Dean’s Report:

Labrador: Dr. Anderson met with Dr. Ashlee Cunsolo, director of the Labrador Institute about creating a teaching term position based in Labrador, redefining the MOU with a research assistant hired by the LI and creating a visiting faculty arrangement with LI. They also discussed a second cohort of the IBED program and a new doctoral program based at LI;

Research Chairs: Dr. Anderson said he expects a call to go out soon for a Tier II Research Chair, which will give the faculty a chance to submit a proposal for a Chair in Aboriginal Education with the possibility of it being a multi-campus appointment.

Workload balance: Dr. Anderson expressed concern about faculty workload balance related to teaching, research and service.

Strength through Collaboration: Dr. Anderson encouraged all faculty members to refer to this document when reviewing programs or engaging in faculty-related work.

Faculty News and Events: Nice to meet you!

We apologize for not getting these little pictures and bios about new and recent additions to our faculty posted for you. So we’re playing a little catch-up. Meet three of our most recently faculty members
Dr. Kimberly Ann Maich is an associate professor at Memorial. She will be teaching courses in inclusion/special education, behaviour, and autism. Dr. Maich has studied, taught and lived coast to coast in Canada.

She has spent much of her career as a resource teacher, supporting student with exceptionalities. Dr. Maich most recently has taught, researched, and served undergraduates, graduate students, and professional educators at post-secondary institutions including Brock University, Fanshawe College, Western University and Nipissing University. She’s also worked with community agencies, and parents. Her primary interests lie in disabilities and special education, with a focus on autism spectrum disorders in inclusive school environments.

Dr. Christine Arnold is an assistant professor in the Faculty of Education, Post-Secondary Studies. Her research interests include the student experience in post-secondary education, with a focus on student affairs/services and student mobility/transitions.

Dr. Arnold has published and presented on a range of topics including: transformative education, teaching and learning, student affairs/services, credit transfer and prior learning assessments and degree granting, and quality assurance.

Dr. Alireza Moghaddam, assistant professor of Educational Technology, joined the Faculty of Education this past fall. Previously, he was an assistant professor of Educational Technology at Kharazmi University in Iran. Prior to that, he worked for the Ministry of Education as a schoolteacher and principal before joining the University of Western Ontario for his PhD in online collaborative education and knowledge construction.

The research he has been involved in over the last decade focuses on the design and applications of educational technologies with the involvement of teachers, graduate and undergraduate students as well as community members. His interests lie in the areas of instructional designing, technology applications, teachers’ collaboration and mathematics education.
Unique partnership features dory-building in the Technology Education Centre

“It’s keeping me alive ... seriously,” laughs Prof. David Gill who is finishing up work on his PhD and finding solace in time spent building a boat under the watchful eye of master boat builder Jerome Canning from the Wooden Boat Museum of Newfoundland and Labrador. “I’d be driven nuts if it wasn’t for this.”

“It was a very exciting project that represents an opportunity to connect our traditional technological knowledge and skills with the present generation’s technological knowledge and skills,” said Prof. Gill who teaches in the technology education program.

The Faculty of Education’s Technology Education Centre hosted with the Wooden Boat Museum of Newfoundland and Labrador for a seven-week dory-building workshop that is just wrapping up.

“It will help us lay the foundation for a mutually beneficial relationship between the technology education program and the Wooden Boat Museum.

“This project is a great example of our commitment to public engagement.”

“I’m building a boat in my basement,” said Mr. Canning. “But I’m really enjoying this because of the people.”

Over a dozen people including teachers and a Memorial University English professor have taken part in the workshop.

For several years, the Wooden Boat Museum in Winterton, Trinity Bay, has offered boat-building workshops with its community partners as a way of passing on traditional knowledge through experiential learning.
Open Studio, Open Hearts
Faculty partners on art hive for refugee and immigrant students

Suzanne McBride’s English as a second language (ESL) classroom undergoes a kind of transformation once a week.

If you climb the stairs to the second floor of Holy Heart of Mary High School in St. John’s on a Wednesday afternoon, you will hear the sounds of Iraqi, Bollywood and African pop tunes. Turn the corner and a buzz of activity inside this classroom-turned-pop-up art hive is revealed. (Check out the YouTube video: https://youtu.be/wqhWgAwQFuU)

Also known as The Open Studio Project, the pop-up art hive is a community open art studio that welcomes everyone as an artist, and where materials and space are provided. The program is a partnership between Memorial’s Faculty of Education and the English School District of Newfoundland and Labrador.

“The art hive is brilliant,” said Ms. McBride, who has worked with ESL students for many years at Holy Heart and jumped at the opportunity to partner with Dr. Leah Lewis, assistant professor, Faculty of Education, and project lead on The Open Studio Project. (Read more at http://www.mun.ca/educ/news.php?id=8790)

All around the Circle
Relationships come first at Bishop Field School
Grade Six students in Krista Goulding’s class sit in a circle in the wood-panelled library at historic Bishop Field School.

This is no ordinary day. It’s almost time for science fair and students are about to present their projects to children in the younger grades in this downtown St. John’s kindergarten-Grade Six school.
Ms. Goulding has called the students together in this circle to talk about how they’re feeling, and share any last-minute jitters. She invites them to speak, and hands go up.

Bishop Feild School is one of two in Newfoundland and Labrador piloting Relationship’s First: Restorative Justice in Education. It’s a consortium of partners in education and the broader community that’s led by Dr. Dorothy Vaandering, an associate professor in the Faculty of Education.

Dr. Vaandering launched the project in 2015, building on work from a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)-funded project, and the Faculty of Education’s EDGE 2013 Conference: Creating Direction for Peace and Justice.

“Relationships First culture works to uphold the worth and dignity of all who are involved,” said Dr. Vaandering who has a PhD in restorative justice and wanted to bring this way of being grounded in traditional Aboriginal culture to an educational context. “I’ve seen the devastation of harm, and the wonder of healing. I’ve seen both sides. Full story at www.mun.ca/edu

**Trickster chases the tale of Education**

**Dr. Sylvia Moore launches her first book**

Dr. Sylvia Moore recently launched her first book, *Trickster Chases the Tale of Education*, in the Faculty of Education’s Teaching and Learning Commons (TLC)

The book asks: What is the space in education in which Western worldviews and Indigenous worldviews can co-exist? It is based on collaborative research between Wildcat First Nation community members and the staff of North Queens Community School in Nova Scotia.

Trickster uses a narrative format to tell the story of a salmon project in the Wildcat community. Staff and students of the local school, located outside of Wildcat First Nation, were invited to the community to learn about salmon by watching the eggs develop, listening to Elders, and participating in the release of the hatched salmon into the Wildcat River.

"There is much work to do in Indigenous education and this book is part of my contribution to that work. It will be of interest to educators, preservice teachers, scholars, students and others wanting to learn more about Indigenous knowledge and its value in understanding the world," said Dr. Moore, who teaches in the Indigenous Bachelor of Education (IBED) program based at the Labrador Institute in Happy Valley-Goose Bay.

*Trickster Chases the Tale of Education* is published by McGill-Queen’s University Press. Sales from the book will go to the Wildcat First Nation Children’s Recreation Fund.

**Congratulations**

PhD student Fawaz Alqarni defends with distinction

Mr. Fawaz Alqarni successfully defended his PhD dissertation this past winter. He is now back in his home country of Saudi Arabia working with the Ministry of Education as an English language teacher in a public school in Makkah.
Mr. Alqarni’s research program in the Faculty of Education focused on Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL). He plans to work on developing the English language curriculum in the Directorate of Education in the Makkah region.

“Saudi Arabia is a young country that is trying to develop its education system and increase its literacy rate, while also adopting a variety of educational technologies,” he said.

“During my time at Memorial, my supervisor provided a lot of support, not just in the academic arena but also in the social and management aspects of my career.”

With encouragement from his supervisor, Mr. Alqarni published and presented papers at local and international conferences.