Memorial University’s Employee and Retiree Newsletter
Vol. 27 No. 1, Spring 2013

THE COMMUNICATOR

Culture of respect

JANINE LIGHTFOOT, Grenfell Campus’s new Aboriginal student liaison co-ordinator, has been tasked with developing cultural programs, raising the cultural profile on campus, making connections between the university and First Nations community leaders and ensuring the needs of Aboriginal students are being met. Of 1,300 students at Grenfell, 220 have self-identified as having Aboriginal status.

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SPRING is a time of growth and renewal. And no words better describe what is happening at Memorial.

We are building capacity, with the strengthening of 21st-century teaching, research and development infrastructure, which will attract the best and the brightest faculty and staff, and provide students with access to the programs and education they need and deserve.

In St. John’s, the new residence buildings are nearing completion, with the first one set to open this fall, and the second in the spring of 2014. The extensions to the medical school and the engineering building should be completed within the next year. And out at Logy Bay, the $16-million extension and renovation to the Ocean Sciences Centre is winding up.

At Grenfell Campus, the new academic building has opened, and work continues on new residences and environmental science laboratories. At the Marine Institute, an increase in its base budget from the provincial government will result in new programs and more undergraduate and graduate students. The new Holywood Marine Base will help ease the space crunch as we continue to develop the ocean technology sector in partnership with the local community.

We are committed to a stronger presence in Labrador, with new faculty members there in the arts, science, education and the Marine Institute. These positions at the Labrador Institute, along with the research priorities and the increased base budget, will support prosperity, engagement and sustainability.

More growth will be realized when the new, state-of-the-art core sciences facilities at Memorial begin — a true game-changer for our university. We will be able to recruit and retain faculty and students, and significantly increase the size of our research, innovation and development programs to help the province diversify and build the knowledge-based economy of the future.

And we have completed the purchase of the Battery Hotel, which will consolidate other off-campus space in one location resulting in a zero cost to the university. The Battery’s 340,000 square feet will enable us to consolidate a number of units that could be appropriately housed closer to the city’s downtown core. Consultation among key stakeholders to identify the most appropriate units begins in March. There is also renewal in leadership. Dr. Cecilia Reynolds has been appointed the new deputy provost (students) and associate vice-president (academic) undergraduate studies, effective April 1. She replaces Dr. Robert Shea, who is the Fisheries and Marine Institute’s new associate vice-president (academic and student affairs). He will join the institute in his new position on June 4. And on June 1 we will welcome Dr. Richard Marceau as the next vice-president (research). Dr. Marceau comes to us from the University of Ontario Institute of Technology, where he currently serves as provost and vice-president (academic). He succeeds Dr. Chris Loonis who has led the research portfolio at Memorial for many years, spearheading the significant growth of our research activities. He has provided invaluable institutional leadership and has given his all to Memorial. On behalf of the entire university community, I extend my sincere thanks to him.

Engaging with Memorial and staying connected are themes evident in the Public Engagement Framework’s highly successful Engage Memorial Week this past February. As always, Memorial’s continued success will be shaped by the same collaborative effort involving you and every segment of our community. We have come so far and look forward to great things in the future.

Dr. Gary Kaehnenski
President and vice-chancellor
STAY ING CONNECTED is the theme of this year’s College and University Retiree Association of Canada (CURAC) national conference and you are invited to get and stay connected as the Memorial University of Newfoundland Pensioners’ Association (MUNPA) hosts from June 12–14, 2013. CURAC is a federation of retiree organizations at colleges and universities from coast to coast in Canada. Its member organizations together represent more than 15,000 college and university retirees. This year is the first time St. John's will host the annual conference and MUNPA is working hard to put together a memorable event for CURAC delegates from out of province as well as for MUNPA members. University retirees are encouraged to visit www.mun.ca/munpa/curac2013 for the latest information on the conference.

BALLROOM DANCING has many benefits and Carmel Power, retired supervisor, Circulation Department, QEII Library, is living proof of every one. “I love the expression, the structure, the discipline. Because there’s always something new to learn, it’s great for my memory and self-confidence. It’s one of the most social, fun activities I’ve ever done.”

Carmel started with Memorial in 1970 and thoroughly enjoyed her job — interacting with the staff and students, learning new things and taking on new challenges. It’s no mystery then, since retiring in June 2011, that she’s busier than ever.

“Retirement is wonderful,” says Carmel. “I’m doing nothing but I don’t stop. I dance four nights a week, do yoga three times a week and I work out at the Field House. For the first time in my life, my time is mine.” And she’s making good use of her time.

Carmel was born and raised on Bell Island, one of nine children, and dreamed of becoming a figure skater. In 1989, Carmel noticed a newspaper ad for ballroom dancing at the Judy Knee Dance Studio and has never looked back! She is technically trained in ballroom, Latin American, tango, swing, salsa, waltz, and paso doble, having passed the gold level exams. Together with dance partner, Bob Lucas, former dean of science, they have danced with the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra and for shows at the Arts and Culture Centre and Holy Heart Theatre. They have shared their talent with many audiences in seniors’ homes and hotels and they have been featured on the CBC Arts Council, NTV and Doc Zone.

In addition to showcasing her own dancing talent, Carmel is a fan of musicals and shows. “I appreciate the music, dancing and choreography,” she says. “I have travelled North America to see big shows like the Rockettes, Billy Elliot, Celine Dion and Jersey Boys. I go to a lot of concerts at Mile One and especially enjoy seeing our local talent in school productions and shows by Ta Da Productions and the Spirit of Newfoundland. I love it!”

Elegant, poised, expressive. Carmel, dance on.

CONNECTING with the past and the people who called Greenspond home is what continues to motivate Linda White. She created The Greenspond Letter in April 1994 and continues as editor still.

“It’s great fun meeting and interviewing people,” says Linda. “I enjoy the research.”

A natural historian and storyteller, Linda changed careers to become an archivist with Memorial. Each interview conducted by Linda is taped and deposited in Memorial’s Folklore and Language Archive.

The Greenspond Historical Society and Archives began with the publication of the first issue — a quarterly journal of the history of Greenspond, Bonavista Bay, through interviews, articles, essays, poetry, prose and photographs. While Linda is not from Greenspond herself, both her parents are and she remembers summer vacations there as a child. She is deeply rooted to the area and maintains a summer house.

Linda encourages contributors who have history, genealogy and photographs to get involved. In the most recent issue, both Dr. Mel Baker, university records manager, and Jenny Higgins with the Maritime History Archive, made contributions. Every issue is indexed in the Centre for Newfoundland Studies at www.library.mun.ca/sp/lib/cns/pub.php.

Ever the media darling, Linda and her work with The Greenspond Letter were profiled by Pauline Thornhill of CBC’s Land and Sea. It can be viewed at www.locatetv.com/tv/land-and-sea/1295996.

This publication is a passion for Linda who enthusiastically continues to provide The Greenspond Letter to subscribers, at cost, for $24 per year. Linda can be contacted at lindawhite@nl.rogers.com.

Linda White
YURI GIDGE, a graduate student in environmental science and a residence co-ordinator with the Department of Housing, Food and Conference Services, recently made a successful proposal to the Co-operators Foundation—IMPACT! Fund for a bike project on the St. John’s campus.

After attending the IMPACT! Youth Conference for Sustainability Leadership in Guelph, Ont., in September 2011, participants were eligible to apply for funding for projects proposing sustainability solutions that positively impact Canadian organizations and communities. Yuri approached Toby Rowe, sustainability co-ordinator at Memorial, to discuss ideas. He then sent a proposal to the fund and received $5,000 for the Bike to MUN project.

The project’s goal is to increase the number of employees and students who commute to campus by bike. This spring, Yuri will head up an educational campaign and work with the Sustainability Office and other units of Facilities Management to develop a secure and weatherproof area to park bikes.

“I want to encourage use of the new bike routes in St. John’s,” says Yuri. “I’ve heard a number of friends and residents say that they don’t have sheltered areas on campus to store their bikes so I knew the need was there.”

As well, support was shown for secure parking areas in the results of the Sustainability Office’s transportation survey in 2010. Many Memorial cyclists said they would be more likely to ride to campus if they had a secure area to park their bikes.

Getting healthy together

RATHER THAN TACKLING

2013 health and wellness resolutions on their own, or spending money on fitness and weight-loss plans, members of the Distance Education, Learning and Teaching Support (DELTS) Wellness Challenge are helping each other and having fun along the way.

On Jan. 21 the group began a collective, 12-week journey to become healthier and happier while supporting and learning from each other.

Denise Carew — an athlete with experience in helping other athletes reach their goals — was nominated to lead the program. Through her own research and experimentation, she is also knowledgeable in the areas of health and fitness.

“A couple of co-workers asked if I could help them with their wellness goals for 2013, and the initial idea was that I would provide leadership and accountability,” she says. “I ended up doing it as weekly group challenges, which I thought would be more informative and fun.”

The group currently has 17 members who are tasked with completing one nutrition challenge and one fitness challenge each week. Nutrition challenges include eating only whole foods three days per week or incorporating vegetables into every meal. Fitness challenges include strength training twice a week, or a friendly stair climbing competition where the person who does the most stairs wins.

In addition to meeting once a week during lunch, the group has a website where they can view each week’s challenge and post comments about whether they met the challenge or how they feel about their progress. The site also contains a wealth of resources, from fitness and nutrition articles, to recipes and other blogs and websites that may inspire them along the way.

“By the end of the program we’ll have lots of resources that members can continue to use to sustain their efforts,” Denise says. “This has already been a lot of fun for all of us and has been a chance for colleagues who don’t work together often to get to know each other.”

Green FAQs

The Sustainability Office receives a lot of inquiries about Memorial’s initiatives and also suggestions for what the university could be doing better. This section of frequently asked questions (FAQs) is available online. If you have any questions, ideas or suggestions, please send them to sustain@mun.ca.

Q: WHAT KIND OF BATTERIES DOES THE SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE ACCEPT FOR RECYCLING?

A: RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES

Rechargeable batteries can be returned for recycling to the Sustainability Office. The batteries currently being accepted are nickel cadmium (Ni-Cd), nickel hydride (Ni-Mh), lithium ion (Li-ion), nickel zinc (Ni-Zn) and small sealed lead (SSLA/PS) weighing up to 11 lbs or 5 kgs each. Rechargeable batteries will be sent to the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC®) where reusable materials such as nickel, iron, cadmium, lead and cobalt will be reclaimed. To arrange a time to drop off your rechargeable batteries, or for more information, contact sustain@mun.ca or 709 864 3047.

NON-RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES (ALKALINE, SINGLE-USE, DISPOSABLE)

The Sustainability Office will be holding two Battery Blitz days in 2013. During these events, scheduled for late June and early December, departments can drop off their single-use (non-rechargeable) batteries for recycling. Please remember to tape the terminals and store in a plastic container until the next Battery Blitz. Exact dates will be available on the Sustainability Office website (www.mun.ca/sustain) when confirmed. These battery collection events are for Memorial batteries only. Do not bring your batteries from home. Your batteries from home can be dropped off to the Household Hazardous Waste Facility at Robin Hood Bay on Saturdays starting June 1, 2013.

Back row from left are Denise Carew, Ruth Hickey, Deidre Walsh, Stacey Alexander, Jonathan Kavanaugh. Front row from left are Denise Vincent, Colleen Collett, Dallas Clairmont, Gladys White, Peggy Miller, Arlene Power.
Rebuilding Animal Care Services

Dr. Jennifer Keyte at the animal care facilities at the Health Sciences Centre which is currently under renovation.

DR. JENNIFER KEYTE, university veterinarian and director of Animal Care Services, wears many hats. These days you might find her wearing a construction helmet, with the facility at the Health Sciences Centre (HSC) under renovation. The long-term goal is a new facility, but until that happens, the animal care facilities at Memorial are being upgraded to better serve the needs of research clients, the animals and to better meet industry standards.

Recent improvements at the HSC site include the purchase of individually ventilated cages, a new rack washer, sterilizer and bottle filler. The renovations and new equipment will improve the environment and ergonomics for the hard-working animal care staff.

Partial funding of $625,000 for these improvements came a year ago from the Vice-Presidents’ Council, which is responsible for aligning budget, operations and policy with the university’s mandate and strategic priorities.

As the person responsible for all the animals used for research and teaching at Memorial, Jennifer acknowledges that the role has its challenges.

“My goal is to enable growth in research, as laid down in the mandate and strategic priorities of the institution,” she explains. “The addition of Dr. Kerri Nielsen as assistant director in July 2012 has greatly helped in that balancing act.”

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Although she is a strong advocate of work-life balance, Jennifer concedes that, too, has its challenges. Besides the responsibilities of her role, she is the parent of an active seven-year-old son. What does she do for relaxation?

“I play the piano, get outdoors with my son for hiking and skiing, and,” she says, with a smile on her face, “do home renovations.”

As for the future, Jennifer will continue to bring a collaborative approach to improving Animal Care Services for both the research community and for the animals under her care.

CU Expo 2013 receives global submissions

THE 2013 COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY EXPO, which will be hosted by Grenfell Campus and the City of Corner Brook, has received more than 200 submissions from all over the world. CU Expo 2013, Engaging Shared Worlds, will take place June 12–15.

The submissions — including joint proposals — were received from some 570 people representing all the Canadian provinces, the United States, and countries such as Germany, England, Israel, Qatar, South Africa, Uganda and Brazil.

The proposals include suggestions for workshops, round table discussions, panel discussions, poster sessions and more. Each proposal has been reviewed by two reviewers — one from the community, and one from a university. There were 88 reviewers in total from all over Canada and the United States. The CU Expo program committee is in the final stages of proposal reviewing, and soon the program and registration will be made available.

CU Expo 2013 is a joint initiative of Grenfell Campus and the City of Corner Brook with support from the provincial Rural Secretariat. The conference will bring together more than 500 individuals from all over the world, who will network, learn and more fully participate in community-university engagement. For more information, or to submit your proposal online, visit www.cuexpo2013.ca.

University policy updates

- Recent approvals of policy revisions:
  - Service Recognition
  - Health and Safety
- Recent approval of new Workplace Accommodation Policy
- Consultation began on the revised Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Policy
- Consultation ended for the Kullik-burning and Smudging (new) Policy and the Staff Training and Development (revised) Policy

www.mun.ca/policy
Hired as a change agent, Dr. Maura Hanrahan was appointed in 2011 as the first special advisor to the president on Aboriginal affairs at Memorial. Her position was established as a result of the 2009 Presidential Task Force on Aboriginal Initiatives. Maura has worked closely with faculty, Aboriginal organizations and governments and senior administration on matters relating to a university-wide cultural change toward Aboriginal students and employees.

“There has been a lot of change at Memorial,” Maura says. “There are many advocates and allies for progress and it’s encouraging.”

The task force outlined 22 recommendations designed to enhance the success of Aboriginal students and employees, and many of these have been acted upon. The new resources resulting from the task force will support more than 800 students and 50 employees of Aboriginal origin.

“I can say that Memorial has more designated seats for Aboriginal students than any other Canadian university,” says Maura. “We offer seats to qualified students in medicine, nursing, engineering, business, education, social work, human kinetics and recreation, visual arts, the MA in environmental policy at Grenfell, and all programs at the Marine Institute. They are protected by the provincial Human Rights Commission.”

“These seats help encourage Aboriginal students to consider non-traditional areas of study. There is a community-based teacher education program on-site in Happy Valley-Goose Bay and an Aboriginal ambassadors’ pilot project in the southern Inuit communities of Labrador to encourage students in Grades 6–12 to consider engineering.

At Grenfell Campus, there is a new Aboriginal Liaison co-ordinator, Janine Lighfoot (pictured on the cover) who delivers services to students and there is a new Aboriginal Resource Centre. In order to guarantee space in student residence throughout degree programs, Grenfell Campus has a memorandum of understanding with the Nunatsiavut Government. For continuity of programming and services, positions within the Aboriginal Resource Office on the St. John’s campus have been converted to permanent status from contractual.

Alumni Affairs and Development continues to develop scholarships for Aboriginal students as financial support is required for students. Siawit’nej Aboriginal Students Council (St. John’s) and Aboriginal Students Committee (Grenfell) have been created to advise Maura on policy and strategy.

“I enjoy the rapport with students,” she says. “They inspire me to constantly move forward.”

One change came about in the printing of convocation materials; Indigenous places of birth replace Newfoundland and Labrador place names.

Maura is available to speak about Aboriginal issues to any work unit at Memorial.

“It’s all about increasing awareness and supporting initiatives,” she says.

“Change benefits us all. I was hired to advance institutional change so that Indigenous people and their ways of learning and living are better understood, respected and reflected in the life of the university. We have a special obligation to all people of the province including the Innu, the Nunatsiavut Inuit, the Southern Inuit and the Mi’kmak. Considering all of Memorial is located on Indigenous land, it is appropri - ate we learn more about our culture and heritage.”

“Diversity enhances our experience. With encouraging progress, Memorial’s next phase includes a widespread change of heart and an all-encompassing culture of change. All Aboriginal Peoples ought to feel more respected and comfortable here. And that’s change we can all hope for.”

In responding to Memorial’s Research Framework, and in partnership with the School of Human Kinetics and Recreation, and the Office of the Vice-President (Research), Dr. Chava Finkler has been hired as the new grants facilitator. This position helps facilitate research and partnerships and helps ensure that scholarship supports public engagement.

In keeping with the restructuring of Memorial’s governance structure, leading to the addition of several new roles, the school has hired Gina Billard as the new senior administrative officer (SAO). The SAO acts as special advisor to the dean on all administrative, operational and financial matters.

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Funded through a special grant, and in partnership with DEITS and the Office of the Vice-President (Academic), Joyce Fewer has been hired as the new accreditation/teaching consultant. Joyce will support Memorial’s Teaching and Learning Framework and co-ordinate accreditation activities.

“While there are challenges that come with growth, the opportunities are exciting,” says Donna. “We are eagerly embracing further collaboration as we continue to contribute to the social work profession, and deliver comprehensive undergraduate and graduate social work education.”
Big support for the big land

THE LABRADOR INSTITUTE’S director, Dr. Keith Chaulk, was born and raised in North West River. He joined Memorial in 2008 and has been working hard with his team to build support, resources and expertise to grow and succeed.

“We are getting real support from the main campus,” says Keith. “Memorial’s leadership and partners at the Marine Institute, Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Education and the Faculty of Medicine are helping make things happen.”

Support for the Labrador Institute includes critical external partners such as the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and the provincial department of Innovation, Business and Rural Development.

“We are grateful and hope this support continues,” says Keith.

Memorial University has had a formal presence in Labrador since the 1970s when the Labrador Institute was established to stimulate, co-ordinate and support major university projects and programs expanding the Labrador knowledge base. There are currently three offices of the Labrador Institute: in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Labrador City and a research station in North West River. All offices are co-located with the College of the North Atlantic.

The Labrador Institute has new resources which allow the team to increase capacity by recruiting experts in a variety of fields. This new capacity will enable the institute to become more of an operational arm of the university with respect to teaching and research.

“Time and patience is needed as we grow and move forward,” says Keith. “We are still in the recruiting process and many of our new experts will require time to grow their programs and apply their specific expertise.”

The goal of all progress in Labrador is to facilitate and engage hard with his team to build support, resources and expertise to grow and succeed.

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The goal of all progress in Labrador is to facilitate the educational aspirations, research requirements and the socio-cultural well-being of the people of Labrador. “And that’s something we all support.”

Aboriginal ties run deep

WORKING WITH ABORIGINAL GROUPS throughout the province and Northern Canada is a part of the daily routine for Gerald Anderson.

As the Marine Institute’s (MI) manager of development and engagement, Gerald has been MI’s liaison with Aboriginal groups for more than 20 years.

Gerald’s background makes him ideal to handle all of MI’s activities in the North. Not only is he a beneficiary of Nunatsiavut, his family has roots in Makkovik, a small Inuit community on Labrador’s north coast.

Through personal contact, Gerald establishes connections with Aboriginal groups throughout Canada. Currently MI is working with Aboriginal groups in Newfoundland and Labrador, Nunavut, Nunavik and the Northwest Territories and is exploring opportunities in Greenland.

While he is usually the initial contact, Gerald works as part of a team within the MI’s schools and centres to plan and deliver projects that meet fisheries and marine training needs in various regions.

Aboriginal groups have been very receptive to what MI has to offer. In the past few years MI has worked with the Miawpukek First Nation in Conne River to develop and deliver a long-term fisheries training program. In this year alone, more than 200 Nunavut beneficiaries will complete training with the Marine Institute.

“There is a lot of opportunity for the Marine Institute and all of Memorial University to engage more with Aboriginal groups across Canada. I just returned from a visit to the Northwest Territories where I see many opportunities for training and research,” says Gerald.

“Memorial has a lot to offer and we should build more strategic partnerships with Aboriginal communities.”

Pensions committee update

THE BOARD OF REGENTS recently approved several draft policy directives for the Memorial University Pension Plan, as recommended by the University Pensions Committee. These draft directives confirmed many of the university’s existing administrative practices and include some new pension plan changes, including:

- for contractual employees, the six-month period leading up to mandatory pension plan participation will be eligible for buyback;
- the cost basis for buybacks of prior Memorial pensionable service that was previously refunded will change from one-half the actuarial cost of the service to the greater of full actuarial cost and commuted value;
- the cost basis for other pension buybacks will change from full actuarial cost of the service to the greater of full actuarial cost and commuted value;
- the interest rate used to finance pension buybacks will change to the rate assumed for funding the pension plan — currently six per cent.

The directives, which must undergo an approval process with the provincial government, are expected to become effective in the spring of 2013. For more information on the policy directives and any new changes, please visit www.mun.ca/humanres/pensions.php or call the Benefits and Pensions Office at 709 864 7406.
WHEN SHE’S at her day job working as an administrative assistant to the dean of Memorial’s School of Nursing, Cathy Pinhorn spends a lot of time at her desk doing a multitude of administrative functions. In her free time, she likes to exercise her vocal chords. Cathy sings lead in the province’s only barbershop chorus for women, Newfound Sound. She joined the chorus a few years ago with her sister Donna, who sings tenor.

“But we didn’t know we were joining a barbershop chorus at first,” says Cathy. “We only realized after we arrived at practice that this was a four-part harmony barbershop chorus.”

And that wasn’t the only surprise. Three weeks after signing up, Cathy and her sister were singing on stage at the Arts and Culture Centre in St. John’s with The Anchormen men’s barbershop chorus, at their annual show. Though she was nervous at first, performing in front of a large crowd, Cathy’s musical roots served her well. Growing up in a musical family, Cathy and her sister loved to sing so she adjusted to the limelight in no time.

“After being a hockey and figure skating mom for many years, and spending all that time in rinks, I thought it would be good to do something for me,” she says.

This past December Booth Memorial’s school council re-elected him as its secretary for his 10th consecutive one-year term. The school council at Booth Memorial has existed since 1997 and Glyn has been a member for all but three of those years.

Glyn also served two terms (1999–2001) as chair of the school council, was elected secretary of the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of School Councils in 1999–2002 and in 2005 was the fifth individual to be awarded lifetime membership of the provincial organization.

Glyn believes in volunteering and that we each have a civic responsibility to give back to our respective communities.

“A sense of civic responsibility and volunteer service was strong when I was a student in England in the 1970s. That has stayed with me. The younger generations are our future so it’s important for me to contribute to their well-being in any way I can.”
Poetic partnership

DR. NEIL BISHOP, professor, Department of French and Spanish, and the St. John’s Francophone poet Annick Perrot-Bishop have collaborated as a team once again. Together 39 years, this creative duo has published a bilingual volume including four collections of poetry.

“The songs which are Matthew’s responsibility, usually include ballads and chorus songs. The band works to interpret the songs for an audience that probably would otherwise have never heard them. “We’re really into bringing this repertoire to a younger audience because these songs shouldn’t get lost. There’s as much groove in a set of Newfoundland reels as there is in any rock ‘n’ roll song, as we’re out to prove that you don’t need electric guitar, bass or drums to make that happen.”

On being nominated for the awards, Matthew admits the band is absolutely delighted. “Not only because it’s a lot of hard work being recognized, but also because of the company we’re keeping with the other nominees. Seeing our name alongside a band like Wintersleep is brilliant… it means we’re there because people simply think it’s good music, regardless of its genre.”

Check out The Dardanelles at www.thedardanelles.com.
**Smooth sailing**

**AS DIRECTOR of the Office of Collaborations and Partnerships,** Dave Miller spends the majority of his time building the university’s relationship with industry partners and research funders. 

“It’s a busy and exciting time for our office,” says Dave. “External support for Memorial’s research activities continues to grow, and we work closely with researchers and funders to identify opportunities for collaboration. We are also developing the internal support systems that researchers need to be successful, like the CREATI Network.”

With such a busy day job, Dave is looking forward to the warmer weather, when he can get on the water and set sail.

Dave fished commercially with his grandfather in the late 70s and early 80s. That sparked his interest in sailing and, in 1984, he and his father Oscar, began building a 36-foot sailboat in their backyard.

“We spent a lot of time together, sourcing materials and figuring out how to do things as we went along. I think we probably had the only 12,000 pound lead keel in a Portugal Cove shed.”

They built the vintage wooden cruising yacht, designed by the late L. Frances Herreshoff, to 1945 specifications and Dave’s children, Matthew and Sam, grew up sailing with their father and grandfather.

“I love sailing, but I probably enjoyed building the boat with my dad the most,” he says.

This summer, Dave will be back on the water racing a friend’s much more modern Bruce Kirby-designed racer/cruiser. Every Wednesday, the Royal Newfoundland Yacht Club in Conception Bay holds evening races.

“It’s a release to leave work and spend a weekend evening racing on the water,” Dave says. “It’s very physical and exciting.”

**The message in the bottle is friendship**

**EVERY FALL, three friends, Audrey Cole and Sue Hadley, both retired from the QEII’s Centre for Newfoundland Studies, and Joanne Costello from the Map Library, rent a house somewhere in eastern Newfoundland.**

Tradition dictates that after their final evening meal, they write their names, addresses, and basic location at the time on a piece of paper, seal it in a wine bottle and launch it into the sea. Audrey keeps careful note of where and when the bottle was last seen.

You can imagine the excitement they felt when Florence Pearson, while beachcombing with her partner Fergus Granville, contacted Joanne to say they had found one of the bottles on a beach in a pile of seaweed on North Uist.

Dave Miller

For the three friends it was magical and unbelievable. Over the course of the winter, Audrey and Sue researched airlines and accommodations while Joanne figured out ferry schedules and routes. Their odyssey started when they flew to Glasgow, drove to Oban, and ferried to Clachan, North Uist.

Florence and Fergus were most welcoming and took them, along with their dogs, by Land Rover to the area where the bottle was found. Silvery sand that seemed to go on forever, bordered by sand dunes and a turquoise-tinted sea greeted them. Photos were taken while the dogs played catch on the beach.

For the three friends it was magical and unbelievable. There was a real sense of closure to the whole process and it made their tradition seem worthwhile. However, their odyssey didn’t stop there; even though they were not on home turf, tradition dictated that they throw in another bottle.

Who knows where this message in a bottle will end up?
Little fingers, little toes

COHEN SKYLAR MATTHEWS was born on Aug. 27, 2012, to proud parents Shawna and Roger Matthews. Shawna is an academic advisor with Grenfell Campus and Roger has worked as a part-time instructor with the Faculty of Education at Grenfell Campus. Congratulations!

SKYE JAYDEN BRUSH was born on Oct. 17, 2012. Her proud parents are Blair and Eric Brush. Blair is an academic program assistant with pediatrics at the Janeway. Best wishes!

JACK EDWARD O’BRIEN was born on Jan. 4, 2013, to proud parents Jody and Stephanie O’Brien. Jack is the second grandson of Cynthia Cleary who works in the President’s Office. Best wishes!

Lives lived

JEFF BULCOCK, retired professor, Faculty of Education, passed away on Jan. 22, 2013. He was 82.

GEORGE CAMPBELL, a workshop supervisor in the Department of Fine Arts, Grenfell Campus, passed away Dec. 6, 2012. He was 72.

ROLAND REX CARTER, an employee with Technical Services, passed away Nov. 23, 2012. He was 52.

FRANK DALTON, retired Stores Clerk, Department of Technical Services, passed away Jan. 16, 2013. He was 78.

SARAH DRINKWATER, retired communications coordinator II, division of Marketing and Communications, passed away Dec. 18, 2012. She was 72.

R. SHELDON MACKENZIE, retired professor, Department of Religious Studies, passed away on Dec. 27, 2012. He was 82.

ROLF STEPHEN REES, an associate professor with the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, passed away Dec. 10, 2012. He was 52.

KENNETH ROBERTS, retired professor, Faculty of Medicine, passed away Dec. 17, 2012. He was 89.

HILDA SMITH, a retired employee of the Department of Biology, passed away Dec. 24, 2012. She was 100.

Retirements

DR. BERNARD O’DWYER began teaching in Memorial’s Department of English Language and Literature in 1971. After 41 years and one semester he is retiring to spend time writing a book and travelling. His big retirement present to himself? A cruise to the South Pacific. Bon voyage, Bernard!

DELORES WHEELER began working at Memorial University in 1974 as a 17-year-old summer student. Over the years she moved up through several clerk positions before becoming a secretary in 1980. She joined the Ocean Sciences Centre in 1984 and since 1996 has been their administrative staff specialist. In 2007 Delores received the Dean of Science Distinguished Service Award. All the best!

PAUL HAWKINS, production manager, Printing Services, retired after 27 years with Memorial. As usual he was ahead of schedule, leaving on Jan. 31 with his official retirement date May 3, 2013. Thanks and congratulations, Paul!

DR. LAURA HALFYARD, Marine Institute faculty member and alumna, retired from the Marine Institute in January. Laura left her position as the chair of aquaculture programs, aquaculture instructor and researcher at the institute’s School of Fisheries to begin a new chapter as manager with her family’s commercial mussel farming business. There are no plans to slow down. She plans to travel to the Galapagos Islands and continue her work in Vietnam with the Tra Vinh University. In honour of her 29 years of service to Mi and Memorial University, and in her desire to encourage young women in their chosen career option that contributes to rural Newfoundland, she has set up the L.C. Halfyard Scholarship for Women fund. Valued at $500 annually, the scholarship will be awarded to a full-time female student enrolled in any program at the Marine Institute. Well done!

A GROUP FROM GRENFEll CAMPUS were on hand for a retirement photo at a recent Employee Awards Ceremony. Thanks to, from left, Kathleen Snow (16 years), Deborah Evans (34 years), Linda Carroll (21 years) and Keith Nicol (31 years). Missing from photo are Pauline Hayes (30 years) and Sylvia DSMond (19 years). Best wishes!

Nursing faculty members retire with more than 125 years of service

Congratulations to, from left, Ian Gier, Wendy Young, Marilyn Beaton and Lorna Bennett who joined Judith McFetridge-Durdle, dean of Memorial’s School of Nursing, to celebrate their retirement from the School of Nursing recently. Among them, the faculty members (including their colleague Suzan Banoub-Baddour who is missing from this photo) contributed more than 125 years of service to Memorial’s School of Nursing. They marked their many years of teaching and research at a special retirement party held in their honour in early February. Their plans for retirement include gardening, spending time with children and grandchildren, taking a Mediterranean cruise and applying for adjunct professor status.
WHO IS THIS? And where was he working in 1972? You may know him now as a writer, actor, musician, freelance broadcaster, percussionist, vocalist, composer or dancer.

Send your guess to sodawson@mun.ca or mail it to us (complete mailing address on page 2) for a chance to win. The contest is open to all faculty, staff and retirees. The deadline for entries is April 12, 2013. One entry per submission. Be sure to include your name, contact number and your department.

Congratulations to Don Walsh, digital archives technician, QEII library for correctly guessing our Days Gone By mystery photo in the 2012–2013 winter edition. The photo at right shows a creative Mary McKim, best known as a CBC television reporter, singing and playing guitar. There were a lot of guesses submitted!

A huge thank you to Linda White, Archives and Manuscripts Division, QEII library, who enthusiastically provides photos for this contest.

“I STARTED AS a business co-op student at C-CORE more than 20 years ago and today I manage the business services team. Every day we work with C-CORE’s team of research engineers and scientists to provide financial management for more than 100 R&D projects annually. To help C-CORE run smoothly, we work to develop and implement human resources, IT and communications strategies and to ensure we have a top notch quality health, safety and environmental program. It’s great to work with such a highly motivated team and to see the value we bring to our clients locally — such as the oil and gas operators on the Grand Banks — and internationally — such as the European Space Agency.”

SUSAN KENNEDY
Vice-president, corporate services
C-CORE

“My guess is that he worked in a library.

You can tell it’s spring at MI when the amount of students visiting the placement office increases and you can see the grass getting greener in Pippy Park!”

KARI SHORT, placement officer
Department of Degree Studies and Research
Marine Institute

“I know spring has begun when the oil and gas operators start arriving for field work in the country.”

NATHANIEL POLLOCK,
PhD candidate
Division of Community Health
and Humanities
Labrador Institute, Happy Valley-Goose Bay

On your campus, how do you know when spring begins?

“For me, it’s when my day ends with the sun still in the sky and I don’t have to warm up my car for 20 minutes before driving home. I can also tell that spring has arrived when eager grad students start arriving for field work in the country.”

SUSAN KENNEDY
Vice-president, corporate services
C-CORE

“I know spring has begun when we celebrate the Iranian New Year (Nowruz) with friends and lots of food!”

DR. NORIKO DANESH'TALAB,
assistant professor
School of Pharmacy
cross appointment to Faculty of Medicine

“I know spring begins when there are more bodies on campus. It signals improving weather, and that the recruitment efforts for the upcoming academic semester are working non-stop to fill the campus!”

LUCAS POOLE,
student housing officer
Grenfell Campus

You can tell it’s spring when there are more bodies on campus. It signals improving weather, and that the recruitment efforts for the upcoming academic semester are working non-stop to fill the campus!”

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Memorial University’s Teaching and Learning Community launches online video:
www.mun.ca/teachingandlearning

Mystery photo challenge