



Linking with Ireland

A new scholarship for business students is building linkages with Ireland and honouring Craig Dobbin.

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Northern experience

Geography students are taking their studies to the north.

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River run

Researchers are collaborating on a project that will help determine the future of the Humber River.

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MEMORIAL HONOURS SIX PROFS

SIX SENIOR FACULTY members at Memorial have been honoured with the distinction professor *emeritus*: Drs. Peter Booth, James Greenlee, Carolyn Harley, Andy den Otter, Thakor Patel and Robert Sexty.

The category of professor *emeritus* is open only to retired members of the faculty. To be eligible, a person must have served at least 10 years as a regular full-time faculty member at Memorial and must have held the rank of professor upon retirement. The prime criterion for nomination is sustained, outstanding scholarly work and/or service to the university.

Dr. Peter Booth completed undergraduate and graduate degrees at the University of Hull and has been a faculty member in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics since 1966. While he retired in 2006, he continues his funded research. In fact, Dr. Booth has been continuously funded by NSERC for 32 years.

Dr. Booth is a topologist and is known internationally for his sustained contributions to homotopy theory.

In addition to his scholarly activities, Dr. Booth has made a significant contribution to popularizing mathematics with young people, including substantial contributions to the NLTA Mathematics League. This outreach work has been widely credited with attracting to Memorial not only the finest mathematical minds in the province but also top students in medicine, engineering, music and other disciplines.

In 1997, Dr. Booth was awarded the Dean of Science Distinguished Scholar Medal.

Dr. James Greenlee, who retired from the history department at Grenfell College last year, has served the Memorial University and Grenfell College community for 30 years. Following a BA (honours), MA and PhD in history from McMaster University and faculty stints at McMaster and the University of Windsor, Dr. Greenlee came to Grenfell in 1977. Since then, he has played a large role in the development of Grenfell into a degree-granting institution. He helped develop the historical studies program and served as head of both the Fine Arts Division and the Arts Division.

A specialist in British imperialist history, Dr. Greenlee has published three books and many articles and reviews, and will shortly publish his fourth book on the Great War in global perspective.

His skill and dedication in the classroom earned him Grenfell College's Principal's Teaching Award in 2005.

With a distinguished academic career that spans more than three decades and internationally-recognized studies focused on brain research, **Dr. Carolyn Harley** has made important contributions to collaborative efforts with colleagues and in the fields of both psychology and medicine. Educated at the Sorbonne, San Francisco State University and the University of Oregon, where she obtained her doctor of philosophy degree, Dr. Harley joined Memorial's Department of Psychology in 1971 before retiring in October 2007. She made an outstanding contribution to mentoring and



PHOTO BY HSIMS

CLUNY COLLECTION The Dr. Cluny Macpherson Photograph Collection: The West End of St. John's, 1949, is currently on display in a two-sided glass case in the main foyer of the Faculty of Medicine. This display was created by Stephanie Harlick, archivist at the Founders' Archive in the Health Sciences Library. These images contain views of St. John's, several of which Dr. Macpherson took from the roof of the Grace Hospital on LeMarchant Road in the west end of the city. To view the full exhibit go to www.med.mun.ca/macpherson.

Rothermere Fellow focuses on cryptography Security blanket

IN A WORLD of online banking and cellular phones, the security of personal information is a hot topic of conversation. Jonathan Anderson, who received the Rothermere Fellowship last month, is helping to put security worries to rest.

One of Memorial's most prestigious awards will allow the second-year master's student to do his doctoral program at the University of Cambridge where he'll study network security.

"It's about managing confidentiality, authentication, knowing who's who, and other security concerns in networked environments," said Mr. Anderson.

A resident of St. John's since the age of six, he became involved in cryptography when he was selected for a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Undergrad Student Research Assistantship – an experience that convinced him he wanted to pursue

graduate studies in cryptography.

The Rothermere Fellowship was established by Lord Rothermere, Memorial's first chancellor, and includes university fees, a personal maintenance stipend, and other expenses such as return air travel to the United Kingdom.

To be eligible, candidates must have completed a bachelor's degree at Memorial and have completed, or be about to complete, a master's degree either at Memorial or at another North American university.

Mr. Anderson has a bachelor of engineering degree from Memorial and recently submitted his master's thesis, titled Side Channel Analysis of Stream Cipher Hardware.

Mr. Anderson said he plans to pursue an academic career where he can continue both his teaching and his research.

Building the Newfoundland-Ireland connection

A **NEW SCHOLARSHIP** for business students is building linkages with Ireland and honouring the memory of prominent St. John's businessman Craig Dobbin.

The Craig Dobbin Memorial Scholarship for Master of Business Studies at the Waterford Institute is unusual. The \$12,500 annual scholarship will go to a recent Memorial business graduate to study in the master of business program at the Waterford Institute of Technology in Waterford, Ireland.

After the first year, the scholarship will be awarded to a student at the Waterford Institute to participate in the Memorial MBA program. The scholarship will be awarded like this on an annual rotating basis.

This scholarship, funded through the Ireland Business Partnerships, the Department of Education, the Ireland Newfoundland Partnership, Patrick O'Callaghan and Craig Dobbin's family and friends, was created in memory of Craig Dobbin, who passed away on Oct. 7, 2006. He received an honorary doctorate from Memorial in 2000.

Dr. Dobbin's ancestors came from Waterford and at least three of them were mayors in medieval times. Their names can still be seen on a plaque in City Hall. With this connection in mind, the Craig Dobbin Memorial Scholarship was created to foster linkages between Newfoundland and Ireland through business research and development.

Students will be expected to conduct research in areas related to Ireland and Newfoundland business.

Dr. Gary Gorman, dean of the Faculty of Business

Administration at Memorial, said this scholarship is a great opportunity for students.

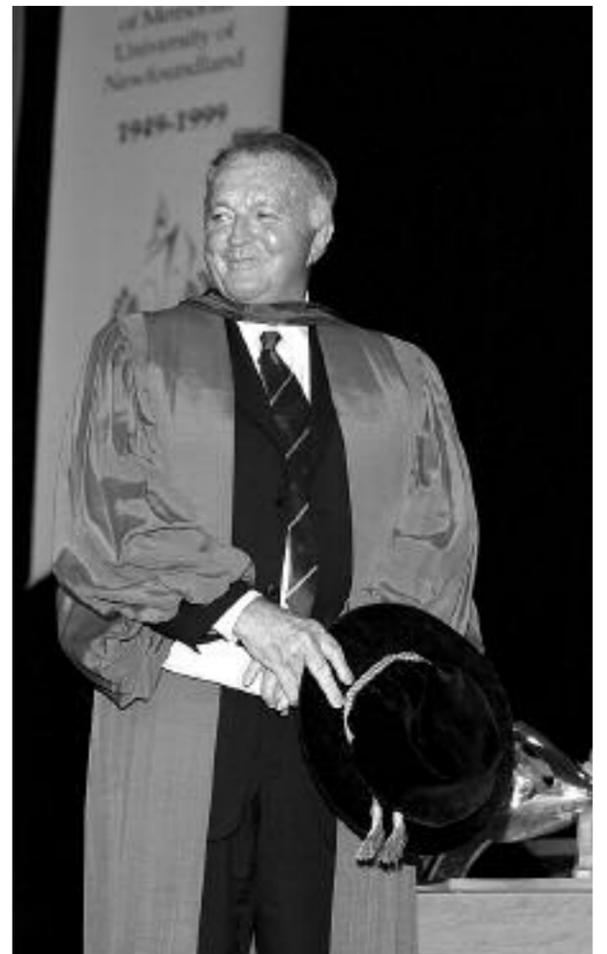
"The creation of this scholarship is a huge benefit to Memorial University and the entire province. Our students have the opportunity to study at the Waterford Institute, and we in turn benefit from having the Waterford students as a part of our community," he said.

"The creation of this scholarship is a huge benefit to Memorial University and the entire province."

Dr. Thomas O'Toole, dean of the School of Business at Waterford Institute of Technology, welcomed the scholarship and paid tribute to the Ireland Business Partnerships and the Dobbin family.

"It is a great honour to be part of a scholarship named after such a great business leader as Mr. Dobbin", he said. Students will be challenged in a positive way to live up to his memory. The scholarship promotes learning and exchange at graduate level and as such the creation of new knowledge. The links between the Waterford Institute and Memorial are strong and this scholarship will further cement these relationships."

The inaugural scholarship will be awarded in 2009.



Craig Dobbin was awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree from Memorial in 2000.

Short-term solution

By Sharon Gray

GRANTING PROVISIONAL licenses to new primary care physicians does not lead to long-term retention of international medical graduates (IMG) in Newfoundland and Labrador, according to a new study led by Dr. Maria Mathews, associate professor of health policy/health care delivery in the Faculty of Medicine.

The study shows that within one year of receiving a full medical license, most IMG leave the province. However, retention rates were no worse than for Canadian medical graduates, who are defined as fully-licensed graduates of Canadian medical schools outside of Newfoundland and Labrador.

This study was published in the July 22 issue of *Open Medicine*, a peer-reviewed, independent, open-access general medical journal.

Dr. Mathews and her colleagues assessed the relationship between type of initial practice license and retention time by comparing retention of international medical graduates, Canadian medical graduates and fully-licensed medical graduates of Memorial University. They found that out of the 77 IMG who began practicing as primary care physicians in the province between 1997 and 2000, 5.2 per cent were still in the province in 2004. The retention rate for Canadian medical graduates was 5.3 per cent – a median retention time of 22 months.

Provisional licensure enables IMG to practice in under-served communities while completing their licensing requirements. It is used as a recruitment strategy to help alleviate the shortage of primary care physicians in rural communities in Newfoundland and Labrador, and elsewhere in Canada. Until this study, however, little has been known about whether the policy has an impact on physician retention in Newfoundland and Labrador.

In 2004, IMG formed 23 per cent of the physician workforce in Canada. Saskatchewan and Newfoundland and Labrador employ the highest proportion of IMG, where they represent 61.7 per cent and 44.5 per cent of the physician workforce, respectively.

The study concludes that provisional licensing provides only a short-term solution to ongoing physician shortages in Newfoundland and Labrador – but that eliminating it would be detrimental to the health care system.

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

DR. YURI MUZYCHKA, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science, along with co-applicants Drs. Christina Bottaro and Erika Merschrod from the Department of Chemistry, received \$150,000 under NSERC's equipment grants program for their project A System for Rapid Prototyping of Microfluidic Devices. This special equipment will allow the researchers to shrink down large scale lab processes onto chips with a very diverse range of applications from drug testing to cooling of computer chips. The small scale devices can also be applied to environmental monitoring for tasks such as detecting well contamination. These microfluidic devices can be made from a variety of materials (from plastics to metals) and with a wide range of channel sizes (down to micrometres) and geometries. Incomplete information appeared in the last edition of the Gazette, July 3, 2008.

As well, researcher Dr. Carole Peterson's name was spelled incorrectly in the same article.

For a list of grant holders for NSERC projects can be viewed at www.nserc.gc.ca/programs/result/2008/rg/Results_Institution_e.asp.

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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.

Civil servant named new Channing Fellow

Sharing expertise



PHOTO BY JEFF GREEN

Bruce Hollett

By Jeff Green

MEMORIAL IS GETTING a chance to learn more about how the provincial government operates thanks to the appointment of a senior civil servant to the university.

Bruce Hollett has been named the new Fellow of the James G. Channing Chair in Public Administration.

Mr. Hollett – a Memorial graduate – is set to share his more than 25 years of experience with government to the university community.

He began in his new post on July 3 for a one-year period.

“I am honoured to be a part of the Memorial community and the post-secondary system again,” said Mr.

Hollett, who obtained his bachelor of commerce (honours) degree from Memorial. He is a former deputy minister of Education and president (acting) of the College of the North Atlantic.

In addition to his degree from Memorial, he holds a master of business administration from York University.

The position was first established in 1982 to provide an opportunity for senior public employees to bring their expertise and experience in public administration to Memorial. It is named after James Channing, one of the best-known clerks of the executive council with the provincial government. He held that position from 1955-78.

Mr. Hollett has had an extensive career with the provincial government, most recently as deputy minister of Environment and Conservation.

Over the span of his career, he has also been deputy minister of Industry, Trade and Technology, as well as the Department of Youth Services and Post-Secondary Education. He was assistant deputy minister and then deputy minister of the Voisey’s Bay Project Secretariat, and director of Fiscal Policy with the Department of Finance.

“Over the next couple of weeks, I will be talking to people within the university and in government to settle on where I will focus my efforts during my assignment to the Channing Chair,” said Mr. Hollett.

“My interests include institutional governance, public administration and policy development, and the interaction between our post-secondary education system and government. I would encourage people within the Memorial community to contact me if they wish to discuss any of these or related issues.”

Previous Channing Fellows have included Gerard O’Reilly, Ron Penney, Cyril Goodyear, David Vardy and John Cummings.

To reach Bruce Hollett, call 737-8399.

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supervising students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, including 50 honours, 22 master of science and eight PhD students – four of whom have become Canada Research Chairs. She also has an impressive record of service with groups such as the Canadian Association of Brian Behaviour and Cognitive Science.

As author of dozens of articles and award-winning books, as well as the recipient of nearly \$250,000 in research grants, **Dr. Andy den Otter** has become one of this country’s foremost scholars in the field of Western Canadian history. He began his academic career at the University of Alberta and Red Deer College before being appointed to Memorial’s Department of History in 1972. Over the 35 years, led an active research, academic and service career. Additionally, his scholarship has received national kudos, and he was an active member of the Canadian Historical Association and an international ambassador for his church. A former head of Memorial’s History Department, Dr. den Otter has contributed more than a dozen chapters in academic publications and has presented 40 scholarly papers through the course of his career. He was educated at Dordt College in Iowa, Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam and the University of Alberta where he obtained his PhD. Since retiring from Memorial in 2007, Dr. den Otter has delved even further into his research with the goals of publishing a new scholarly book.

For 26 years the departments of Biology and Biochemistry, as well as the school of Nursing and Engineering Sciences have benefitted from **Dr. Thakor Patel’s** contributions. He was instrumental in introducing the food microbiology program in biochemistry. Dr. Patel has supervised graduate students from biology, biochemistry and environmental science. He is also actively involved with a food safety program at the

University of Moi in Kenya.

Dr. Patel is a graduate of Maharaja Sayajirao University in India and the University of Texas at Austin. He came to Memorial in 1977.

Known principally for his presentation of microbiology, environmental biology and food microbiology courses, he has taught at a variety of levels and a wide range of sub-disciplines.

Dr. Patel enjoys international recognition in several biological sciences subdisciplines and has been published over 90 times.

A national expert in the area of corporate social responsibility, **Dr. Robert Sexty** has been the champion for business ethics at Memorial University for more than 30 years. He developed and taught the undergraduate course Business and Society in 1975 and is considered a pioneer among academics in this area. First appointed to Memorial in July 1968, Dr. Sexty served the Faculty of Business Administration for 39 years before retiring in the fall of 2007. Dr. Sexty studied at the University of Alberta, Queen’s University and the University of Colorado, where he obtained his doctor of philosophy in business administration. He has been recognized for his efforts with numerous teaching awards from students, with a dean’s award for both teaching and service, and with a Leaders in Management Education Award from PriceWaterhouseCoopers for his contributions to the practice of management.

Dr. Sexty is the first professor from the Faculty of Business Administration to be named professor *emeritus*

Those honoured with the distinction professor emeritus are typically recognized during convocation ceremonies, scheduled this fall for Oct. 3 in Corner Brook and Oct. 17 in St. John’s.

IN BRIEF

Student Aid service now toll-free

Accessing information and updates on student loans just got easier with the introduction of a toll-free phone number. Joan Burke, minister of Education, said that improvements to the system mean when students call during regular work hours to speak with a student aid representative, they can do so free of charge.

“Prior to this, the toll-free line simply provided access to the automated system,” said Minister Burke. “If students wanted to speak to someone at the student aid office, those outside the St. John’s area incurred long-distance charges. This was an onerous, and I believe unnecessary, expense.

“Many students need to speak directly with a student aid official and I am pleased that from now on they can do so without incurring long-distance charges.”

Improving the toll-free service at the student aid office was made possible through investments made in the 2008 provincial budget. More than \$280,000 was provided to improve services to students under the student aid program, part of the additional \$27 million allocated for the post-secondary education system this year.

To speak to a student aid representative, students can call toll-free 1-888-657-0800. Students are also encouraged to continue to use other available services such as e-mail (studentaid@gov.nl.ca), web-based services (www.gov.nl.ca/studentaid) or visit the student aid office located in Coughlan College on MUN campus.

Seeking the next Galbraith Lecturer

Nominations are currently being solicited for the next Galbraith Lecturer. Members of the Memorial University community, as well as of the community at large, are invited to submit the names of individuals with a national or international reputation, who, could deliver a lecture on a topic of public policy.

The most recent Lecturer was Geir Haarde, Prime Minister of Iceland. Previous lecturers included Margaret MacMillan, author of *Nixon in China* and *1919: Six Months that Changed the World*; Ken Carty of the University of British Columbia, an expert on electoral reform; and Jeffrey Simpson of the *Globe and Mail*.

Nominations should contain the name of the proposed speaker and a one-page brief on why this is an appropriate choice. The nomination should also include the name and contact information of the nominator. The deadline is Friday, Aug. 8, and nominations should be addressed to the Harris Centre at mclair@mun.ca.

Out of respect for the dignity and reputation of nominees, the selection of the Galbraith Lecturer is by nature a confidential process. As a consequence, nominees are not informed that they are under consideration. With the exception of the selected lecturer, the outcome of any individual nomination is not released. As a result, in making a nomination, please ensure that the nominee is unaware of the nomination.

More information is available about the Galbraith Lecture by visiting the Harris Centre’s website at www.mun.ca/harriscentre/Galbraith_home.php.

Aughey steps down

After eight seasons at the helm of Memorial’s men’s basketball team, Todd Aughey has resigned as head coach last month. Mr. Aughey cited a desire to explore new opportunities as the reason for the decision.

He also indicated that he feels that the program will benefit from new leadership at this time.

Michelle Healey, director of Athletics at Memorial, indicated that Mr. Aughey’s dedication and commitment to the program was exemplary.

“Memorial men’s basketball program moved in a new direction with the hiring of Todd Aughey,” she said. “Todd brought us a level of commitment, dedication, energy and passion that we had never been exposed to. His tireless work ethic had him involved in multiple projects all the time and every ounce of energy was committed to making our program better.”

Memorial immediately began the process to initiate a search for a new men’s basketball head coach.

Geography students' northern experience rewarded



Dominique St. Hilaire

By Janet Harron

TWO OF DR. TREVOR BELL'S geography students have been selected as Canadian Northern Studies Trust recipients for 2008-2009.

Dominique St. Hilaire, a PhD candidate, was awarded a \$40,000 Garfield Weston Award for Northern Research for her doctoral project titled Arctic Coastal Dynamics Under Changing Relative Sea-level and Environmental Forcing.

Melanie Irvine's project, Assessing Community Scale

Vulnerability in Nunavut, was awarded a \$15,000 scholarship in the master's category.

"I fell very fortunate to be able to carry out my research in a very exotic and challenging environment such as the Canadian Arctic. The Garfield Weston Award for Northern Research allows me to focus on my research and provides me with new and exciting opportunities. I am very thankful to ACUNS and the W. Garfield Weston Foundation for their generosity and support," said Ms. St. Hilaire.

Ms. Irvine echoed Ms. St. Hilaire sentiments, saying that she is honoured to receive the Garfield Westin

award which allows her to continue her research into landscape hazards in the Canadian North.

The Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies has promoted the advancement of northern scholarship through its awards program, the Canadian Northern Studies Trust (CNST), for 30 years.

The Garfield Weston Awards awarded to Ms. St-Hilaire and Ms. Irvine mark the second of a three-year, one-million-dollar scholarship program initiated to encourage Canada's leadership in northern studies during the International Polar Year.

NOTABLE

Dr. Robert Bertolo has been renewed as Memorial's Canada Research Chair in Human Nutrition. Dr. Bertolo pioneered several new approaches to study intestinal metabolism in an effort to develop effective nutritional therapies for patients with gastrointestinal problems. He is one of 24 Canada Research Chairs at Memorial.

Luke Harris, coach of Memorial's male volleyball team, recently finished a successful journey with the junior men's national team. Mr. Harris was approached and joined the team as an assistant coach in May and recently returned from a six-week training and competition tour with the team in El Salvador where the team captured the silver medal after losing a close battle with rival Cuba. By finishing second the team qualified for the 2009 World Championships.

Dr. Murray Rudd, Canada Research Chair in Ecological Economics at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, was recently elected as Economics representative to the Board of the Society for Conservation Biology's Social Science Working Group (SSWG). The SSWG, with over 600 members in 70 countries, is a global community of conservation professionals interested in the social aspects of biodiversity conservation. Since successful conservation inevitably requires changes in human behaviour, drawing on social science research to better understand what people do – and why – provides valuable insights for conservation policy and practice. As part of his board duties, Dr. Rudd will chair SSWG's Policy Committee. In addition, he will play an active role in promoting both the SSWG and Society for Conservation Biology (SCB) in Canada during the buildup to the SCB global conference being held in Edmonton in 2009.

Dr. John Sandlos was named the winner of the prestigious 2008 Clio Award for Northern Canadian History by the Canadian Historical Association for his first book, *Hunters at the Margin: Native People and Wildlife Conservation in the Northwest Territories*. The book draws on themes from Canadian, environmental, and ecological history, Northern Studies, and Native studies to illuminate the intersection between the discourse of wildlife conservation and the expansion of state power in Northern Canada. It is part of a series published by University of British Columbia Press entitled *Nature/History/Society*.



The first cohort of business students from Renmin University of China were recently welcomed to the Faculty of Business Administration by Dean Gary Gorman at a barbecue in their honour. A small group is at Memorial for an ESL summer program. They will be joined in September by 52 other students, including three students from Xian Jiao Tong University, who will all be studying business at Memorial.

PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS

STEPHANIE HARLICK, archivist at the Faculty of Medicine's Founders' Archive in the Health Sciences Library, exhibited a five-poster vinyl pop-up display in June 2008 at the Canadian Archivists Annual Conference in Fredericton, N.B. Upon returning to St. John's, the posters were then put on display at The Rooms for the annual general meeting of the Association of Newfoundland and Labrador Archives (ANLA). Ms. Harlick was elected president of ANLA at that event. The poster display was created last fall as a part of the 40th Anniversary celebrations of the Faculty of Medicine by Ms. Harlick in collaboration with Sylvia Ficken, graphic artist at Health Sciences Information and Media Service. The display is based on the virtual exhibit titled The Early Days of the Medical School at Memorial University. The posters are divided into five categories based on the themes of the virtual exhibit: How

it all began, Faculty and Staff, Students, The Facilities, and Education and Research.

ELIZABETH OHLE, standardized patient trainer in the Faculty of Medicine, made a presentation at the Association for Standardized Patient Educators conference in San Antonio, Texas, which took place June 29-July 2. She talked about the project Training Refugees to Portray Refugees as Standardized Patients.

DR. DENNIS SHARPE and **DR. DALE KIRBY**, Faculty of Education, presented a paper titled Transition of Rural High School Youth Into Post-Secondary Education: Challenges and Issues at the International Conference on Education, Economy and Society held in Paris, July 17-19, 2008.

Education professors open new doors for Memorial

By Heidi Wicks

THREE PROFESSORS from the Faculty of Education have been invited to sit on the Founding Scholars Advisory Board for the Freire International Project for Critical Pedagogy, based out of McGill University. The board consists of a prestigious list of international educators, and the project is dedicated to building an international community which works to promote social justice in a variety of cultural contexts.



Dr. Clar Doyle

Drs. Clar Doyle, Barrie Barrell, and Amarjit Singh are the three Memorial representatives who are heavily involved in this movement to better educate our social and political world.

“Our job is to create conditions or context in which a variety of people get inspired, motivated, ambitious, hopeful, creative and expect themselves to achieve their desired goals.”

“Part of what we believe is that educators need to work with what students bring to schooling rather than simply imposing a curriculum that favours some students and not others,” said Dr. Doyle. “Part of the job of critical pedagogy is to raise awareness of inequalities as an initial step to overcoming them. Critical pedagogy claims that curriculum is a form of cultural politics: of course it is. Critical pedagogy places schools in the middle of the social, cultural, historical mix. Critical pedagogy fights against the naive notion that schools are neutral sites where all are equal. As far as critical pedagogy is concerned, difference is seen as absolutely central and it is necessary to put such difference inside the curriculum.”

All three professors have been involved with critical

pedagogy for several years, and have all published their writings on the subject internationally. As members of the Founding Scholars Advisory Board, they are in the company of internationally-recognized intellectuals such as Henry Giroux, Augusto Boal, Deborah Britzman, Norman Denzin, Edmund O’Sullivan, Ira Shor, John Willinsky and Philip Wexler.

Dr. Giroux is a founding member of the Freire Project, and his studies indicate that schools need to identify what they intend to teach, and what they actually teach, according to Dr. Doyle, who adds that part of the critical pedagogy agenda is to shed needed light on the processes of schooling.

“Pedagogy has much to do with identification and identity, society and culture, history and economics. It also has to do with politics,” said Dr. Doyle.

Dr. Doyle admitted that this project is an important step for the research at Memorial – both in education and for the university as a whole.

“The Freire International Project for Critical Pedagogy is a vital and thriving place,” explained Dr. Doyle, adding that it is also a model for what can be achieved in Memorial’s Faculty of Education. “We can be thinking about establishing a Centre of Critical Pedagogy in our faculty. Our job is to create conditions or context in which a variety of people get inspired, motivated, ambitious, hopeful, creative and expect themselves to achieve their desired goals. We now have good grant facilitators in our faculty, and with an interest from critical faculty members and vital graduate students, it seems there is a context in our faculty for establishing a Center for Critical Pedagogy.”

Writing program offers limitless opportunities

By Geoff Noseworthy
Special to the *Gazette*

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING to complement your BA this fall? Memorial’s diploma in professional writing lets you work with professional writers and like-minded peers in both a classroom and a professional setting.

Théa Morash, who graduated with a BA in 2002, became interested in the program to learn more about editing.

“I have experience in academic and fiction writing, but I’m a born proofreader, and the world of editing appealed to my stickler nature, as well as to my overall love of words,” said Ms. Morash, an established writer from the Goulds.

But she found the program offered a lot more.

“As I progressed through the courses I realized that I shouldn’t limit myself to editing, when I enjoy the writing process a great deal too.”

The diploma in professional writing is offered through the Department of English. It is comprised of six courses and an instructional work placement, part which sees students attend seminars and exchange responses on Facebook, guided by a field placement instructor.

Prof. Jean Guthrie, the program’s co-ordinator. She noted that the benefits of this diploma aren’t restricted to arts students.

“Originally diplomas in the Faculty of Arts were conceived to serve students who were looking for some professional education with the BA,” said Prof. Guthrie. “But now students in any program, or indeed people without degrees, may apply.”

The program also provides more than just a piece of paper to hang on your wall.

With professional writers mentoring the students, a

writing community is formed in which students can feel comfortable. As for the work placement, it takes the students out of the classroom and into a professional work setting.

“It provides a professional context where students can extend the skills developed during their course work: identifying questions and stories to explore; focusing, drafting, revising and editing their own work; responding constructively to the work of others; and at the same time learning, with guidance, the structures and practices of a workplace,” said Prof. Guthrie.

The first group of students completed their work placements in June after working in a variety of areas, including Breakwater Books, the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra, Bristol, and Memorial.

Ms. Morash’s work placement has yielded early results.

“In my first week of work with CBC Radio, I pitched a story, researched the issue (homophobia in the province’s schools), arranged interviews, and prepared a piece for broadcast. It aired the Saturday following the first week of my placement, on *Weekend Arts Magazine* with Angela Antle.”

For Ms. Morash, the work placement proved worthwhile.

“I was working in a field and a medium that I had been keenly interested in for years; it was extremely satisfying.”

The placements have been worthwhile to employers as well.

Annamarie Beckel, editor at Breakwater Books, said that having students placed with the publishing company has been a positive experience.

“Initially, Breakwater Books was a little hesitant to take on student interns because it’s a very busy time of year for us. The internship program, however, has

“As I progressed through the courses I realized that I shouldn’t limit myself to editing, when I enjoy the writing process a great deal too.”

worked out wonderfully for both Breakwater and for the students.”

Ms. Beckel said that the students – David Weir, Karen Pittman, and Alana MacIsaac – are involved in every aspect of publishing, from reviewing new submissions to the launch of a published book to marketing.

Prof. Guthrie has to evaluate what is next for the program. There have been plenty of suggestions from the writers who have taught courses. And Prof. Guthrie has her own views on where she sees things going.

“I’d like to see more workshop courses with different emphases: writing about the environment, or activist writing, for example, so that as numbers build, there will be more choices for students.”

With her work placement almost over, Ms. Morash already has a plan for the rest of the summer.

“My success in the program has already opened up freelance job opportunities at newspapers in the city, and I haven’t finished the diploma yet.”

Students interested in applying to the program for fall 2008 should submit their portfolios no later than July 31. For more information visit www.mun.ca/english/diplomas.

Geoff Noseworthy is an intern with the diploma in professional writing program.

North Atlantic Fiddle Convention

Sweet music



PHOTO SUBMITTED

A Crowd of Bold Sharemen will provide some of the local content for the North Atlantic Fiddle Convention.

By David Sorensen

MEMORIAL IS HOSTING a massive gathering of fiddle aficionados in early August. The North Atlantic Fiddle Convention is part conference, part concert series taking place on the St. John's campus and throughout the City of St. John's from Aug. 3-8.

But it's more than an academic exercise, said Newfoundland musician Fergus O'Byrne. He said festival organizers are offering something for anyone with an interest in the fiddle.

"The convention is more of an open house for fiddle music," said Mr. O'Byrne, who is assisting the confer-

ence organizers with publicity. "There are public concerts and workshops throughout the week with world class fiddlers from around the North Atlantic rim."

Organizers expect about 6,000 people to attend the performances and workshops and some 100 of the world's leading fiddlers and fiddle scholars will be in St. John's.

The symposium will see presentations from about 45 different scholars with presentations spanning a diverse range of subjects, including step dancing to hip hop, and fiddling in African culture.

Dr. Martin Lovelace of the Folklore department at Memorial and conference chair, said papers will be given

by scholars from Western Europe, especially from Scandinavia, the British Isles, and Ireland, as well as Canada and the United States.

"The idea of the convention, which was pioneered by Dr. Ian Russell at the Elphinstone Institute, University of Aberdeen, is to bring together scholars and performers of fiddle and dance traditions to share their mutual enthusiasms," said Dr. Lovelace. "Many scholars of fiddle and dance are also excellent performers, just as the performers are deeply knowledgeable about the traditions they have inherited and learned. The convention, with its conference, workshops, and concerts offers many opportunities for exchange of ideas."

Dr. Lovelace added that six papers will be given by Memorial graduate students: Jill Allison, Anthropology; Kelly Best, Graham Blair, Meghan Bowen and Evelyn Osborne, Ethnomusicology; and Kristin Harris Walsh, Folklore.

"The convention is more of an open house for fiddle music."

Dr. Holly Everett of the Department of Folklore will also present a paper, as will two of Folklore's recently retired faculty, Professor *Emeritus* Dr. Neil V. Rosenberg and Honorary Research Professor Dr. Peter Narváez.

Mr. O'Byrne said the concerts are a rare opportunity to see the world's finest players in concert, with over 50 performers from around the world taking the stage for thematic evening concerts. The events will feature an average of six acts per show, with regional favourites like Crooked Stovepipe sharing the stage with international success stories like Scottish fiddler Alasdair Fraser.

Aside from evening concerts, there will be a number of day-time events, including Soup and Scandinavia, a lunchtime concert headlined by Denmark's Høirup.

The final component of the conference is the workshops where the public can interact with and learn from the performers.

For more on the NAFCO convention, check out www.mun.ca/nafco.

RISE to new knowledge



PHOTO BY HSIMS

Rhaisa Castrodad, left, and Myriam Hernandez are exchange students from the University of Puerto Rico-Cayey, spending eight weeks at Memorial under the RISE exchange program.

By Sharon Gray

Two university students from Puerto Rico are enjoying a summer in Newfoundland and honing their research skills through a new exchange program.

The students are working in two biomedical science laboratories in the Faculty of Medicine. Rhaisa Castrodad is working in the laboratory of Dr. Michiru Hirasawa, and Myriam Hernandez is in Dr. Daniel MacPhee's laboratory.

They are here under an exchange program called RISE (Research Initiative for Scientific Involvement).

A memorandum of understanding was negotiated this spring and early summer, with the assistance of Dr. Anthony Dickinson of Memorial's International Centre, between the University of Puerto Rico-Cayey and Memorial University to establish a summer undergraduate student training initiative for students at UPR-Cayey in Puerto Rico.

The program is funded at UPR-Cayey through the National Institutes of Health, GlaxoSmithKline, and Merck Pharmaceutical Cos.

Dr. MacPhee organized the visit of the two students after hearing about the program from his sister, Dr. Chantelle MacPhee, an associate professor of English

who was teaching at UPR-Cayey. He said the learning experience can go in both directions in the future as the potential is there for Memorial faculty or students to provide workshops and lectures to undergraduates in Cayey.

"The intention of the program is to expose students to research in general, particularly undergraduate students who are thinking about medical school or graduate school in the near future," said Dr. MacPhee. "RISE students are required to write a report on their experiences and findings at Memorial and if they produce enough data for a poster or other presentation for a later meeting, their participation in such a meeting will be covered by RISE."

Memorial is the first Canadian university to be a part of the RISE program. Judging by the enthusiastic response of the first two exchange students, it's a success. Ms. Hernandez, who is entering her fourth year of a biology degree in August, said she has learned a lot working with a placental trophoblast cell line in Dr. MacPhee's laboratory. Ms. Castrodad, who will start her third year of a biology degree next month, said her work in Dr. Hirasawa's laboratory characterizing central neurons is providing valuable experience.

Time well spent

Volunteering is own reward, says bureau co-ordinator



Zaren White

By Kim Wilton

IN A FEW WEEKS the campus will be a flush with activity as crowds of first-year students enjoy orientation and the beginning of their university adventures.

Yet few will notice the countless hours of preparation and organizing that have gone into creating the activities and festivities that make up orientation.

Fewer still will appreciate the pivotal behind-the-scenes roles that people like Zaren White play. As co-ordinator for the Student Volunteer Bureau (SVB), Ms. White has spent the last few months managing the 250 volunteers involved in orientation.

Yet this is just one of her many duties as co-ordinator of the SVB. She also oversees the operations of Memorial's volunteer resource centre. The SVB connects and provides students with information on volunteer opportunities on campus and off campus both in the community and internationally. Students can also sign up for the SVB list-serve, which alerts them to short-term volunteering opportunities in the community throughout the year.

In addition to its fall Volunteer Fair, and its Volunteer Day, the SVB offers the Volunteer Incentive Program

(VIP), which allows students to receive recognition for their volunteer activities by completing Bronze, Silver and Gold levels.

“To actively volunteer demonstrates a desire to contribute to something larger.”

Herself a gold level VIP recipient, Ms. White admits, “Volunteerism is a huge part of my life,” as her extensive volunteer history attests. This third-year student has been involved with volunteering since Grade 9. She has been heavily involved in the Memorial community, working as an orientation leader, volunteering at CHMR, writing for the *muse*, being a Memorial Ambassador, and being involved in the LEAP program. Her off-campus volunteer experiences have been just as diverse, ranging from performing with Shakespeare by the Sea to being an officer with the Terra Nova Sea Cadets.

Since March 2008, Ms. White has been co-ordinator of the SVB, which she describes as a “dream job” and “an amazing opportunity.”

She hopes to use her time to “increase the bureau’s visibility on campus, to strive for perfection in the provision of our services and programs, and to really impress the importance of volunteering on as many students as possible.”

Students are increasingly realizing the importance of volunteerism for their education and life experiences, and this past March, 143 VIP awards were given out to MUN students. To Ms. White, volunteerism offers a multitude of benefits.

“I think it’s vital for everyone, particularly university students, to capitalize on the experiences that are available to them”, she said, “Volunteering is closely linked to work experience so it’s extremely useful for one’s own personal and professional development. Also, to actively volunteer demonstrates a desire to contribute to something larger, and to be involved for intrinsic rewards, since there is no remuneration.”

In addition to her impressive volunteer resume and working full-time co-ordinating the SVB, this English honours student also has a stellar academic record. A member of the Dean’s list and multiple scholarship winner, Ms. White credits her volunteer experiences with making her a master at time management and giving her the ability to juggle school, volunteering and work. After graduation she plans to pursue graduate studies in English and eventually a career in academia, in a capacity that allows her to work closely with students.

As for any advice for the new MUN students who will be partaking in fall orientation, Ms. White recommends that they make the most of their university experience by getting involved in campus life through volunteering. It is “a fantastic way to make your mark, meet new people, and become a well-rounded individual.” It is also a fantastic way to learn a lesson she herself has learned, that every individual can make a big difference.

Calgary has affinity for Memorial



Kim Stockwood, Karl Smith, Damhnait Doyle and Keith Wellon, the past chair of organizing committee.

MEMORIAL WAS ON the menu at the Calgary Petroleum Club June 18 when more than 250 alumni and friends of the university and province gathered for the

second annual Calgary Affinity Dinner.

Instead of a keynote speaker, the Calgary organizing committee changed things up this year by having

Newfoundland and Labrador’s own Damhnait Doyle and Kim Stockwood perform. They showed their remarkable talent by singing a number of their award winning songs. For many the highlight was when they sang the *Ode to Newfoundland*.

In addition to the performance, a live auction was held by professional auctioneer David Galvin. The dinner raised just over \$65,000 with all proceeds going towards scholarships and bursaries at Memorial.

The master of ceremonies was Ted Henley of 660 News radio in Calgary.

The Provincial Minister of Business Paul Oram brought greetings on behalf of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. Memorial’s Acting President Eddy Campbell spoke about Memorial.

The Calgary organizing committee was led by Chair Karl Smith, president and CEO of Fortis Alberta.

Affinity Newfoundland and Labrador dinners are held to celebrate the success of Memorial’s alumni and to encourage support for the university and its students. They are organized by alumni and friends of Memorial in conjunction with Memorial’s Office of Alumni Affairs and Development.

Similar dinners are being held this year in Ottawa on Nov. 3 and Toronto on Nov. 4.

Memorial plays major role in Regatta as teams head for rowing glory

High hopes



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The 2008 Memorial University Women's rowing team for the Royal St. John's Regatta includes, from left, coxswain Jessica Bartlett and teammates Tara Connelly, Betty Ann Lewis, Patricia Churchill, Karen Slaney, Courtney MacSween and Connie Cornick.

By Jeff Green

AFTER MONTHS of intense training, a group of Memorial employees will head straight up the pond next month with their sights squarely set on claiming Regatta glory once again.

The Memorial University Women's rowing team – made up of employees, students and graduates – are hoping to capture gold for the third time at this year's Royal St. John's Regatta, which is set for Wednesday, Aug.

6, at Quidi Vidi Lake.

And, if their time trials were any indication, the team better start practicing their victory pose.

They came first, finishing their race with a time of 5:47.57, the best in their category.

"I think we're going to do well. We've certainly put in a lot of preparation," said longtime teammate Betty Ann Lewis, who works in the Department of Biochemistry. "I'm confident this year. We have a very good team."

In addition to Ms. Lewis, it includes employees Karen Slaney, who works in Human Resources, and Patricia Churchill, an employee in French and Spanish. It also includes graduate students Tamara Smith, Courtney MacSween, alumna Connie Cornick, and coxswain Christine Rowe. Tara Connelly and Ashley Callahan, both of whom are also grad students are spares, as is undergrad student Danielle Collins.

The regatta is the oldest continuing sporting event in North America and a favourite tradition for generations of families drawing more than 50,000 spectators on race day.

And just as it has in the past number of years, Memorial is playing a major role in the regatta. In addition to scores of alumni who are rowing, the university is a gold sponsor of the event.

Another group of women with strong ties to the university are hoping for a strong showing at this year's regatta.

The MUN Engineering team – made up of eight term-seven students, finished their time trials in 5:49.53.

The team consists of Gillian Langor, Amy Sturge, Surrey Lane, Delia Warren, Amanda Baker, Julie Hedderson, Melissa Bailote (spare) and Steve Reddin (coxswain).

"We are confident our rowing team will encourage engineering students to take initiative and get involved in community events such as this," said Ms. Hedderson. "We really encourage everyone to come out and cheer us on."

MEMORIAL'S REGATTA ROOTS RUN DEEP

Those rowing in this year's regatta will be putting a new shell to good use. Memorial's Marine Institute – long associated with teaching young people to sail and design vessels – sponsored a new racing shell.

The aptly named *The Marine Institute* was unveiled at Quidi Vidi Lake in June. Memorial's connections with the regatta run even deeper this year thanks to a unique partnership between the Royal St. John's Regatta Committee and the university's co-op education programs.

Three students are working with the committee to help co-ordinate the big-scale event. Business student Veronica Morgan and Ryan Hopkins are helping handle accounting and marketing efforts, while kinesiology student Maggie Paine is helping co-ordinate the scheduling and training of rowers.

Wayne Young, vice-president of the Royal St. John's Regatta Committee, said without Memorial's help, the preparations for this year's event wouldn't have run so smoothly.

"Having these three students has been critical," he said. "For us, as a volunteer committee and with the regatta getting so big over the last number of years, we really need people on the ground and in our office from April to about the end of August and these students are essential to the regatta's success."

Meanwhile, weather permitting the 190th rowing of the Royal St. John's Regatta will go ahead on Aug. 6.

To learn more information about this year's race, visit www.stjohnsregatta.org/.

Former mine workers in Baie Verte get some help from SafetyNet

By Michelle Osmond

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY'S research unit SafetyNet is setting up a registry to help identify miners who may have developed asbestos-related diseases at the now defunct Baie Verte Mine.

The Baie Verte Miners' Registry is a partnership between the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission, the Baie Verte Peninsula Miners' Action Committee and the United Steel Workers (USW). SafetyNet has been contracted to design and implement the registry. Researchers have 18 months to design the registry, contact as many former employees as possible and get them signed up for the registry, secure their employment and health data, and input that information before handing the registry over to the commission.

Dr. Stephen Bornstein, co-director of SafetyNet, said he believes asbestos is a very important occupational risk and it has played a significant role in the employment and health history of the province and the country.

"This is the first time in Canada, as far as I know, that a registry of this sort for an important occupational disease has been done on a consensual basis with collaboration among the commission, the union movement, the community and the university," he said.

"It will allow researchers, the community and the commission to develop a better understanding of the health impacts of asbestos work and on the time-lag involved since asbestos-related diseases have a very long latency period."

Dr. Bornstein said the project is an exciting opportunity for SafetyNet and its partners in several other Canadian universities both to advance the state of scientific knowledge in the field of occupational disease and to help improve the health and welfare of a key group of people—the former employees of the Baie Verte mining operation.

"It's also a great example of collaboration – collaboration between Memorial and other universities (UBC and Simon Fraser) and, above all, between researchers and stakeholders outside the university – the community of Baie Verte, the United Steel Workers, who have played an essential role in getting this project up and running, and the commission," said Dr. Bornstein.

"This is a breakthrough agreement for the United Steelworkers and workers everywhere, and with the critical information obtained through the registry it will be a turning point for fair compensation for victims of occupational disease," said Nancy Hutchison, United Steelworkers, District 6, health, safety and environment co-ordinator. "We hope this announcement will set the pattern for other boards and governments across Canada

as they too strive for justice for workers and their survivors."

The Baie Verte Asbestos Mine was established in 1955 and ceased operations in 1992, employing about 3,000 workers. Former employees will be asked for their employment history, asbestos exposure information and health status. Once the registry is complete, researchers will use the data to better understand asbestos-related diseases and other occupational diseases. Work on the registry begins this month.

To contact the Baie Verte Miners' Registry call: 1-888-737-7250 or visit them online.

SafetyNet is a Community Alliance for Health Research which studies occupational health and safety of marine and coastal work. SafetyNet has created a community alliance that includes researchers in medicine, nursing, social sciences, natural sciences, engineering and marine sciences, and involves partners in the public sector, private sector and in the coastal communities in which the research is taking place. The research program aims to conduct research that is relevant to the communities and agencies related to the areas of study while understanding the nature, distribution and causes of particular sets of occupational injury and disease. Furthermore, each project will contribute to the development of appropriate methods for the improvement of occupational health and safety.

Studying the Humber

The environment and future of Western Newfoundland's most important river

By Michelle Osmond

EARTH SCIENCES, CHEMISTRY and engineering researchers are collaborating on a project that will help determine the future of the Humber River. The results could have an impact on how the river will respond to anticipated changes in climate, tourism, aquaculture, agriculture and local industry.

“We can track the human impact from its source to its eventual fate downstream.”

– Dr. Erika Merschrod

Dr. Sue Ziegler with the Department of Earth Sciences – the principle investigator in the project – Drs. Erika Merschrod and Christina Bottaro from the Department of Chemistry, and Dr. Kelly Hawboldt from the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science, have received roughly \$60,000 per year for the next three years to launch this multidisciplinary research program to study the effects of human impact in the Humber River Basin.

“What’s really exciting about this project is that we can take a very comprehensive ‘source-to-sea’ view of the river basin, because of the wide expertise of the researchers,” said Dr. Merschrod. “We can track the human impact from its source to its eventual fate downstream. From large-scale biogeochemical processes, which can be connected to phenomena such as climate change, to the more local effects of human impact such as industrial contaminants or human waste.”

The “wide expertise” means a chemical engineer to identify the source of human based discharges into the water body (e.g. sewage outfalls) and what needs to be measured, chemists who will conduct the measurements, and an earth scientist, who will determine how all of these things flow through the river and impact the wider environment. The information can then be used by the engineers and chemists to identify the sources having the most significant impact and developing technologies or methods to minimize this impact.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Memorial PhD student Doreen Franke and UBC undergraduate Tiffany Lam sampling biofilm in Upper Humber River Watershed.

The researchers will also be developing new environmental monitoring technologies making this type of work more efficient and accessible in future. For example, microfluidic technology (very tiny tubes embedded in a small chip) will enable researchers to assess water quality in remote areas at lower cost and without complicated equipment.

As Dr. Merschrod puts it, “it could be as simple as dipping a chip into the well or other drinking water source and getting an instant, easy-to-read response.”

The project, titled Development of a source-to-sea understanding and monitoring capabilities for assessing

human and climate change impacts on water resources in the Humber River Basin, is funded through the Humber River Basin Project (HRBP).

As recently reported in the 2008 Research Report, the HRBP is an umbrella network of researchers working out of Sir Wilfred Grenfell College’s Centre of Environmental Excellence.

From environmental studies focusing on the river’s potential as a drinking water source, to historical analysis of how the people have used this river to help them survive, the project is an integrated approach to ecological assessment and long-term monitoring.

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.

- American Lung Association 2008-09 Research Program
- Business-led Networks of Centres of Excellence
- CIHR Catalyst Grant: Maternal and Child Health
- CIHR Chair: Neurosciences and Mental Health (The EJLB-CIHR Michael Smith Chair in Neurosciences and Mental Health)
- CIHR Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes Travel Awards
- CIHR Operating Grant Program
- CIHR Operating Grant – Healthy Living and Chronic Disease Prevention
- CIHR Operating Grant: Maternal and Child Health
- CIHR Operating Grant – Healthy Living and Chronic Disease Prevention
- CIHR Proof of Principle Program
- CIHR Regional Partnership Program
- Heart and Stroke Foundation Awards

- Inter-American Collaboration in Materials Research (CIAM)
- ONCE International R & D Award in New Technologies for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- MITACS Project Proposals
- NSERC Michael Smith Awards for Science Promotion
- NSERC PromoScience Grants Deadline: Sept. 15
- NSERC/NRCan/AECL Generation IV Energy Technologies Grant Program
- Scleroderma Foundation 2009 Research Grant Announcement
- SSHRC International Opportunities Fund
- SSHRC Standard Research Grants Program
- Vascular Cognitive Impairment Grants

Imminent Deadlines

Sept. 15

Canada Council for the Arts – project grants for organizations in the visual arts.

Canadian Institutes of Health Research – operating grants (application).

Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange – conference/seminar/workshop grants; publication subsidies; travel grants and visiting fellowships.

Guggenheim, John Simon Memorial Foundation – fellowships to assist research and artistic creation (US and Canada).

The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Career Development Program (letter of intent) – scholar award; special fellow award; fellow award; scholar in clinical research award.

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada – promoscience grants.

Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council – project grants

Scleroderma Foundation – research grant program.

Sloan, Alfred P. Foundation (US) – Sloan research fellowships.

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council – image, text, sound and technology research grants.

Sept. 20

Memorial University, Office of Research – SSHRC Travel Grants – paper presentation at scholarly conferences; travel grants for international representation.

Sept. 30

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada – international travelling fellowship; Royal College fellowship for studies in medical education; medical education travelling fellowship; Detweiler travelling fellowships; Walter C. MacKenzie, fellowship in surgery.

Memorial University, Office of Research – SSHRC / Vice-President’s Research Grants.

Standing up for sororities



Kim Wilton

By Kim Wilton

I AM A SORORITY GIRL. Most people laugh or roll their eyes when I tell them and I'll admit I used to have the same reaction. However, after joining one, I realized that the way the media and Hollywood portray sororities and fraternities is very far from the truth.

Sororities and fraternities have a bad rap.

Contrary to popular opinion, they are not booze-filled party houses with frightening initiation rituals. Nor are their members all blonde bimbos or drunken frat boys. In reality, sororities and fraternities are groups that are devoted to philanthropy and scholarship, and enriching the university experiences of their members. Despite these obvious benefits, many universities across North America have banned sororities and fraternities from their campuses, which has contributed to the misconceptions surrounding them.

The initiation and hazing rituals of some fraternities and sororities have attracted a lot of attention in the press for being intimidating and humiliating. However, these behaviours are rare and occurred more frequently in the past. While I clearly cannot vouch for all sororities and fraternities, I can definably say that none of these behav-

iours occurred in any of the sororities or fraternities that I knew. Yes, I went through initiation but it was tame and silly more than anything else.

Perhaps the most overlooked aspect of sororities and fraternities is the emphasis they place on philanthropy. Many sororities and fraternities adopt a particular charitable cause and devote their time fundraising for it. In my sorority we tirelessly fundraised for the Breast Cancer Society of Canada and volunteered at a local eating disorder recovery centre.

Most sororities and fraternities emphasize academic achievement and scholarship. In my particular sorority, members were expected to attain and keep a GPA of at least 3.0. Numerous scholarships were available to members both at undergraduate and graduate levels.

The stereotypical image of a sorority girl or fraternity boy is also incorrect. Anyone can join one regardless of his or her religion, ethnicity or financial background. Yes, many of the sorority girls I encountered were blonde but there were also a few who wore a hijab.

Additionally, sororities and fraternities are very affordable. They provide their members with cheaper accommodations than university residences and apartment rentals. My sorority offered bursaries and emergency

funds to members who faced a crisis, both when they were active and when they were no longer students.

Without a doubt, the most awarding aspect of any sorority or fraternity experience is the social aspect. When you join a sorority or fraternity you instantly gain 20 or more good friends, friends you will most likely keep for a lifetime. After graduation, members still get together monthly and even weekly. Having an instant group of friends can help ease the isolation and loneliness that many students feel when they first enter university.

I'm not going to deny that there are negative aspects of sororities and fraternities, particularly in the past. The initiation and hazing rituals of some have been unjustifiably aggressive, and even violent. Yes, they can sometimes appear to be inclusive cliques and yes, many have "wild" frat parties. But these sorts of behaviours can apply to any group, whether it is a sports team, a debating team or just a group of friends. It's not fair to single out fraternities and sororities and ban them for behaviours that may have occurred in the past or that can occur in any social group.

Board defers implementation of tuition hike for international undergraduates

Decision deferred

AN INCREASE IN TUITION fees for international undergraduate students has been deferred in order to allow further discussion between Memorial's Board of Regents and government. The 10 per cent increase was scheduled to be effective this fall, but at its July 17 meeting the board decided to defer implementation of the increase.

In order to provide enhanced services to international students, last October the board voted to increase international undergraduate tuition fees if government was unable to provide additional funding.

The board considered concerns expressed by students and government at this month's meeting in making the decision to defer the increases. The vote was unanimous.

Dr. Eddy Campbell, acting president, said that students opposed any increase in fees although, even with increase, Memorial University fees for international students would remain amongst the lowest in Canada. Dr. Campbell met with student leaders recently to discuss their concerns.

"I promised our student leaders that we would reconsider the decision taken last fall. The board examined the issues anew taking into account input from students and government," he said.

"We've decided to see if another solution can be found by working with our partners over the next few weeks and months. It remains a priority to enhance services to international students. However, at present we do not have the necessary funding."

The university needs additional funding to enhance services to international undergraduate students provided by the Admissions Office, the Academic Advising Centre, the English as a Second Language program, the Writing Centre, the Office of the International Student Adviser, and the Scholarships and Awards Office.

"A diverse student body brings the benefits of different points of views and cultures to our campuses and offers all students an enriched and intellectually stimulating environment," said Dr. Lilly Walker, dean

of Student Affairs and Services. "However, international students require more support than other students in adapting to life at Memorial, particularly as their numbers grow. We need to enhance academic and student support services, international student exchanges, increase the amount and numbers of international scholarships, and provide financial assistance for students who have limited means."

Memorial's Strategic Plan calls for growth in enrolments and includes plans for increasing the number of international undergraduate students from its current 550 to 1,200 over the next five years, with a total of 800

international undergraduate students planned for 2008-09.

International students at Memorial pay some of the lowest tuition fees in the country – \$880 per course after the deferral – the second-lowest among comprehensive universities and the third lowest in Atlantic Canada. Currently, the average international student per course tuition fee is \$1,154 among Canadian comprehensive universities, while the same average per course fee is \$1,101 at Atlantic Canadian universities.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

EASTER SAILS Young people were on the dock at the Splash facility at Long Pond in St. John's on July 16 for the first day of the Easter Seals sailing program.

Voting underway for alumni board reps

VOTING FOR THE ALUMNI representatives on the Board of Regents is taking place until Aug. 18. There are currently 39 nominees vying for the six alumni positions on Memorial University's Board of Regents.

If you are a Memorial alumni, go online to <http://my.munalum.ca> to cast your vote. Biographies and photos of nominees will be posted online with an electronic ballot.

Dr. Penny Blackwood, director of Memorial's Office of Alumni Affairs and Development, said the university's 66,000-plus alumni will have the chance to shape Memorial University's direction whether as voters, as nominators or through hands-on involvement in its governance.

"One of the most important factors determining the

strength of a university is the vibrancy of its alumni body, said Dr. Blackwood. "A connected, involved alumni body is the greatest common denominator of universities that attract the largest pools of qualified students and top the national rankings.

"The Board of Regents has 30 members, and being able to choose six gives MUN alumni a measure of influence in setting the University's strategy and direction."

She added that alumni who have put themselves forward for election this year are passionate about their alma mater and keen to help set its course.

"Vote for the fellow alumni who you think have the enthusiasm, ideas and commitment needed to make a worthwhile contribution to the Board of Regents."

Each member of the alumni association may vote only once using the number assigned on their Spring/Summer 2008 edition of *Luminus* magazine, or their Memorial University Student Number. Paper-based mail-in ballots are available upon request by calling the Office of Alumni Affairs and Development at 737-4354 or 1-877-700-4081.

Successfully elected alumni will be notified in the week following the week of Aug. 25, 2008. Alumni representatives are elected for a three-year term which begins Sept. 1, 2008.

The management, administration and control of the property, revenue, business and affairs of Memorial University are vested in the Board of Regents.

Maritime History Archive awarded two significant grants

By Janet Harron

THE MARITIME HISTORY ARCHIVE has recently been awarded two grants that, according to archivist Heather Wareham, will be of substantial assistance in the mounting of two major projects.

The Canadian Memory Fund which is operated through the Department of Canadian Heritage's Canadian Culture Online Program, has committed \$38,220 towards a virtual exhibit portraying the historical role women played in the coastal communities of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Titled *Coastal Women in Newfoundland and Labrador prior to Confederation*, the web-based exhibit will interweave explanatory text with archival photographs, selected historical documents, audio clips and transcripts of oral histories and a comprehensive directory of related sources.

The exhibit will focus on the time period 1890-1949 and will include the experiences of women from the French Shore, Labrador, as well as the roles of aboriginal women.

Themes that will be covered include: women in the coastal fisheries; women in the family; women in the

community; women in occupations outside the fisheries (non-traditional roles).

The Maritime History Archive has partnered with the Association of Newfoundland and Labrador Archives on this project.

Ms. Wareham said the exhibit should be up and running by spring 2009.

"With the funds provided by these grants, we will be able to expand our website and offer researchers access to new collections in our holdings," she said.

In addition, six more volumes of the diaries of the merchant James Ryan Limited of Bonavista will be digitized as a result of a \$12,000 grant from the Canadian Council of Archives under their National Archives Development Program.

These additional volumes will include all of the existing volumes up to 1900. On the site they will be available in their original format side by side with a transcribed version and can be searched by keyword. A number of volumes from this collection have already been digitized and are included on Memorial's Digital Archives Initiative (see <http://collections.mun.ca>).

For further information, please contact Heather Wareham at 709-737-8203 or mha@mun.ca.



Inuit woman and children

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

Thursday, July 24

The Role of Proteoglycans in Netrin-1 Mediated Axon Growth, a seminar by cardiovascular/neurosciences candidate Dr. K. Adam Baker, Neurological Institute, McGill University, 12-1 p.m. HSC Lecture Theatre B.

The Origin of Homochiral Life, a research lecture with Dr. R. Graham Cooks, Department of Chemistry, Purdue University, 1-2 p.m. Arts & Administration, A-1043.

WHMIS - Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System workshop 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Facilities Management, FM-2004.

Friday, July 25

PhD oral defence of Larisa Mironova, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, titled *Accurate Computation of Free Surface Flow with an Oscillating Cylinder Based on a Viscous Incompressible Two-fluid Model*, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. IIC-2014, Inco Innovation Centre.

Sunday, July 27

Sunday nature hikes at the Botanical Garden, 306 Mount Scio Road, St. John's, 10-11:30 a.m.

Sunday garden tour at the Botanical Garden 12-1 p.m.

Tuesday, July 29

Critical role of caveolae-mediated actin cytoskeleton modulation in mechanical stretch- and leptin-induced cardiovascular hypertrophy by cardiovascular/neurosciences candidate Dr. Asad Zeidan, University of Western Ontario, 12-1 p.m. HSC Lecture Theatre B.

Thursday, July 31

The Off-Campus Housing Office will be holding a mid-summer barbecue 5-7 p.m. in front of Hatcher House, Paton College.

Friday, Aug. 1

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

Sunday, Aug. 3

Wading into Wetlands Family Fun Day 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Botanical Garden.

North Atlantic Fiddle Convention begins 12-10 p.m. Various locations. Runs to Aug. 8.

Sunday, Aug. 10

Sunday nature hikes at the Botanical Garden 10-11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 13

Faculty of Science Annual Summer Student Symposium 2-5 p.m. Junior Common Room, R. Gushue Hall.

Friday, Aug. 15

A People Reaching for Ecstasy: The Growth of Methodism in Newfoundland, 1774-1874, PhD oral defence of Calvin Hollett, Department of History, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. IIC-2014, Inco Innovation Centre.

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For rent, beautiful, very well-maintained two bedroom two storey house in older downtown neighbourhood (Cochrane Street). Eat-in kitchen, living room, dining room, small den. Washer, dryer, fridge, stove, dishwasher. View of Signal Hill and The Narrows from master bedroom. Walk to concerts, festivals, spectacular walking and hiking trails, and the amenities of downtown St. John's. Seeking mature persons/graduate students. No smokers/pets. Available Aug. 17, 2008. \$975/month p.o.u. Call (709) 693-2283.

For rent

For rent large one bedroom above-ground apt in older downtown neighbourhood (Cochrane Street). Large eat-in kitchen, lots of storage space. Washer, dryer, fridge, stove. Walk to concerts, festivals, spectacular walking and hiking trails, and the amenities of downtown St. John's. Seeking mature persons/graduate students. No smokers/pets. Available Aug. 1, 2008. \$600/month p.o.u. Call (709) 693-2283.

Recruitment success means more family doctors for province

By Sharon Gray

ROSS WISEMAN, provincial minister of health and community services, visited the medical school July 11 to announce that ongoing recruitment efforts for physicians by the province are netting big results.

“Over the next few months, 17 new family physicians will begin practice in our province, with a good proportion of them in rural areas,” said Mr. Wiseman. “This tremendous recruitment success is a result of our government’s steadfast commitment to, and significant investments in, recruiting physicians. Now, the people of this province will see the benefits.”

The 17 new family practice physicians will be located in Happy Valley-Goose Bay (two), Port aux Basques (one), Baie Verte (one), Bonne Bay (one), Twillingate (one), Gander (one), Spaniard’s Bay (one), Paradise (one), Conception Bay South (one), Mount Pearl (one), St. John’s (five), and Torbay (one). All of these physicians have received family practice bursaries, a primary recruitment tool for the province which sees a physician providing one year of service for every \$25,000 bursary received. These bursaries are part of the provincial government’s \$6 million annual investment in physician recruitment and retention initiatives.

“We know that over 80 per cent of Memorial graduates who are licensed to practice medicine stay in the Newfoundland and Labrador health care system.”

The minister of health was joined in the news conference by Dr. James Rourke, dean of medicine at Memorial.

“Our collaborative efforts have been successful in securing these many family physicians for placement in communities throughout the province. Our Office of Physician Recruitment has been working hard and I am confident that we will continue to build on this success. The expansion planned for our medical school will enable us to train more medical students in Newfoundland and Labrador to become doctors to practice here and this will help build a strong and stable physician work force for Newfoundland and Labrador.”

Mr. Wiseman said the government’s bursary program is obviously effective. He also praised the work done by the medical school.

“The Faculty of Medicine does tremendous work in producing skilled physicians while also providing excellent opportunities for medical students to experience practice in rural areas right here in Newfoundland and Labrador. In fact, just a few months ago, the faculty was recognized with a national award by the Society of Rural Physicians of Canada for its success in placing graduates in rural family medicine programs for their residencies.”

The minister said the provincial government understands the tremendous value in training more residents of Newfoundland and Labrador to build up the province’s workforce of physicians.

“We know that over 80 per cent of Memorial graduates who are licensed to practice medicine stay in the Newfoundland and Labrador health care system. Over 59 per cent of our family physicians are Memorial graduates. It is also interesting to note that approximately 40



Minister Ross Wiseman and Dean James Rourke

per cent of Memorial medical graduates grew up in a rural community. These numbers support our recent Budget 2008 announcement of an initial \$4 million investment to expand the MUN medical school. Based

on established trends, we know that this will positively impact the supply of physicians for our province and therefore, further enhance our achievements in physician recruitment and retention.”

Making waves.

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY'S 2008 LADIES ROWING CREW:

Tamara Smith (Stroke)
Betty Ann Lewis (5)
Patricia Churchill (4)
Karen Slaney (3)
Courtney MacSween (2)
Connie Cornick (1)

Christine Rowe (Coxswain)
Tara Connelly (Spare)
Danielle Collins (Spare)
Ashley Callahan (Spare)

Good luck to the hardest working team on the lake. We're behind you all the way!

