

Music and poetry

Gaelic arts are on the menu as the North American tour of *An Leabhar Mór* begins at the Sir Wilfred Grenfell College Art Gallery.

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Graduation day

It's the biggest day of the year for students finishing degrees at Memorial. Read about some of the outstanding students crossing the convocation stage.

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Research partners

Research into the devastating disease of breast cancer continues to be exceptionally important to the Faculty of Medicine.

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PHOTO BY JEFF GREEN

UP, UP AND AWAY A group of eight women from this province – including Marian Wissink, left, Department of Computer Science; Abigail Steel, a PhD student in engineering; and Dr. TA Loeffler, Human Kinetics and Recreation – are kicking off the summer in style. They're heading up Africa's Mount Kilimanjaro. They will be joined by alumni Wanda Highmore, Flora Seymour and Diane Rendell, as well as Leslie Grattan and Ann Marie Lane. The group hopes to summit on June 7.

Essential growth

Research gets \$5-million boost

BY MICHELLE OSMOND

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY researchers have received \$5,073,122 from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador through its Industrial Research and Innovation Fund (IRIF).

A number of research projects including insect behaviour, ocean habitats, pollution in the far North, physician retention, bone implants, the effects of nutraceuticals, birth defects, and hypertension will receive funding.

Announced May 14 on the St. John's campus, the 20 research projects have a total value of more than \$26 million leveraging \$5.14 for every dollar invested by the provincial government.

"Research and development is the basis for knowledge development and is essential in fostering innovative and competitive economies," said Trevor Taylor,

minister of Innovation, Trade and Rural Development.

"The provincial government is focused on strengthening research excellence and the R&D capacity of our universities and colleges."

Dr. Christopher Loomis, vice-president (research) at Memorial said this will go a long way to ensure our research continues to grow and remain a core function of the university. "It is essential to our growth as a major university in Canada, and our ability to attract the best minds," said Dr. Loomis. "Funding from the Industrial Research and Innovation Fund has transformed our ability to attract new federal and private sector investments in support of research and our graduate students. These projects, which are the latest examples of that success, will yield important benefits to the province, the country and indeed the world."

For a list of the projects awarded under IRIF, see http://today.mun.ca/news.php?news_id=3832.

CONVOCATION 2008

The art of medicine

BY SHARON GRAY

MONICA KIDD had a well-established career as a CBC radio reporter when she decided to become a doctor in order to have a more direct impact on people's lives.

It took three tries, but she was finally accepted as a medical student at Memorial and on May 29 will receive her MD. She'll continue at Memorial in a family medicine residency.

Her strength in artistic pursuits has followed Ms. Kidd through medical school. In 2006 she won a Gracie Allen Award from the American Women in Radio and Television for her radio documentary *A Map of the Body*. That year she also received an award from the William Carlos Williams poetry contest and last year her debut collection of poems, *Actualities*, was published. Recently her production *A Good Question* was featured on CBC's *Performance Hour*.

She's also contributed to the development of the humanities within the medical school, establishing an online database in Humanities, Arts and Medicine and serving as editorial co-ordinator of *Body of F(r)iction, Vol. II* of the collected works of MUN medical students.

Ms. Kidd said the medical curriculum was often a struggle for her, especially the sheer amount of material that had to be learned in first year. She broadened her experience with international medical electives in Slovakia, Haiti and most recently South Africa.



PHOTO BY HSIMS

Monica Kidd will graduate with her MD May 29.

see CONVOCATION on page 2

Historic date

Major celebrations planned for Bartlett anniversary

NEXT YEAR, THE PROVINCE will celebrate the 100th anniversary of Capt. Bob Bartlett's legendary arctic voyage with Robert Peary in 1909 and Memorial University plans to play an important role in this historic event.

Spearheaded by the provincial Historic Sites Association, the anniversary celebrations will touch hundreds of communities in Newfoundland and Labrador, especially Bartlett's home town of Brigus. The association is urging community groups as well as several units and schools in the university to get involved.

The association launched the public planning around the celebrations with a press conference at Signal Hill on April 23. Called Celebrating Bartlett 2009, one of the highlights is the Ports Program, which will see the Schooner Bowdoin travel to ports around

the province. The Bowdoin is an expeditionary schooner from the 1920s once owned by Donald B. MacMillan, who sailed with Bartlett and Admiral Robert Peary in 1906 and 1909.

Memorial is already involved in the Bartlett celebrations. In conjunction with the Historic Sites Association, the Department of Geography has developed a map of Bartlett's voyages, and have a Bartlett-themed symposium planned.

The Centre for Marine Simulation (CMS) at the Marine Institute has proposed to the Historical Sites Association that they simulate two sections of Bartlett's voyage in the Roosevelt as she carried Peary to the discovery of the North Pole. The first scenario would see ice navigation in the high Arctic while the second would be the arrival of the Roosevelt in Battle Harbour. This full mission simulation of the Roosevelt's voyage

will be available for tours during August/September 2009. The general public can come in and virtually experience the journey for themselves.

The year-long celebration of Bartlett's remarkable life will also include historical re-enactments, exhibits, and lectures.

Memorial units considering holding a Bartlett event should advise the Division of Marketing and Communications.

For more information, visit www.bartlett2009.com.

Student experiences deadly quake

BY DAVID SORENSEN

A FUN TRIP OF A LIFETIME to China for a recent graduate turned deadly serious when he was near the centre of an earthquake that rocked Sichuan Province on Monday.

Steven Bradley, 23, has been in China since April 21 as part of a long-planned vacation to celebrate the end of his business program.

"I was influenced by having been a conversation partner for several Chinese students and I was involved with international societies at MUN," he told the Gazette via e-mail. "My best friend also lives in Chengdu and I wanted to visit with him."

The first part of his tour included standard tourist stops like Disneyland in Hong Kong, the sites in and around Beijing including the Great Wall of China, and a climb up Hua Mountain in Xian.

His world literally turned upside-down when exchanging traveller's cheques in downtown Chengdu.

"At first I was shocked," he said. "It felt like the ground was crawling beneath my feet. Things around me started to topple and people were running and screaming. There was a flood of people into the street. I followed of course."

"When I made it to the centre of an intersection I stopped running and saw the chaos around me."

Mr. Bradley said the streets were quickly filled with people, where he gazed in shock as windows shattered around him, roofs and the wall of a smaller building collapsed.

"Several people (were) being carried away by a van,"

he said. "Many people had cuts and bruises on their faces and arms. I didn't get hurt myself but I had fallen over once when the first earthquake hit. I had seen one man particularly beaten up and later found out that he had jumped from a low window."

The BBC reports that almost 1,000 people died in Chengdu, a city of about four million about 60 kilometres from the quake's epicentre.

Things could have been worse. Mr. Bradley said he was supposed to be visiting Wenchuan – one of the worst-hit towns – when the 7.9 Richter scale earthquake hit, but decided against it at the last moment.

He said there were eight smaller aftershocks since the initial quake. The damage has killed thousands and injured as many as 100,000 people throughout Sichuan.

The Eastport native contacted his mother as soon as the quake occurred to put his family at ease before news of the catastrophe reached North America. If the airports re-open on time, Mr. Bradley said his plan is to return home May 21 and attend convocation where he will receive a bachelor of commerce (co-op) degree with a concentration in management information systems.

"I am determined to attend convocation," he said. "After graduation, I will be actively seeking a job in management information systems if I have not already found one."

And while he obviously never expected this life-changing experience when he first visited China, "I do not believe this will deter me from returning in the near future."

cont'd from CONVOCATION on page 1

Her darkest hour came in July 2006 when she and fellow medical student Steve Hunt were canoeing on the Kootenay River in British Columbia. During a lunch break, wind from a thunderstorm knocked a 500 pound tree onto Ms. Kidd, breaking her back. Passing boats helped them take their gear downriver so Mr. Hunt could paddle the empty boat and patient to the nearest community and travel on to the nearest hospital. It turned out her first lumbar vertebra was smashed and some of the bone was sticking into the spinal canal. It took three months in a back brace before she recovered.

But recover she did, and today she enjoys daily runs with her dog.

And to end the story on a happy note, she and Dr. Hunt, now a first-year orthopedic resident, will be married May 25.

Ms. Kidd is just one of the tremendous stories coming out of convocation 2008. More than 2,000 students are graduating at convocation in St. John's, May 27-30 and Corner Brook, May 16. To read more of their compelling stories, see pages 5-7.

OBITUARIES

Helen Parsons Shepherd

Helen Parsons Shepherd died on Friday, May 16, at the age of 85. Ms. Parsons Shepherd was an artist in St. John's, known for her commission portraits and her still-life paintings. She and her husband, the late Reginald Shepherd, played an important role in the post-Confederation art scene in this province. Ms. Parsons Shepherd received a fine arts degree from the Ontario College of Art in 1948. The Shepherds also operated the province's first art school, the NL Academy of Arts in St. John's, from 1949 to 1961. In 1988 the Shepherds received honorary doctor of laws degrees from Memorial at the opening of the School of Fine Arts at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College. Three years ago Helen's and Reginald's work was celebrated in a major exhibition at The Rooms, and in a book entitled *A Life Composed*. Known for her paintings of the political elite, Ms. Parsons Shepherd has painted many of the presidents of Memorial.

Gazette

EDITOR
David Sorensen

GRAPHICS
Jacqueline Baggs

REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS

Stephanie Barrett	Shannon O'Dea Dawson	Kelly Foss
Pamela Gill	Sharon Gray	Jeff Green
Janet Harron	Jackey Locke	Peter Morris
Ivan Muzychka	Jill Hunt	Marcia Porter
Courtney Griffin	Michelle Osmond	Meaghan Whelan
	Heidi Wicks	

STUDENT CORRESPONDENT
Jillian Terry

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
Kelly Oldford

PHOTOGRAPHY
Chris Hammond

ADVERTISING
David Sorensen
Telephone: 737-2143
E-mail: gazette@mun.ca

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Gazette, Room A-1024
Memorial University of Newfoundland
St. John's, NL A1C 5S7

Telephone: 737-2143 Fax: 737-8699
E-mail: gazette@mun.ca

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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.

Business students named national champs

ACE on a roll

BY MEAGHAN WHELAN

FOR THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW, ACE Memorial has earned title of “the most enterprising campus in Canada” and the opportunity to represent Canada in the Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) World Cup after a big win at a national competition.

Twenty-six business students represented Memorial in three different competitions; the SIFE Competition, the HSBC SIFE Financial Education Challenge and the TD SIFE Entrepreneurship Challenge. The teams were judged by top Canadian CEOs on the impact their projects have had on their communities in the past year. In both the SIFE Competition and the HSBC SIFE Financial Education Challenge, the teams won top honours.

“I’m confident these students will make the entire country proud.”

– Dr. Gary Gorman

This year, with more than 26,000 volunteer hours, the 86 members of the ACE Memorial team reinvested over a million dollars into Newfoundland and Labrador through 17 projects that impacted over 2,400 people.

In the SIFE Competition, ACE Memorial triumphed over 40 of the best student teams from universities and colleges across Canada to earn a berth at the SIFE World Cup in Singapore in October. The ACE Memorial SIFE team – Heather Comerford, Sarah Fisher, Michael Harris, Haroon Iqbal, Lisa Smart and Michael Wadden – won out against Mount Royal

College, Ryerson University, the University of Calgary and Wilfred Laurier University in the finals after three intense rounds of competition.

In the HSBC SIFE Financial Education Challenge team members Preston Aitken, Duncan De Young, Liam Kelly, Dana Noseworthy and Lauren Tobin impressed the judges with their programs which improve financial literacy, such as project BEGIN, a financial literacy program for high school students, and FLAGS, a new program for seniors currently under development.

Dr. Gary Gorman, dean of the Faculty of Business Administration, was in Toronto for the competition. “The students faced tough competition with professionalism and enthusiasm and I couldn’t be more proud of them,” he said. “As we once again look towards the worlds, I’m confident these students will make the entire country proud.”

Memorial University was also recognized at the competition with the Most Supportive Campus Administration Award. “The ACE Memorial students serve as an inspiration to the Memorial community and beyond,” said Dr. Eddy Campbell, acting president of Memorial University. “I strongly believe in the work they are doing and I know the entire Memorial community and indeed, the province, are behind ACE Memorial every step of the way as they once again represent Canada.”

Other members of the national exhibition team are Amanda Coish, Matt Crane, Johnathon Earle, Adam Fitzpatrick, MaryBeth Handrigan, Nick Hounsell, Adam Hiscock, Ann Jennings, Erica Lester, Arlene O’Keefe, Jessica Penton, Will Penney, Cassidy Quinton, Jessica Shannahan and Heidi Williams.

Feds helping Genesis hatch more tech companies

MORE NEW TECHNOLOGY companies will benefit from Memorial’s Genesis Centre thanks in part to an investment from the Government of Canada.

“The Genesis Centre also helps fulfill a role that we at Memorial take very seriously and that is our focus on community.”

– Dr. Christopher Loomis

Peter MacKay, minister of National Defence and minister of the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), announced May 3 that ACOA will provide more than \$423,000 for the Genesis Centre to carry out business development and mentoring activities with new and emerging Newfoundland and Labrador technology firms.

With the announcement, since January 2006 the Government of Canada has invested almost \$1.1 million in Memorial’s Genesis Centre.

“The Genesis Centre is a highly-regarded organization with a proven track record of helping young technology companies make a strong entry into the marketplace,” said Minister MacKay. “Through this investment, our government is building upon its past support for the Genesis Centre to help ensure it

continues its important work in mentoring up- and-coming technology companies in the province.”

Joining the minister at Memorial’s Inco Innovation Centre for the announcement was Dr. Christopher Loomis, vice-president of research for MUN, and David King, president and CEO of the Genesis Group.

“We are proud of the work that Genesis does to help boost the success of Newfoundland and Labrador technology-focused businesses. Because of the centre’s expertise and tremendous support, entrepreneurs have been able to realize their dreams, and in turn helped build a more prosperous Newfoundland and Labrador,” said Dr. Loomis. “The Genesis Centre also helps fulfill a role that we at Memorial take very seriously and that is our focus on community. Sharing our expertise and resources to build a stronger, healthier province is a critically important and vital part of our identity. We thank ACOA and the federal government for their generous support.”

Located at MUN’s St. John’s campus, the Genesis Centre is a support network for technology-based ventures seeking business guidance and capital. Admission to the Genesis Centre is competitive and restricted to entrepreneurs and businesses pursuing technology-based opportunities with high growth potential. Admission is based on an assessment of the entrepreneur, the technology and the growth potential of the business opportunity.

At the centre, businesses are provided with advice and expertise from mentors and advisory boards; helped with business plan development; given access to MUN’s

INBRIEF

Don Wright focus of Rooms exhibition

The Rooms Provincial Art Gallery is showcasing a series of local art by Don Wright from May 16 to July 6. A teacher and a co-founder of St. Michael’s Print Shop, Mr. Wright was an art specialist with Memorial’s Extension service from 1967 to 1983.

The exhibition is part of the Collections Focus Series, and is titled Don Wright: Of the Moment. It is the second in a series that showcases individuals who played a vital role in the development of visual art in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Some highlights of the exhibition include a tour of the exhibition by curator Caroline Stone on Wednesday, May 28, and a multimedia performance by Wright’s daughter Catherine Wright on Sunday June 8 and Wednesday June 11. For further details, see www.therooms.ca.

Volleyball coach named to Team Canada

The head coach of Memorial’s men’s volleyball team, Luke Harris, is heading to Central America this June as the assistant coach of the Canadian Junior National Team. Team Canada will participate in the Junior Continental Championship June 28 to July 6 in San Salvador, El Salvador.

Mr. Harris will travel to Winnipeg May 25-28 for the selection of the team. The top junior volleyball players from across Canada have been invited to participate in the camp. Mr. Harris said he is looking forward to the opportunity.

The head coach of the team is Canadian National Team assistant coach Chris Green and Mr. Harris said he hopes to learn a great deal from Mr. Green.

The purpose of the Junior National Team Program is to identify, select and train a group of young athletes who have future Senior National Team potential and offer them the opportunity to train and represent Canada in international competition at an earlier age.

BikeShare launched

Members of the Memorial community looking to get active just before summer all the while doing something good for the environment are in luck. The spring launch of BikeShare went ahead on Tuesday, May 20.

The concept is simple: participants borrow a well-maintained bicycle – donated by the greater community – to use for as little as a week or as long as semester.

The aim is to get more faculty, staff and students using pedal bikes instead of motorized vehicles.

The campaign is co-ordinated by MUN Project Green in partnership with the Atlantic Canada Chapter of the Sierra Club.

Membership is only \$15, part of which is returned at the end of the semester. Participants can also volunteer three hours with Project Green instead of paying the fee.

More information about BikeShare is available at www.mun.ca/projectgreen/Who/.

Writer-in-residence visits Labrador

From April 8 to 11, Michael Crummey went where no writer-in-residence has gone before.

Thanks to the initiative of Memorial University’s English Department Mr. Crummey enjoyed a full five days of intense activity in Happy Valley/Goose Bay and Labrador West. One of the highlights of the trip for Mr. Crummey was an informal meeting with a group of local writers.

“There were writers there at all stages – some who were writing as a hobby, others who were interested in how to get published. The discussion was all over the map ... which was great,” says Mr. Crummey.

The experience brought back his own excitement when author Kevin Major paid a visit to his high school in Labrador City.

“What a thrill it was to meet a writer from the place I was from, actually doing what it was I wanted to do.”

In addition Mr. Crummey read from his work at several well-attended formal events at the College of the North Atlantic and at the public library in both Happy Valley/Goose Bay and Labrador West.

His term as writer-in-residence was up at the end of April and Mr. Crummey has only positive things to say about the experience. He specifically mentions the level of professionalism in the work he saw from both the university community and members of the public.

see FEDS on page 8

Moving ahead

University continues to promote e-mail policy and Digital Campus Project

BY JEFF GREEN

BUILD IT and they will come.

That's the response the Department of Computing and Communications (C&C) is witnessing nine months into Memorial's new single e-mail policy.

But university officials are now reminding students – particularly those wanting to e-mail specific departments and units with questions over the summer – their e-mails must be sent through accounts with one of the official Memorial domain names – @mun.ca, @swgc.mun.ca or @mi.mun.ca – rather than Hotmail, Gmail or Yahoo! accounts.

The policy is a key component of the university's Digital Campus Project, a major initiative that will – in part – allow units and departments to seamlessly conduct electronic transactions, acquire and provide content and communicate with each other.

"C&C is very pleased with the student implementation – it is working very well," said Denise Jones, manager of the Project Management Office with the department.

"We are now moving on with the implementation of the policy for faculty and staff. A major part of this project will be communications with the university community – including focus sessions, general presentation and university-wide committees. Feedback from these venues will be incorporated into improving the central e-mail service. C&C is very pleased to be leading the university in this worthwhile initiative."

The department is emphasizing that the new policy is important because it provides Memorial with a formal, reliable and secure means of e-mail communication with students, faculty and staff.

C&C will be working with faculty and employees over the coming months to ensure that everyone has an official e-mail address compliant with the policy. It will also work with each of the other e-mail services on campus to help ease the conversion and move

see MOVING on page 8

NOTABLE

The outreach activities of Memorial's **Leslie Harris Centre of Regional Policy and Development** made the cover of the latest issue of *University Affairs* magazine. The prestigious publication aimed at Canada's university community featured a five-page article on the Harris Centre's regional workshops. The workshops, which are being held across the province four times a year, are designed to foster communication, and possible collaboration, between Memorial University researchers and the wider community. As part of its knowledge mobilization mandate, the Harris Centre is also hosting an international conference, Knowledge in Motion 2008, from Oct. 16-18 on Exploring the Role of Higher Education Institutions in Regional Development and Knowledge Mobilization – Learning What Works Best, From Each Other. To view the full article visit www.mun.ca/harriscentre/Misc/University_Affairs_May_2008.pdf.

Undergraduate chemistry students recently did the department proud at the APICS chemistry conference, Chemcon 2008, May 8-11 at St. Mary's University in Halifax. Of the five oral and eight poster presentations contributed by the 13 students attending the conference, four came away with prizes. Best oral presentation was awarded to **Jennifer Swyers**, organic chemistry, and **Nicole Rice**, macromolecular science and engineering, while best poster presentation was awarded to **Mark Tobin**, organic chemistry, and **Amy Reckling**, inorganic chemistry.

Derek Norman, St. John's filmmaker and current co-ordinator of the Digital Research Centre for Quantitative Fieldwork in the Faculty of Arts, has been named board member (film) for the Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council.

Dr. Fereidoon Shahidi, University Research Professor, Department of Biochemistry, is the recipient of the 2008 Distinguished Service Award from the American Chemical Society (ACS) in recognition of outstanding, dedicated and sustained service to the society's Agricultural and Food Chemistry Division. The award will be presented to Dr. Shahidi in August 2008 during its 236th meeting in Philadelphia. ACS is the largest scientific society in the world with over 160,000 members. Dr. Shahidi is also being recognized by the American Oil Chemists' Society (AOCS) by being inducted a fellow of the society. This award is in recognition of veteran AOCS members whose achievements in science are exceptionally important to the society and to the profession. Dr. Shahidi will receive this award during the 99th AOCS meeting in Seattle in May 2008.

Andrew Vickerson is one of three students in Canada chosen to receive a scholarship from the Aquaculture Association of Canada (AAC). Mr. Vickerson is currently completing a M.Sc. in Aquaculture at Memorial.

Celebrating Gaelic connections in western Newfoundland



An image from *An Leabhar Mòr*.

BY PAMELA GILL

A GALA EVENING of music and poetry, a literary and art colloquium and a traditional Ceilidh are just a few of the events being planned for the Gaelic Arts Festival June 12-18.

The festival will mark the beginning of the North American tour of *An Leabhar Mòr: the Great Book of Gaelic* exhibition at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College Art Gallery.

Sir Wilfred Grenfell College and its art gallery, in partnership with Pròiseact nan Ealan (The Gaelic Arts Agency), the Ireland Business Partnerships, Province of Newfoundland and Labrador (Thalamh an Éisc), and the Ireland Newfoundland Partnership, is pleased to be a part of the *An Leabhar Mòr* international tour.

This touring exhibition of contemporary art brings together the work of more than 200 poets, visual artists and calligraphers from Ireland and Scotland and is scheduled for exhibition at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College Art Gallery from June to September 2008.

"We seek to explore the shared traditions between Newfoundland and Labrador and the Gaelic cultures of Ireland and Scotland, and invite the

public to share with us in this momentous and historic occasion," said Dr. Holly Pike, acting principal of Grenfell College. "We are especially pleased that Grenfell College is the first stop on the North American tour of *An Leabhar Mòr*."

The festival is being organized by Grenfell College and community partners in western Newfoundland and Labrador. It will begin on June 12 with the book launch of *The Great Book*, which will be available for purchase, followed by the official opening of the gallery exhibition.

The official opening will also highlight a children's art exhibition featuring work created as part of an exchange between the Western Newfoundland School District and Gaelscoil Eoghan Uí Thuairisc in Carlow, Ireland.

Other events include an interdisciplinary colloquium with guest scholars; a gala evening of music and poetry; poetry readings; public workshops with visiting Irish artists; a traditional Ceilidh; and a series of community arts programs continuing throughout our week-long celebration of Gaelic culture.

For more information, visit www.swgc.mun.ca/artgallery/.

PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS

DR. NEIL BISHOP, Department of French and Spanish, presented a paper titled *Pluralisme et polysémie des pays hébertiens [Pluralism and Polysemicity of Countries and Regions in the Works of Anne Hébert]* in Quebec City May 5, at a conference titled *Les Lieux hébertiens*, part of the annual congress of the Association francophone pour le savoir, an international Francophone academic organization. The conference *Les lieux hébertiens* was organized by the Centre Anne-Hébert, based at the Université de Sherbrooke (Sherbrooke, Quebec) and involved presenters from Quebec, other Canadian provinces, Europe, the United States and South America.

DR. STEVEN M. CARR, Biology, gave an invited seminar at the Oceanology Institute of the Polish Academy of Science, Sopot, on April 28, 2008. His presentation, *Phylogeographic Genomics of Atlantic Cod: Pochodzenie "Babci Dorsz" i jej córek [Origins of "Granny Cod" and her daughters]*, explores the alternative hypotheses of a western and eastern origin of codfish, and a new biotechnology for the investigation of fisheries species of mutual interest to Canadian and Poles. Dr. Carr is collaborating with Polish scientists to examine the genomics of cod in the Baltic Sea and eastern Atlantic.

DR. DALE KIRBY, Faculty of Education, presented a paper titled *Higher Education in Canada: New Millennium, New Students, New Directions* at the 5th Global Conference on the Idea of Education which took place in Budapest, Hungary, May 8-10, 2008.

OUTSTANDING STUDENTS



Candice Pike

Passion to dance

BY PAMELA GILL

SINCE SHE WAS FIVE years old, dance has been Candice Pike's passion.

The Pasadena resident graduated from Grenfell College on May 16 with a social/cultural studies degree, one of 130 students at spring convocation ceremony at the Pepsi studio.

Ms. Pike's dance career has led her to teach for the last five years at Dance Studio West in Corner Brook. It's a pursuit that permeated her studies at Grenfell as well – her Social/Cultural studies 4950 independent study project focused on the sociology of males in dance – the privileges and “reverse affirmative action” that comes into play when men enter a predominately female world.

That study will now take Ms. Pike to York University, where she will pursue a two-year master's in dance beginning in the fall.

“It's mostly academic – there's no required studio work,” she explained. “It's interdisciplinary like social/cultural studies at Grenfell College.”

Her work at York will involve several areas, such as dance history and dance reconstruction, which involves studying the writings and stories of dances and bringing them “back to life,” she said, adding that it's all about re-creating culture.

“Grenfell has prepared me for this next step,” said Ms. Pike. “It's encouraged my work ethic; it's inspired me to be passionate about education.”



Luke Maddigan

Bridging success

BY KELLY FOSS

LUKE MADDIGAN always wanted to study geology, but after graduating from high school he discovered his grades weren't quite good enough to get him into Memorial University. Rather than give up on his dream, the St. John's student decided to enrol in MUN's bridging program, a second chance for students who missed the admission requirements by five per cent or less. Offered by the Division of Lifelong Learning, the program allows students who pass the 10-day intensive program to register for courses in the fall semester.

“The bridging program simply opened my eyes,” said Mr. Maddigan. “It was basically a two week review of some of the major topics you've learned throughout high school. But more importantly, it made students interact and that was always the hardest part for me – I was very shy before I first started university.”

Thanks to the bridging program, Mr. Maddigan is about to graduate with a B.Sc. (honours) in Earth Sciences and he's enrolled this fall to begin his master's. His studies have also enabled him to become more comfortable speaking in public and to large audiences.

His advice for students who find themselves in the same position as he was after high school?

“Don't overload yourself with work during your first few semesters,” said Mr. Maddigan. “If you're unsure which career you want to pursue only take three or four courses. There's no need to rush through your first year.”

“The more work you put into something the more you get out. Always take pride in your work and try not to settle for anything less than your best.”



Chantelle Burke

Ecologist finds career path

BY JANET HARRON

CHANTELLE BURKE has finally found her life's passion. She may have taken a circuitous route to get there, and she won't say exactly how long it took, but the Long Harbour native is thrilled to finally be graduating with a M.Sc. in cognitive and behavioural ecology.

“I came to Memorial University out of high school and I didn't have a clue what I was going to do,” said Ms. Burke. “I had an older sister who was doing an English degree so I did one too. But I came to realize it just wasn't for me.”

After graduation, Ms. Burke travelled and worked for various organizations. Nothing seemed to resonate except for a genuine interest in the environment.

“I've always been keen on learning about the environment and maintaining it in a caretaking role,” she said. “Finally I went back to school and did marine environmental psychology at the Marine Institute. The program was very interesting, but once again I wasn't sure if it was for me.”

The program did give her the flexibility to do a work term of her choosing, and by that time she had become familiar with the work of Dr. Bill Montevecchi, Memorial University's renowned bird researcher. That summer she began working with a PhD student of his, travelling to Funk Island to study the region's bird colonies, and was hooked.

“I became very interested in seabird research,” said Ms. Burke. “I was fascinated just understanding the marine system and how complicated and fragile it is. Through research you get to find the answers to what's happening with the system and how to protect it.”

She's been with Dr. Montevecchi ever since, first as a research assistant, then as a master's student. Her own research has continued into local bird populations, most recently the interaction between murrelets and capelin.

“It's funny, but what actually helped me a lot was my English degree,” said Ms. Burke. “When it came time to write about my research I felt good about it and I received a lot of positive feedback from my examiners. I know it was because of my experience in writing.”

Although she is about to graduate, she still has a position working with Dr. Montevecchi for another year and is actually considering continuing on for her PhD.

“My sister always laughs and says she never expected me to be going to remote seabird colonies, but I love it. It's been great!”

OUTSTANDING STUDENTS



The ACE of her class

BY MEAGHAN WHELAN

MANAGING 86 PEOPLE. Working with senior government officials to change legislation and develop new programming. Starting new programs that help seniors, immigrants, people with disabilities and at-risk youth. Representing Canada twice in a global competition. It sounds like a story about an exceptional grad until you find out that Heather Comerford did it all while completing her bachelor of commerce (co-op) degree.

When she came to Memorial, Ms. Comerford already knew she wanted to study business, but she didn't realize that her university career would take her around the world and back through ACE Memorial, a student group dedicated to entrepreneurship.

Since joining ACE, Ms. Comerford has excelled, earning the 2006 ACE Canada Project Manager of the Year Award and the John Dobson's Founder's Bursary for superior leadership.

In 2007, Ms. Comerford was named the incoming ACE Memorial president. Her responsibilities include ensuring that all 17 projects are running smoothly.

"Most of my time is spent on new initiatives. We all try to apply the skills we've learned in class, but it can be nerve-wracking. It's as risky as starting a new business, there is a possibility a project could fail."

So far that hasn't been a problem for ACE. Under Ms. Comerford's leadership, the team has secured new partnerships with organizations like Altius Minerals and Scotiabank, significantly expanded existing programs and started a variety of new projects for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians. Altius Minerals' donation was the single largest donation any SIFE Canada had ever received.

All of this success had led to some exceptional experiences. For two consecutive years, Ms. Comerford has represented Canada in the Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) World Cup, an international competition for student entrepreneurial teams. Earlier this month, the team won their third national title and will be once again representing Canada in the World Cup in 2008.

"To represent our entire country was something I never thought I'd be a part of but we certainly had the programs to do it," she said. "I'm really looking forward to representing Canada once more at the World Cup in Singapore."

After years of juggling the demands of the commerce program with ACE Memorial responsibilities, Ms. Comerford is set to graduate in the spring 2008 convocation.



Safe haven

BY JEFF GREEN

THE RECORD-BREAKING snowfalls that ushered in the winter of 2001 weren't the warmest welcome to this province, but Frank Worley and his family were quick to embrace St. John's.

Canada's east coast was a safe haven from the violence and conflict he experienced growing up in Freetown, Sierra Leone, in West Africa.

Now, in spite of those hardships and challenges, Mr. Worley is set to graduate from Memorial's bachelor of commerce (co-op) program and chart a new course in life.

"It was a big shock moving here in 2000," Mr. Worley, said with a wide smile recently. "Mainly because that winter we had a lot of snow. One of my first memories is that it was cold. Very cold. I had never seen snow before, only on TV. But we certainly felt a lot safer, though."

Safer because he grew up in the midst of the Sierra Leone Civil War, which began in 1991; things were volatile, there was constant fighting and gunshots were becoming all too familiar.

Tens of thousands of people were killed during combat while more than two million were displaced, including Mr. Worley, his parents and his two sisters. The war was eventually declared over in 2002 not before he and family took up roots here in this province.

"Before we came here we lived in Gambia for a while. The war was still going on so we applied for this resettlement program and came to Canada. I didn't know where Newfoundland was. I had to get used to all the snow and how fast people talked," he said with a laugh. "But we managed. We moved to St. John's in 2000 and I started university in 2003."

Five years later, he's ready to cross the convocation stage and proudly accept his degree.

"University has been great for me," he noted, adding the Harlow Program, which he completed last winter, still stands out as one of his highlights. He has also completed several work terms both in this province and Florida. He hopes to start working towards his chartered accountant's certification in the coming months, too.

"I'm grateful my family and I are safe," Mr. Worley said. "Maybe one day I'll return to Sierra Leone to visit but right now I'm just going to concentrate on getting a job."



Lured back to Labrador

BY JEFF GREEN

DESPITE SOME OF Andy Turnbull's freshmen classes being nearly the same size as his hometown, the energetic Arts student still managed to navigate his way through those hectic first semesters.

Indeed, he not only adjusted to university life after uprooting and moving from Labrador's south coast to St. John's, but quickly embraced university and a language he had never studied before.

"I had no intentions of studying French as I did not complete French immersion – or any French – in high school," said Mr. Turnbull, who hails from Charlottetown, Labrador, which has a population of roughly 350. "But I realized that I really enjoyed learning a second language and decided to concentrate on this area."

He also took a keen interest in business and entrepreneurship – an area of study he's fostering even more these days. That's because Mr. Turnbull – a proud member of the Labrador Métis Nation – has been lucky enough to land a job not only in his field but in Labrador even before he crosses the convocation stage next week. He graduates with a bachelor of arts degree with a major in French and a minor in business administration.

He recently became the business development officer with the Métis Business Centre in Happy Valley-Goose Bay.

"My job is to help people in Labrador, more specifically aboriginals, to start their own business or expand an existing one," he explained. "I get to interact with entrepreneurs in all stages of their business development and help them along the way – whether its writing a business plan or applying for financing."

Coming from a small rural community – there were only 10 students in his graduating class – and moving to St. John's did involve a learning curve, but Mr. Turnbull met those challenges head-on. He got involved in campus groups and rolled up his sleeves to help plan orientation.

He also signed up for the Frecker Program, which is offered through the Faculty of Arts. He spent a semester living on St-Pierre-Miquelon with a French family and experiencing their culture and traditions first-hand. He considers the semester "the best experience" of his life.

"MUN was a definitely a challenge, but I enjoyed every minute of it," added Mr. Turnbull who is also five courses away from completing his bachelor of business administration. "Although I am graduating, I see this as the beginning and not the end of my university education."



Kimberly Young and her son Aiden

Mother and son celebrate graduation

BY SHARON GRAY

AIDEN YOUNG is very proud of his mom, Kimberly Young, who is graduating with her nursing degree May 30. He'll be in the audience and also attending the dinner and dance for the nursing class of 2008.

Ms. Young decided to go back to university to study nursing when Aiden was in Grade 1. She had already completed three years towards a science degree, and after the experience of childbirth became interested in pursuing a career in nursing.

When Aiden finishes Grade 4 in June, they will move to Ms. Young's hometown of Marystown. She has a job lined up and said it will be good for both of them to be near her parents.

The most difficult part of being a single mother during the past four years was daycare, said Ms. Young. "Sometimes my clinical course would run until 7:30 p.m. and I had to rely on my sister or friends to pick Aiden up."

Despite the demands on her time, Ms. Young managed to volunteer as president of the Nursing Society last year and co-ordinate the Nursing Charity Ball. This year she is vice-president of her graduating class.

"Looking back I don't know how I did it all," she said. "The academics were challenging but I studied and kept up. I found many of the faculty members were supportive of my situation."

The biggest challenge, said Ms. Young, was keeping up with Aiden's homework and school projects. She's looking forward to her new life in Marystown and spending more time with son and parents.



Future looks bright

BY SHANNON O'DEA DAWSON

ADRIANA CASTANO looks radiant as she prepares for graduation. Five years prior, to the day, she fled the violence and political instability in Columbia with her two children, now ages 12 and 13. She didn't know then the bright future she would make for her family in Newfoundland.

"Memorial has provided a great foundation for me and my two children" reflects Ms. Castano. "I have accessed many resources at Memorial and the professors have really helped me. There are opportunities that exist here that weren't available in Columbia."

She recognizes the many people who have contributed to the success of her studies.

"Without a network of people to help, none of this would have been possible."

Ms. Castano will graduate with a bachelor of arts degree majoring in sociology and classics on May 27. This complements her degree in languages from Columbia and her previous experience as a high school languages teacher in Columbia. She is fluent in Spanish, English and French.

While hoping to continue her education in women's studies and working in the humanitarian field, specifically working with women, she is focused on her children and the debt incurred while completing her BA.

She has decided to work to re-pay her student loans and then continue her education.

"I think responsibly about debt and want to be a model for other immigrants who come to seek a better life," stresses Ms. Castano. "It's been a different kind of poverty, not merely financial, when you come to a new place, with no family or support. I resolved to begin again."

Last May, Ms. Castano met her fiancé, Shyam Kutty, at the multicultural women's organization of Newfoundland and Labrador. His mother is very involved with this group helping immigrants adjust to Canada. They are being married on July 12 and hope for sunshine. Ms. Castano has not seen her family for five years, as they remain in Columbia. She has become close with other Columbian families in St. John's who celebrate Independence Day and other seasonal events together, helping her feel connected to her culture.

To top off her wonderful year, on July 1 Ms. Castano will become a Canadian citizen.



Official whirlwind

BY JANET HARRON

OLIVIA HEANEY is a true whirlwind of activity. The Mount Pearl native and English (honours) student who graduates on May 27 already has a six-page-long CV of accomplishments and honours.

With a GPA average of 3.97, Ms. Heaney has graced the Faculty of Arts Dean's List twice, in 2004-2005 and in 2006-2007. She has won several awards including the 2008 SSHRC J. Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship, the 2008 Dr. Madeline Darte Scholarship in English, the 2007 English Language and Literature Book Prize for Academic Excellence, the 2007 wave Jamie Morry Memorial Scholarship, and the 2005 Dr. Edward Russell Scholarship in English.

Dr. Danine Farquharson is a huge fan. "Olivia is the most committed, enthusiastic, passionate student I have ever encountered. Her love of life and learning might have its roots in books and poetry, but she takes everything in which she believes outward: to peers, to the university community, to the broader community. She epitomizes what we love to celebrate in our students: intelligence, warmth, dedication, and enthusiasm."

Academic accomplishments aside, it is the width and breadth of Ms. Heaney's volunteer and work experience that is truly extraordinary. Within the Memorial University community alone, Ms. Heaney developed a new program to aid in easing the transition between high school and university, acted as fall 2006 orientation co-ordinator (including co-writing the theme song *Become* which has since been performed at various university events), worked as communications assistant for the Faculty of Business Administration and as assistant co-ordinator for the Canadian Association of Irish Studies National Conference.

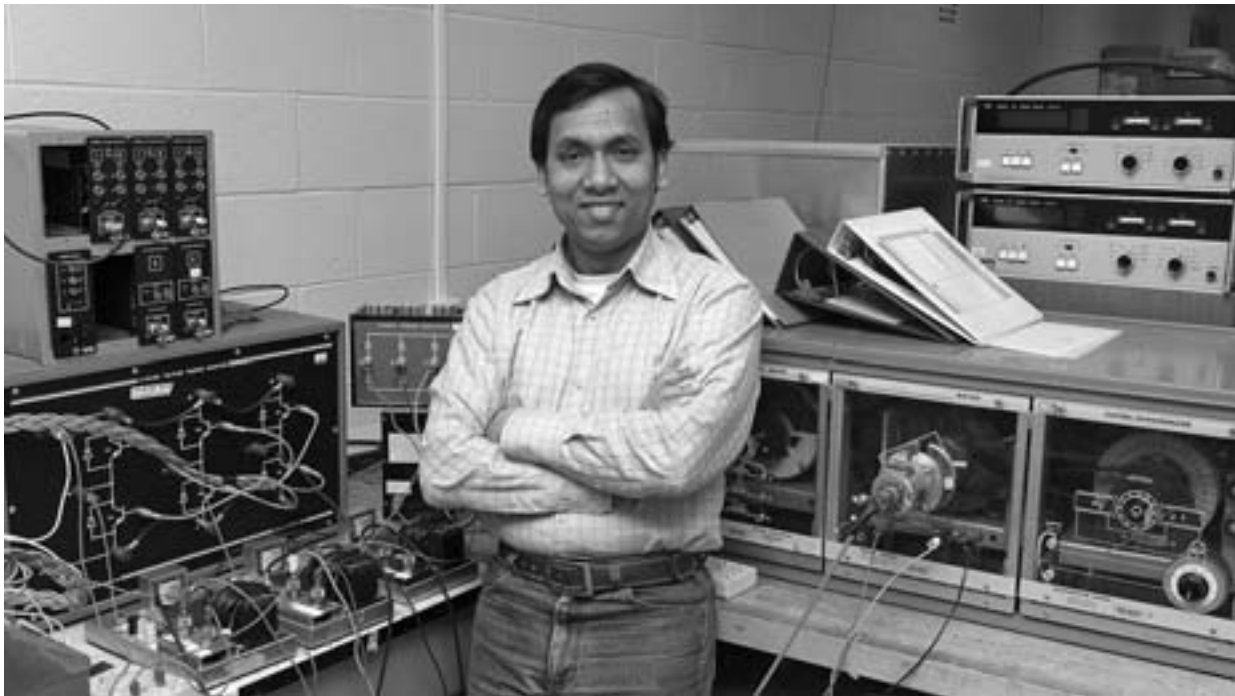
Her volunteer activities are wide-ranging and diverse, ranging from singing and playing guitar for various charities and organizations to executing leadership workshops for high school students. At the moment, Ms. Heaney's pet project is *Nurture for Natuashish*, a partnership between the Labrador Friendship Centre and the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation to establish an art camp in June 2008 for the children of Natuashish.

Ms. Heaney has been accepted into the MA (English) program at Memorial and will begin graduate studies in September 2008. She hopes to pursue an academic career but, not surprisingly, doesn't rule out doing more than one thing. "Is a career combination of academic, law, publishing, and PR out of the question?" she laughed.

One can only speculate with wonder on what Olivia Heaney's CV might look like within the next 10 years.

OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

Searching for opportunity



Abdesh Khan

BY JACKIE LOCKE

WHEN ASKED WHY he chose to study engineering, Abdesh Khan, now a third-year PhD student at Memorial's Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science, said it was because the opportunities and impacts of engineering in real life are endless. But for Mr. Khan, the opportunities and impacts in his personal life have been equally as incessant.

Before coming to Memorial to complete graduate studies with university fellowship, Abdesh completed his bachelor's degree in electrical and electronic engineering from the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology in 2004. He says life in St. John's is very different than his former home.

"Life in St. John's is easier and faster than life in Bangladesh," he said. "I did not notice frequent power blackouts and traffic jams in St. John's. These are very common in Bangladesh. I also like the rules and regulations for public safety and security. In Bangladesh, there is corruption."

But even though life in Canada, and life at Memorial, has been a very positive and rewarding experience for Mr. Khan, the one thing missing is his family.

"I miss my mom and dad very much. My mom is a great cook. They have been encouraging me all through my life, and I miss their encouragements. I see them once every two years. I have a sister in Bangladesh, who is also a well-wisher for me. I got married in 2006. My wife joined with me on May 2007."

But, despite the sacrifices, he is happy he came to study engineering at Memorial, where he says the focus is on practical learning and the interaction between students and faculty is better than it was at the University in Bangladesh.

"The power research group in the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science at Memorial University is one of the best research groups in the area of power engineering with a lot of opportunities, and I wanted to pursue my graduate studies in power engineering. I was selected in this group with fellowship and assistantship," said Mr. Khan.

He finished his master's in electrical and computer engineering in June 2006 where he completed five courses and a research-based thesis on designing and implementing a diagnostic and protection technique for permanent magnet synchronous motors. And, as a PhD student, he continues to do fascinating research

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cont'd from **MOVING** on page 4

accounts and data to the official e-mail addresses. As with the student project, there will be a self-service process for faculty and staff to choose a new e-mail address such as firstname.lastname@mun.ca.

More information for faculty and staff will be issued in the coming months. Notices and advertising will be placed in Memorial publications and a poster campaign will be launched.

cont'd from **FEDS** on page 5

technical and scientific resources; and provided office space and equipment. These supports help increase the likelihood, rate, and degree of success of the companies. The centre is operated by the Genesis Group Inc., the commercialization arm of Memorial University.

Many well-known, successful Newfoundland and Labrador companies have graduated from the Genesis Centre including Rutter Technologies Inc., Genoa Design International Ltd, Verafin Inc., and MedicLINK Systems Ltd.

To learn more about the new single e-mail policy visit www.mun.ca/finance/policies_procedures/single_email_policy.php, while more information about the Digital Campus Project is online at www.mun.ca/digitalcampus/. Anybody with questions on either project can contact the Computing and Communications Help Centre, located in room HH-2012, at 737-4595 or help@mun.ca.

ACOA's investment of \$423,891 is being provided through the Business Development Program (BDP), which provides funding to commercial, non-commercial and not-for-profit organizations that provide a service to business in areas such as entrepreneurship development, marketing, training or technology transfer. Additional funding of \$164,250 is provided by MUN, and \$74,540 is provided by clients.

Solution to identity crisis in contemporary society?

Collaborative research



Rose Neville gets comfortable in the north

BY HEIDI WICKS

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH may be an issue much higher on the radar in the coming years.

Rose Neville is a PhD candidate in the Faculty of Education, and the principal of a primary school in Labrador. She is interested in examining the university landscape for new modes of research, which includes the hope that academic researchers will become more engaged in community-collaborative research.

"There's a changing topography of the research enterprise," she explained. "If you look at some of the documents that are coming out from SSHRC, they suggest that globalization, the knowledge economy, rapidly advancing technology are pushing universities to re-think their role in society. They can no longer be ivory towers or disengaged from the community and economy. They are called upon to be the heart of both."

There is also a growing pressure from financial institutions, regarding funding for university research endeavours.

"More so than ever, there's a use of service learning activities, in terms of developing programs that give students real-world experiences. So, universities have to rethink their contract with society by considering some important questions, which come out of the SSHRC document," she maintained.

"Enter on the scene, collaborative research," said Ms. Neville. "It has a role to play in what SSHRC is suggesting. There is a call to integrate research and practice. It's not a method, but an orientation to research that may include any number of qualitative and quantitative methodologies. It's an overarching trend. The CURA project here in the Faculty of Education has a number of different studies that use both methodologies."

Other countries have used collaborative research successfully.

Holland has implemented science shops – university-based research centres that assist community organizations in environmental and social research. Citizens and organizations come to these science shops with questions or issues for which they need research help. There are over 60 of these shops in Europe.

The United States has non-profit institutes like the Loka Institute, which has built a diverse network of academic centres using the community based research (CBR) model. The goal is to develop a decentralized system of CBR.

Canada's SSHRC-CURA models are building on Holland's Science Shop model, and Memorial's Faculty of Education is contributing to that development. For more information on CURA research at Memorial, visit www.killickcentre.ca.

A passion for breast cancer research



From left, Drs. Cathy Popadiuk, Sheila Drover and Jane Green are all involved in breast cancer research.

BY SHARON GRAY

WHILE KEENLY AWARE of the importance for state-of-the-art breast cancer diagnostic tools and treatments for patients in Newfoundland and Labrador, research into this devastating disease continues to be exceptionally important to three members of the Faculty of Medicine. They not only do research on breast cancer, but they are involved with the Canadian Breast Cancer Research Alliance (CBCRA), which held its fifth scientific conference, Reasons for Hope, in Vancouver at the end of April.

Dr. Cathy Popadiuk, a gynecologic oncologist, is a board member of the CBCRA, and genetic researcher Dr. Jane Green sits on the organization's research advisory committee. Immunology researcher Dr. Sheila Drover was also invited to the conference to make a presentation on some of her basic research funded by the CBCRA. Dr. Green also made a presentation on the identification of breast cancer mutations in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The three women are enthusiastic about the alliance, and speak highly of its role in ensuring that breast cancer research is a high priority for government funding.

"This is a huge, dynamic group of individuals and what is really special about it is that the survivor community is represented heavily in everything the Canadian Breast Cancer Research Alliance does," said Dr. Popadiuk.

Among survivors at the April conference were Julie

Bettney, a former cabinet minister and member of the House of Assembly; Nina Burford of Labrador City, who co-chaired the session on metastasis; and retired faculty members Dr. Pat Roberts and her husband Dr. Roy West, a past president of the Newfoundland and Labrador Division of the Canadian Cancer Society.

"This is a huge, dynamic group of individuals and what is really special about it is that the survivor community is represented heavily in everything the Canadian Breast Cancer Research Alliance does."

As an immunologist, Dr. Drover's work is most affected by the current shortage of pathologists since some of them have directly contributed to her studies on the immune response in breast cancer patients. "I started off studying an association of histocompatibility molecules with autoimmunity and wondered if the same molecules affected the immune response to cancer." Some of Dr. Drover's research in this area has been published. She said this would have been impos-

sible to accomplish without her longtime research assistant, Dianne Codner, and her graduate students – especially Dr. Sharon Oldford – and pathologist Dr. Desmond Robb, now deceased. Her current focus is examining how the immune system sometimes makes a desirable response while in other cases turns on an immunosuppressive response.

"We are analyzing the expression of histocompatibility molecules on the breast tumour cells, and the types of T-cells directly in breast cancer."

Dr. Green's work in hereditary cancer research deals with genetic linkages and finding mutations in high risk families in collaboration with molecular geneticist, Dr. Terry-Lynn Young. "My role is collecting records so we have a proper clinical description of families," said Dr. Green. The actual pattern of cancers besides breast cancer may be quite different – for example, some families have a significant amount of ovarian cancer, others gastric or duodenal cancer. We need that information to develop clinical screening protocols for members of each family."

When high risk families are identified the genetic material, DNA, is studied by Dr. Young who has found 15 different mutations in the breast cancer families they have studied. Each family has a different mutation. "There is minimal founder effect seen, unlike in hereditary colorectal cancer where we have identified clusters of families with the same mutation," said Dr. Green.

Using basic science concepts found in the lab, Dr. Popadiuk has teamed up with Dr. Ken Kao of the Terry Fox Cancer Research Laboratory to study cancer problems she was encountering in her clinic. "Dr. Kao and I received funding to examine a molecular mechanism common to both breast and ovarian cancer," she explained. "Those data have now been published, highlighting the hard work of our team, including research associate Phillip Andrews and grad student Mark Kennedy." Other researchers in the Division of BioMedical Sciences – Drs. Laura Gillespie, Gary Paterno and Ken Hirasawa – are also funded for breast cancer research.

The three researchers all emphasize the important of funding from organizations like the CBCRA not only for research but for training new young scientists. Partners in the Canadian breast Cancer Research Alliance commit at least \$1 million dollars per year for five years towards breast cancer research. These partners include the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, the Canadian Cancer Society, the National Cancer Institute of Canada, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Health Canada, the Public Health Agency of Canada, the Canadian Breast Cancer Network and the Avon Foundation.

NEWS & NOTES

For more information about the items below, contact Elizabeth Noseworthy at the Office of Research, 737-8251, or e-mail elizaben@mun.ca.

Listed below is a selection of the funding opportunities for which information has recently been received by the Office of Research. For links to further information on these items, visit Grant Funding Opportunities on the Research website at www.mun.ca/research/overview/grant_opp.php.

- Canadian Hemophilia Society/Association of Hemophilia Clinic Directors of Canada Homeostasis Fellowship Award
- Canadian Orthopaedic Foundation's Research Grants/Awards
- CFI Leading Edge and New Initiative Funds Competition 2009
- CIHR Catalyst Grant: Prevention and Treatment of Illicit Substance Use
- CIHR Doctoral Research Award: Physiotherapy and Mobility in Aging
- CIHR Grant: Gender, Mental Health and Addictions
- CIHR Grants: Meetings, Planning and Dissemination
- CIHR Operating Grant - Healthy Living and Chronic Disease Prevention
- Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario Endowed Chair in Population Health Research
- Janeway Research Advisory Committee
- NSERC Collaborative Research and Training Experience (CREATE) Program
- NSERC Strategic Network Grants Program
- PRAC Asset Integrity in Atlantic Canada

Imminent deadlines

July 1

International Union Against Cancer – Yamagiwa-Yoshida memorial UICC international cancer study grants.

July 2

Canadian Blood Services – postdoctoral fellowship.

July 15

Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International – research grants; career development awards.

July 31

Rhodes University – Hugh Kelly fellowship.

Labrador connections

Harris Centre helps identify how to assist region's growth



PHOTO BY JEFF GREEN

As part of the Harris Centre's meetings in Central Labrador earlier this month, Memorial representatives also toured North West River visiting the Labrador Heritage Museum and the Labrador Interpretation Centre. Here, Perry Michelin, right, a local hunter and member of the Labrador Heritage Society, gives a guided tour to Dr. Frederick White, left, associate dean of Arts, Research and Graduate Programs, and Mike Clair, associate director, Public Policy, with the Harris Centre.

BY JEFF GREEN

WITH MORE THAN 70 active projects taking place throughout Central Labrador, Memorial is making a big impact – and strong links – with communities in the heart of this province's Big Land.

That was one of the messages that hit home earlier this month during a special one-day conference and workshop held by the Harris Centre in Happy Valley-Goose Bay.

Community groups, government officials, aboriginal organizations, local municipal leaders and artists came to hear about the type of work Memorial is doing in Labrador and to help identify new opportunities for social and economic development.

It was all part of a public meeting the Harris Centre held in co-ordination with the Central Labrador Economic Development Board. Similar meetings are being conducted in eastern, western and central parts of the island.

During the workshop, held on May 14, people heard about some of the current Memorial activities in the region and then broke into small groups to discuss how Memorial could collaborate with the region and zero in on key areas of growth.

Participants focused on areas such as health care, northern research and education, natural resources, as well as cultural tourism, talking about everything from the development of organic farms to expanding the forestry sector to promoting Aboriginal products and art to distance education.

Dr. Rob Greenwood, director of the Harris Centre, said the workshop was a great brainstorming session, helping map out not only Memorial's work in the area but also how its experts and researchers could help certain sectors grow.

"We had great participation from Memorial faculty, staff and students, who worked with community representatives to make the most of current Memorial activities in the zone and to identify new opportunities for collaboration," he noted.

Dr. Greenwood said an action report from the workshop will be compiled and staff from the Harris Centre will travel back to Central Labrador to discuss priorities for the zone.

"We had great participation from Memorial faculty, staff and students, who worked with community representatives to make the most of current Memorial activities in the zone and to identify new opportunities for collaboration."

"These regional workshops are just the start of a process to build on current activities. We work with community stakeholders, businesspeople, college representatives and others, to develop specific projects in partnership with Memorial faculty, staff and students," he added. "This is a very practical, managed process that aims to maximize the enormous benefits of Memorial teaching, research and outreach in the zone."

Meanwhile, the public workshop wasn't the only event the Harris Centre held while in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. A public forum was also held examining

Labrador Institute part of the solution

BY JEFF GREEN

FUELLING MANY of the research and public outreach projects taking place in the Big Land is Memorial's Labrador Institute, long considered the university's window into the region.

With offices in both Happy Valley-Goose Bay and Labrador City, the institute is mandated to help promote collaboration, outreach, research and education in Labrador.

Its five full-time staff members help link communities to researchers in the fields of pure and applied sciences, social sciences, arts and languages as well as in health research and education.

Since January of this year, the institute has helped more than 100 projects – ranging from collaboration and outreach to research and education – get off the ground.

"These are projects currently on go, recently completed or ones that will soon start," said Dr. Keith Chaulk, who took over as director of the institute six months ago.

"For example, the Labrador Institute has had a long tradition of working with the arts community and we help with the Labrador Creative Arts Festival, the Lake Melville Music Festival and the Labrador West Music Festival."

The institute also recently helped coordinate and organize a conference on climate change held in North West River and it has completed a term as interim regional co-ordinating office for Labrador for the International Polar Year.

"People have had a really positive feedback to what we've been involved with," said Dr. Chaulk. "In many cases we do enrich the lives of Labradorians through this work."

As for the immediate future, Dr. Chaulk said the Labrador Institute will continue working with community groups and researchers and expanding on its mandate.

"I'd like to find new ways to deliver university-level programming in Labrador beyond the first-year courses. I see that as the real focus for us in the future," he said.

aboriginal governance in Labrador. It included presentations by Dr. Larry Felt, a sociology professor at Memorial, as well as Dr. David Natcher, the former Canada Research Chair in Aboriginal Studies at Memorial who is now based in Saskatchewan. Peter Penashue, deputy grand chief of the Innu Nation, and Ernie McLean, the deputy mayor of North West River, also took part in the presentation.

Bassler book claims writer's prize



Dr. Gerhard Bassler

DR. GERHARD BASSLER'S *Vikings to U-Boats: The German Experience in Newfoundland and Labrador* was named the winner of the Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador 2007 Heritage and History Book Award. The award was announced during an Atlantic Book Awards reading in St. John's May 15.

"I'm very excited about winning this award," said Dr. Bassler, adding he was especially pleased to have made a contribution to the history and heritage of Newfoundland and Labrador that looks into a previously unexplored part of our culture and society.

Mark Callanan, president of the Writers' Alliance,

pointed out the value of works like Dr. Bassler's.

"The artistic preservation of our history and heritage is a noble undertaking," said Mr. Callanan. "Where we come from, what we have done and been – these are the precedents that define us as a culture. Writers like Gerhard Bassler, by acting as keepers of our history and heritage, are integral to the development of this province; we congratulate him on his work and thank the Historic Sites Association for sponsoring this award."

The award was presented by Joan Ritcey, vice-chair of the Historic Sites Association, which sponsors the award. The judges for this award were Lori Savory and JoAnne Soper-Cook.

Dr. Bassler is professor *emeritus* in the Department of History and has written extensively on German-speaking migrations to Newfoundland/Labrador and Canada. He is also the author of *Sanctuary Denied*, *Alfred Valdmanis and the Politics of Survival* and is currently completing a book on post-Second World War German migrations to Canada.

Vikings to U-Boats also won the 2007 Rogers Cable Non-fiction Award last spring.

Sponsored by the Historic Sites Association and administered by the Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Heritage and History Book Award is awarded to a work of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, or children's/young adult literature that exemplifies excellence in the interpretation of the history and heritage of Newfoundland and Labrador. The Historic Sites Association sponsors this award as a way to demonstrate appreciation for those writers whose exploration of their culture and heritage has shaped their writing.

The Heritage and History Book Award was first presented in 2004 and is awarded annually. The winner

receives a \$250 cash prize. Past award winners include talented authors Michael Crummey, Maura Hanrahan, and Robin McGrath. Currently, the shortlist is selected from among those books submitted to the Newfoundland and Labrador Book Awards.

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on the design and implementation of an intelligent wavelet controller based permanent magnet synchronous motor drive for electric and hybrid electric vehicles.

"High-reliability, high-efficiency, and power-density are key factors for electric propulsion of electric and hybrid electric vehicles. I have developed a wavelet-based intelligent controller for permanent magnet motor drives in electric and hybrid electric vehicles. This controller can provide high-efficiency, optimum power density, and reliability in fuel-efficient and environmentally-friendly electric and hybrid electric cars," he explained.

And even though the most rewarding thing when it comes to his research is getting published in scholarly peer-reviewed journals and conference proceedings, Abdesh says life at Memorial has given him many exciting and challenging opportunities. From working as a teaching assistant to research assistant to publishing 21 papers to becoming involved with many technical and social communities, this budding engineer is just getting started.

And what has been his favourite part? Why graduating at Memorial's October 2006 convocation with his master's degree, of course.

OUTANDABOUT... <http://today.mun.ca>

Thursday, May 22

International Day for Biological Diversity Lecture: Goods from Our Woods 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Botanical Garden, 306 Mount Scio Road.

Worklife Programs Office, Department of Human Resources, presents Stress Relaxation Techniques 12-1 p.m. University Centre, UC-3018.

Friday, May 23

David Hawkins Lecture in the Health Sciences features Dr. Philip Halloran, director of the Alberta Transplant Applied Genomics Centre, with a lecture titled Read Biopsies with Microarrays: A New Era in Disease Understanding 12-1 p.m. Faculty of Medicine, Main Auditorium.

PhD oral defence of Clifford Guy, Faculty of Medicine, titled Intrahepatic Innate Immunity in Hepadnaural Infection in the Woodchuck Model of Hepatitis B 2-4 p.m. IIC-1004, Inco Innovation Centre.

Saturday, May 24

Members of the Newfoundland Horticultural Society present Spring Flower Show at the Botanical Garden 12-5 p.m.

Sunday, May 25

Signs of Spring Family Fun Day 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Botanical Garden.

Spring Flower Show continues at the Botanical Garden 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Tuesday, May 27

Native Plants Gardening Workshop with instructor is Todd Boland, research horticulturist, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Botanical Garden.

Spring convocation at the St. John's campus begins 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Arts and Culture Centre. Memorial University's 98th session of convocation will take place in eight sessions over four days at the Arts and Culture Centre. See www.mun.ca/convocation.

Instructional Development Office presents Critical Thinking – Student Learning Progression with Dr. Jenny Moon, Bournemouth University Centre for Excellence in Media Practice, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. ED-2030B, Education Building.

Wednesday, May 28

Spring convocation continues on the St. John's campus 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Arts and Culture Centre.

NL Forestry Training Association presents From our Woods - Non-timber Forest Products of Newfoundland and Labrador 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. University Centre, 3rd Floor.

Instructional Development Office presents Journaling to Support Academic Work by Dr. Jenny Moon, Bournemouth University Centre for Excellence in Media Practice, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. ED-2030B, Education Building.

Thursday, May 29

Spring convocation continues 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Arts and Culture Centre.

Worklife Programs Office, Department of Human Resources, presents Creating Balance in Your Life 12-1 p.m. University Centre, UC-3018.

Friday, May 30

To Each His Own: public symposium to mark the formation of the Fisherman's Protective Union 7:30-10 p.m. The Factory, Port Union.

What if there really are two types of people? With Dr. Kevin Kelloway, Sobey School of Business, St. Mary's University, 2:30-4 p.m. Business, BN-3007.

Sunday, June 1

Sunday Nature Hikes at the Botanical Garden 10-11:30 a.m.

Thursday, June 5

The Victoria Experimental Network under the Sea Live Interactive Ocean Science on the Internet with Dr. Richard Dewey, VENUS associate director, Research, University of Victoria, B.C. 2-4 p.m. Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science, EN-4002.

Friday, June 6

Free admission at the Botanical Garden 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sunday, June 8

Sunday Nature Hikes at the Botanical Garden 10-11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, June 10

Woody Plants for Acidic Soils Gardening Workshop with instructor Todd Boland, research horticulturist, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Botanical Garden.

CLASSIFIED

Seeking house for rent

University of Manitoba couple looking for furnished house to rent for July, August, and possibly to mid-September. Location preferred in vicinity of MUN/downtown. References provided. Contact by e-mail akear@ms.umanitoba.ca.

House for rent

75 Military Road, St John's. 709- 579-4793. Located down town St John's, off Bannerman Park. 20-minute walk from the university. Shopping centres in walking distance, available parking. 3-storey house with basement main floor kitchen with wood floors, 9.6 foot ceiling, wood cabinets, deck off kitchen, three bedrooms, two on the second floor. Large bedroom on the top floor with view of the narrows. Washer/dryer, fridge/stove included. Available Sept. 1 one-year lease. 1,500 per month pou.

For rent

Beautiful heritage home tucked away in tree-lined courtyard off Gower Street in the heart of downtown. Spacious three level interior, deck, terrace and garden overlooking the harbour. All appliances. Unfurnished. Pay own utilities. \$1,100./month. Available July 1. Long term lease only. Photos available. Contact 416.466.3961 or rasinclair@sympatico.ca.

For rent

4 bedroom house, avail. May 18. Four min. to MUN. Furnished/curtains--need bedroom furniture only. Some new paint. laundry. No smokers/pets. Seeking quiet/mature persons \$1,350 (heat and light inc.) 709 739-4182 or 685-3135.

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Allied Health Services supports top athletes, weekend warriors

Shape up



THE SLOW GRIND: the author gets punished by staff at Allied Health Services, all in the pursuit of good health and reporting.

BY DAVID SORENSEN

I AM NOT an elite athlete.

If I were, Allied Health Services in the School of Human Kinetics and Recreation would be an essential part of my training. The centre and its co-ordinator, Dr. Amy Butt, could put me through a battery of tests including sport-specific body composition analysis (we all want that, right?), musculoskeletal testing, hydrostatic weighing and aerobic fitness determination, better known as a VO_2 max test.

A minute into this pace and I'm done, sweat spilling down my nose and the blood pounding in my ears. That's it? I thought I had more.

I would take this info and incorporate the results into my regular workouts, train more efficiently and produce superior results.

However, as I said, I am not an elite athlete. I play rec hockey a few times a week, ride my bike when the weather warms up and walk my dog almost every day.

But here I am, breathing into a tube that is measuring my oxygen intake and a heart rate monitor that's keeping track of my beating ticker.

It's the VO_2 max test which brings me to the appraisal centre housed in the basement of the School of Human Kinetics and Recreation. In the interest of experiential journalism, I've volunteered for the VO_2 max test to provide an up-close-and-personal look at the analysis, and why it's not just for high-level athletes, but can benefit the aging weekend warrior like myself interested in optimizing their physical fitness.

The test starts out with a 10-minute warmup on the bike at a moderate pace. You can take the test on the bike or the treadmill and since I cycle occasionally, and loathe running, the Allied Health team thinks I should stick to the pedals.

After the warmup and a five-minute break to get my heart rate back down, master's student Geoff Power hooks me up to the mask, and we get going.

I'm off on the test. The idea of VO_2 max is that you exercise at increasing difficulties – in this case, the resistance on the stationary bike increases every two minutes – until you fail. That's right, this is a test in which you are guaranteed to lose.

So I start at what Geoff tells me is 200 watts of resistance which increases by 20 every two minutes. At 200, it's a steady ride, not too difficult. As the resistance increases – 220, 240, 260 – it starts to feel more like work, more Long's Hill than LeMarchant Road. The

co-ordinator and our photographer are cheering me on to keep going, but it still feels okay. Remember, you will fail this test, and failure for me is minutes away.

At 280, Strength and Conditioning Specialist Sylvie Fortier tells me that I'm spinning the wheels at 100 rpm, higher than the 85-90 I started at. I think that maybe I should slow down to the earlier revs. But with the change of pace comes the loss of rhythm and I know I'm on the way down.

Geoff said I should be able to get to 300 watts, and I'm determined to at least get there, pain or no pain. He likens 300 to Signal Hill at its steepest. As we hit 300, I can feel the ache in my quads. The cheers of encouragement sound harsh (who are these people and why are they screaming at me?) A minute into this pace and I'm done, sweat spilling down my nose and the blood pounding in my ears. That's it? I thought I had more.

Still, the results, as interpreted by Sylvie Fortier, are interesting. For starters, she tells me that I'm pretty healthy for a non-athlete. My VO_2 max of 43.5 places me in the 75th percentile, meaning only 25 per cent of my age group scores higher.

As the resistance increases it starts to feel more like work, more Long's Hill than LeMarchant Road.

The VO_2 max test is designed to measure how many millilitres of oxygen per kilogram can be utilized during a minute of full tilt activity.

Someone who scored 60 is considered an elite athlete. Olympic kayaker Adam van Koevorden measures in the high 70s, according to a recent article in *Macleans* magazine.

I also find out that at peak output, my heart is going 200 beats a minute. That sounds fast, but Sylvie assures me it's fine.

So aside from making boring small talk (so, my VO_2 max is 43.5, what's yours?), what's the value of this information?

Sylvie, who conducts this test on varsity athletes as well as provincial firefighters, says that generally speaking, the most efficient training should get you to 80 per cent of your VO_2 max or peak heart rate. She can take your two results and create training zones that optimize your workout, if you are serious about it and want to measure your heart rate while you exercise.

For me, I get to 80 percent of peak heart rate, of 160 beats a minute, when I'm pushing the pedals at a resistance value of 240 watts.

(Remember, this is a general rule and training for different sports requires different programs of training). If I train at this level, I have the best chance at reaching

optimal results.

Dr. Butt sees Allied Health as another component of all of the services available to elite athletes in the School of Human Kinetics and Recreation that can help take their results to a national, even international, level.

And while varsity athletes are the centre's priority, they envision a time when the services are available to the wider sports community, the university community and people in the province who want access to these facilities. As mentioned, firefighters are required to have a VO_2 max test, and this is where they come to get it.

The centre is collaborating with the new Newfoundland and Labrador Sports Training Centre on Crosbie Rd. in St. John's to offer high performance sports testing and evaluation for the athletes based there.

It's also important that students in the School of Human Kinetics and Recreation, such as Geoff Power, are provided research opportunities through the centre.

Want to know more? Allied Health Services will host an open house on Wednesday, June 25, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. which will feature a VO_2 max test demonstration. Key stakeholders from the university, government and community are invited.

ABOUT ALLIED HEALTH SERVICES

Allied Health Services (AHS) is committed to developing, supporting, and enhancing high performance sport programs and athlete development in NL

AHS provides specialized sport services and testing to Memorial varsity and provincial athletes

AHS offers advanced physiological testing to specialized occupational groups in the community (firefighters)

AHS is the only accredited fitness and lifestyle appraisal centre with the Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology (CSEP) in the province.

AHS focuses on developing and implementing services and programs to support the Memorial community, and the community at large (ex: ergonomic assessments for MUN employees)

As part of an academic unit within MUN, AHS contributes to the educational experience of School of Human Kinetics and Recreation students and the advancement of research in the areas of kinesiology, physical education and recreation