



Faculty of Arts

Winter/Spring 2009



Drs. Bev Diamond (Music/Folklore), David Bell (Religious Studies) and Jerry Pocius (Folklore) are the Faculty of Arts new RSC Fellows.

Faculty of Arts breaks record

In a record-breaking

achievement, the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) has named three Memorial University professors to the society. Out of the 12 new fellows (2008) from the English Division of Humanities within the RSC, three are from Memorial's Faculty of Arts.

No other university in Canada has this many fellows within this division in 2008 and Memorial has never had this many new fellows in one year. Election to the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) is considered the highest academic honour in Canada.

Dr. Gerald Pocius, university research professor and member of both the Archaeology and Folklore departments, Dr. Beverley Diamond, director of the MMAP Research Centre, the Canada Research Chair in Ethnomusicology and a joint appointment with the School of Music and the Folklore Department, and Dr. David Bell, university research professor and member of the Religious Studies Department, have been named to the prestigious society.

In citing Dr. Pocius's accomplishments, the RSC refers to him as "English Canada's leading interpreter of ordinary objects." By looking at how everyday

more about RSC, pg. 16



NEWS from the **DEAN'S OFFICE**

Dear Friends,



Welcome to a new edition of ArtsWorld. The Faculty of Arts has accomplished a great deal this year and has witnessed some remarkable achievements by both faculty members and students, many of which you will read about in these pages.

In the Faculty of Arts, we are committed to leading edge scholarly research in the humanities and social sciences. During the past year, several faculty members and students received national and international recognition for their contributions to research, scholarship and their many outreach activities. We continue to collaborate widely on projects that have relevance to the community—locally and globally. Several examples of this outstanding work can be seen in Research Matters: Faculty of Arts Edition, a new publication we have launched with the assistance of the office of the VP Research.

We have undertaken several new initiatives in dealing with the ever-challenging issue of enrolment. These have included developing a retention program for at risk students and launching innovative programs on the

St. John's campus including an all-new film studies minor and a major in police studies. We also hosted two retired U.S. congressmen who spoke to students and faculty as part of the first Canadian tour of the Congress to Campus program. Kevin Major's first field trip, In the Footsteps of a Regiment, was a major accomplishment, and he will be hosting another trip in May of 2009. More information about these and other exciting innovations are available in this newsletter.

As donors you are a key part of our success and I offer you my sincere thanks. Your help in securing scholarships and other resources is essential as we continue to work towards the best for our students and our faculty. One of the major goals we have identified is making our study abroad programs more affordable to qualified students. If you are interested supporting this initiative, please contact Danny Hayward, development officer, at danielh@mun.ca.

Best wishes, Reeta Tremblay, PhD

Green light for new program

The recent approval of a major in communications studies is a telling example of the Faculty of Arts' strong commitment to offer innovative and attractive programs to students.



In the global landscape where information is a prime currency, communications has emerged as the central tenant of all disciplines. The study of

communications addresses questions such as: Who controls the media and why? What shape does communication take in today's global world? What are the different media technologies and who are they targeting? The major in communication studies will address these questions and others as it critically examines the role and development of communication in modern society.

"This has been a gap in our program offerings that has been long been identified by both recruiters and faculty. I believe there is a definite need for a major in communications studies here at Memorial and am www.arts.mun.ca/arts

confident that we can expect to see an increased number of students from Newfoundland and Labrador, other parts of Canada and international students registered in the Faculty of Arts as a result," said Dr. Reeta Tremblay.

The major in communications studies will be available to students in the 2009-2010 academic year.

"This is definitely a growth area in Canadian scholarship. And it is of particular importance in Newfoundland and Labrador due to the number of institutions that focus on communications and knowledge exchange such as The Rooms, NIFCO, Memorial's own Harris Centre and many others," said Dr. Jennifer Dyer, a member of the ninemember committee. "We are living in an information age and our society needs highly literate graduates with an advanced knowledge of the nature, function and development of communication."

For further information please contact Dr. Erwin Warkentin at ejwarken@mun.ca or visit www.mun.ca/ interdisciplinary/communications.

KNOWLEDGE slowly builds up what ignorance in an hour pulls down.

- George Eliot

WORLD-CLASS TEACHING

New faces

Several new faculty members have joined the Faculty of Arts over the past year and they bring a host of experience and viewpoints that will definitely enrich the lives of their students and the university as a whole.

Amanda Bittner, assistant professor in the



Department of Political Science, was the winner of the prestigious 2008 John McMenemy Prize for the best article published in the *Canadian Journal of Political Science*. She is interested in the effects of knowledge and information in voter decision-making.

Amanda Bittner

As a member of the Women's

Studies Department, **Dr. Sonia Boon** examines historical women through the lens of what she calls "corporeal autobiography."

Dr. Marica Cassis focuses primarily on medieval Middle-Eastern history. She hopes to develop her area into a larger segment of the department through the creation of a new group of courses over the next couple of years.

The newest member of the Linguistics Department is **Dr. Paul de Decker**, a socio-phonetician who studies the relationship between society and speech. Dr. de Decker hopes to incorporate the unique speech pattern of Newfoundland into his future research.

In the fall of 2008, **Dr. Roger Levy** joined the Faculty of Arts as head of the Department of Political Science. Prior to coming to Memorial, he was a visiting senior fellow at the London School of Economics. **Dr. Robert Ormsby** is the latest addition to the English Department, teaching Renaissance drama and specializing in Shakespeare in performance. In 2009, his article on a Canadian adaptation of Richard II will appear in Modern Drama.

Dr. Luke Roman of the Classics Department has a long-standing interest in the self representation of Roman poets and researches the city of Rome as a subject of Roman literature.

The Faculty of Arts awarded three post-doctoral, oneyear fellowships for 2008-09. Fellows are Dr. Julia Laite, Dr. Nancy Earle and Dr. Jean-Philippe Ranger.

Neis honoured in Norway

In March 2008, Dr. Barbara Neis received an honorary doctorate award from the University of Tromsø, Norway.

Jarle Aarbakke, rector, University of Tromsø, said Dr. Neis was nominated by the Centre for Women's Studies and Women in Research.

Dr. Neis is a professor in the Department of Sociology and the co-director of SafetyNet, a Community Research Alliance on Health and Safety in Marine and Coastal Work. She has extensively researched many aspects of the Newfoundland and Labrador fishery, including issues related to occupational health, knowledge systems, industrial restructuring, fisheries policy, and gender and fisheries.

more about WORLD-CLASS, pg. 4



WORLDCLASS, cont'd from pg. 3



From left, Dr. Wade Locke, Ginny Ryan, Dr. Reeta Tremblay, Denise Hooper, Dr. Valerie Legge, Dr. Peter Pope

Faculty of Arts makes substantial showing at this year's president's awards

A record number of faculty and staff from the Faculty of Arts were honoured at this year's reception for the Presidents Awards. Among these were: Dr. Peter Pope of the Archaeology and Anthropology Department (University Research Professor); Dr. Valerie Legge of the English Department (Distinguished Teaching); Dr. Wade Locke of the Economics Department (Exceptional Community Service); and Denise Hooper, senior career development co-ordinator and Ginny Ryan, director of the Writing Center were both recognized for Exceptional Service.

HUMAN HISTORY becomes more and more a race between education and catastrophe.

– H.G. Wells

Environmental historian wins two prestigious awards for first book

A Memorial University environmental historian has been awarded the Canadian History Society's 2008 Clio Award for Northern Canadian history and the Forest History Society's 2007 Charles A. Weyerhaeuser award for best book in forest and conservation history.

Dr. Sandlos' first book, Hunters at the Margin: Native People and Wildlife Conservation in the Northwest Territories, 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.



Past winners of the Clio Prize for the Canadian North have made significant contributions to an overall understanding of the region's history and Dr. Sandlos is deeply honoured to have his book recognized alongside them.

Winning the Charles A. Wyerhaeuser award is a huge accomplishment. This prize is international in scope and past winners include some major scholars in the field of

environmental history. Dr. Sandlos is only the second Canadian to win the award.

For more information please see www.cha-shc.ca/ english/activ/prizes_prix/clio.cfm and www.foresthistory.org/Fellowships/CAWaward.html

GREAT GUESTS

Congressional visit

On Oct. 9 and 10, the Faculty of Arts at Memorial University hosted two retired U.S.



Dean Tremblay, Congressman Orval Hansen and Congressman Dennis Hertel at Cape Spear.

congressman as part of the Congress to Campus Program, a 30-year-old initiative of the United States Association of Former Members of Congress.

The program has now been extended to Canada and other countries such as the U.K., Japan and Korea.

Over their two-day stay in Newfoundland, Congressman Dennis Hertel (Democract – Michigan) and Orval Hansen (Republican – Idaho) conducted classes and met informally with students, faculty and administration. Among others, they spoke to Dr. Amanda Bittner's class, Introduction to Political Science. "Hearing the congressmen's perspective on campaigning, on what it was like to work in the House of Representatives, and listening to their thoughts regarding the current 2008 election fed into the excitement in the class, and I am certain that it provided extra motivation to continue learning about the nuts and bolts of politics," said Dr. Bittner.

It was both congressmen's first visit to Newfoundland and they were suitably impressed. "St. John's and Memorial University will always occupy a warm spot in my heart. This was a welcome opportunity to learn about the history and culture of this fascinating corner of the world," said Congressmen Hansen.

Blackwood draws big

David Blackwood, one of Canada's most respected visual storytellers, and an honorary degree recipient from Memorial, gave a sold out illustrated public lecture in honour of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Department of Folklore at Memorial.

During the talk, Dr. Blackwood discussed how growing up in outport Newfoundland shaped his work and his life.

"David Blackwood is a dominant and charismatic force, not only within Canada but also in the international art scene," said Dr. Paul Smith, a professor in the Folklore Department.

"His work translates the sagas of Newfoundland's traditional culture and commemorates a way of life quite



foreign to the majority of Canadians, let alone the rest of the world. I speak for all my colleagues in Folklore when I say we were thrilled that he is gave this talk in honour of the 40th anniversary of the founding of our department."

Dr. Blackwood's work has been exhibited nationally and internationally with over 90 solo shows and scores of group exhibitions.

He has been the subject of two major retrospective exhibitions and the National Film Board's Academy Award nominated documentary film BLACKWOOD.

Writer in residence

During the 2008 fall semester, Aislinn Hunter was



writer in residence at Memorial University. She has published poetry, short fiction, a novella, a novel, essays and reviews as well as young adult non-fiction and has been called a "genuine ambidexter, equally gifted in fiction and poetry."

In addition to serving as a resource to the university and the larger community, during her term Ms. Hunter met with various individuals to discuss their writing and the writing process. She also participated in several public readings of her work and completed her term with a lecture on "thing theory."





ArtsWorld

Our cops are tops

On Labour Day weekend, the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary (RNC) and the Faculty of Arts celebrated as 28 new officers were sworn in at a ceremony at the Field House on Memorial's main campus. The 11 women and 17 men all received their diploma in police studies, a year-long joint program between the RNC and Memorial University's Faculty of Arts.

Since the police studies diploma was instigated in 2004, a total of 112 officers have completed the program and all are still serving in the RNC. Five of the cadets were also named to the Dean's List which pleased Dr. Reeta Tremblay, who was on hand as part of the Reviewing Party.

"The Diploma in Police Studies has been an extremely successful partnership between the Faculty of Arts and the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary, and is an excellent example of a long-term approach to the constantly evolving structural shifts in our province in terms of its population, economy and urbanization. To see that five of the constables made it to the Dean's List is the icing on the cake!" said Dean Tremblay.

Following the success of the diploma in police studies, the Faculty of Arts is now offering a major in police studies. Police officers today need the problem-solving ability and critical thinking strategies that an arts education can provide and all those involved agree that a continued connection with the university is of great importance. "This is the result of the co-operative efforts of many departments at Memorial University and members of the RNC," said Anne Morris, police studies program co-ordinator and member of the Sociology Department.

Artist now in residence

To paraphrase Oscar Wilde, after a good dinner, one can conceive of anything.



As a result of such a convivial evening, the Faculty of Arts now has its own artist-in-residence.

"We were chatting about the connection between the visual arts and the concepts that are studied at the Faculty of Arts. Things like looking at other points of view, living fully in the world and the value of experience itself.

Peter Wilkins

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I believe Dr. Tremblay has had this in the back of her mind for some time and she suggested I make myself available on campus this semester as artist-inresidence," said multimedia artist Peter Wilkins.

For her part, Dr. Tremblay says that she has been wanting to connect the Faculty of Arts with the thriving visual arts scene in St. John's for some time.

"The pattern of social and intellectual development in any society have always been directly related to the expression of art. I can never think of the social sciences and humanities without thinking about the impact of art on Western civilization."

Dr. Jennifer Dyer, current director of studies in Humanities, explains that having an artist- in-residence within the Faculty of Arts can force both students and faculty to look and to think by simply revealing features of the world to us in an interesting way.

"The relation between an artist-in-residence and the Faculty of Arts is obvious, for the artist manifests that aspect of the world which we intellectually inquire into constantly in the social sciences and humanities, namely the value of experience itself. Art opens up the experience of others, of ourselves and of the overlooked, so we can recognize the value in all of them. This is especially important when there is no visual arts department on campus and the aesthetic experience, which is a fundament of human experience, is not overtly addressed."

A lens based artist—"it's a bit murky as to what kind of art I do"—Mr. Wilkins has big plans for the next

Linking with Labrador

There may be hundreds of miles separating Memorial University's St. John's campus and Labrador, but the Faculty of Arts is actively attempting to bridge that physical distance with several new initiatives.

Since spring 2008, the Faculty of Arts has staged a series of guest lectures on an ongoing basis via video conference to students and members of the public at the College of the North Atlantic in Goose Bay. Topics covered have included the critical importance of linguistic diversity, the Moravians in Labrador, and the work of Sir Wilfred Grenfell.

The Faculty of Arts has announced a post-doctoral fellowship in partnership with the Labrador Institute for the academic year 2009-10 and beyond. The fellowship program promotes new scholars in the social sciences and humanities with a focus on issues concerning Labrador or Aboriginal communities.

2009 marks the third year of offering second-year courses during the university's intersession. Dr. Douglas Wharram will offer Linguistics 2100 while Damian Castro, a graduate student from Argentina doing research in Labrador, will offer Anthropology 2414. In addition, distance courses have been promoted by the development of print ads which are culturally relevant to Labrador people, and have run in newspapers in Goose Bay and Labrador City.

A number of researchers in a variety of fields from the Faculty of Arts continue to be active throughout Labrador. One of these projects, The Newfoundland City Regional Study: Social Foundations of Innovations in City Regions, includes researchers Dr. Reeta Trembly, Dr. Rob Greenwood of the Harris Centre, Dr. Josh Lepawsky of the Geography Department, and Anne-Marie Vaughan of DELT (Distance Education and Learning Technologies). Labrador City will be studied as part of this project.

couple of months. Among the projects on his to-do list are to take the world's largest group portrait in the snow, to create kinetic portraits of faculty, students and administrators within the faculty, and to develop a couple of projects in conjunction with the Munnel system which will include video trompe d'oeils and a new look for the stripes that currently colour-code the system.

Arts Council Appointment

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

In addition to Mr. Norman's responsibilities for the state-ofthe-art equipment at the centre,



student researchers in digital photography,

he also trains

faculty and

digital video production and editing. And as one of the trailblazers of the Newfoundland film community, he was a founding member of the Newfoundland Independent Filmmakers Co-operative (NIFCO), as well as the Producers Association of Newfoundland.

Mr. Norman is extremely happy with his new appointment and sees it as an opportunity to ensure that film arts and the arts in general get appropriate recognition and support.

"Film and video production is a dynamic component of our artistic expression in this province and I feel fortunate to have been a part of this community all my working life."

First Provincial Folklorist a Memorial Alumnus

Memorial University alumnus Dale Jarvis has been named



Newfoundland and Labrador's first provincial folklorist. Mr. Jarvis, who holds an MA in

folklore, has worked for 13 years with the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador (HFNL).

Well known locally from his involvement in storytelling festivals and the famed St. John's Haunted Hike, Mr. Jarvis is also the author of two popular books on Newfoundland and Labrador folklore and ghost stories and a third volume for young adults.

His entrepreneurial streak will serve him well in his position as Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) Development Officer for the province.

"Our intangible cultural heritage is in everything we do, and it is such a huge part of the vibrant, living culture we have in Newfoundland and Labrador," says Mr. Jarvis.

The Faculty of Arts has been working with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and other partners on the Newfoundland and Labrador Heritage website which eventores in detail the history

society, culture, and natural environment of our province. Visit www.heritage.nf.ca and discover something you didn't know about Newfoundland and Labrador.



GLOBAL EXPERIENCE

Students seek investment at APEC Summit

Melissa Royle and Mark Freake, political science students, travelled with four other young Canadians as part of a Junior Team Canada delegation to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit in Lima, Peru.

While in South America, the team networked with foreign CEOs to discover potential investment for Canada, and specifically Newfoundland and Labrador.

They also held a 45-minute roundtable with Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Minister of Foreign Affairs Lawrence Cannon and Minister of International Trade Stockwell Day. The team described what they learned and accomplished at APEC, and explained their individual projects to be implemented at home. The team also witnessed the signing of the Canada-Colombia Free Trade Agreement, attended a reception at the Canadian embassy in Lima and met with the



government leaders of Colombia, Australia and the Philippines.

Sponsors of the program included Memorial University of Newfoundland, The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Talisman Energy and PF Collins.

Melissa Royle is in her final year of her bachelor of arts (honours) in political science. She will graduate in April 2009 and plans to begin studying law in September. She is the president of Memorial's Political Science Society, an executive member of the Canadian Political Science Students Association, and co-ordinator of Memorial's Legal Aid office.

Mark Freake will also graduate with a bachelor of arts (honours) in political science in April 2009. He is active on Memorial's Students' Union, the political science society and the Native Friendship Centre.



Faculty of Arts students continue to be spoiled for choice when it comes to study abroad options. Two new initiatives were launched in 2008. Dr. Don Nichol and his wife, actress Mary Walsh, introduced "Literary London", a program on satirical writing and 18th-century literature. Dr. Steve Wolinetz of the Political Science Department and Dr. Katherine Side, head of the Women's Studies Department,

combined forces to offer an interdisciplinary course in European studies entitled "Politics and Society in Contemporary Europe: Britain and Ireland from Partition to Present".

This year will see the return of a perennial favourite trip as Dr. Jerry Pocius will take his English cultural landscape program to Harlow for the 15th year in a row. Dr. Kim Ian Parker of the Religious Studies Department has initiated a new interdisciplinary program entitled Faith, Love and Lore which is being offered to students at the University of Prince Edward Island as well as those at Memorial.

Another new program for students this year focuses on locating Italy and Italian culture within the greater context of Europe and the European Union. Students will stay in Conegliano at the beautifully restored Ex Convento di San Francesco, which is about 60 kilometres from St. Mark's Square in Venice. Field trips will be central to this program.

The Frecker program in Saint Pierre et Miquelon continues to attract students who are interested in living and studying in French as does the Canadian third year in Nice program. And the La Corona program in Galicia, co-ordinated by Dr. Messod Salama, allows students to experience the people and customs of Spain. The Faculty of Arts hopes to soon offer further assistance in the form of bursaries for more students to participate in study abroad programs.

www.mun.ca/arts/undergraduate/abroad/treviso/index.php www.mun.ca/arts/undergraduate/abroad/faithlovelore www.mun.ca/ecl/ arts-srv.arts.mun.ca/frsp/lacoruna/ arts-srv.arts.mun.ca/frsp/programmes/french/nice.php http://arts-srv.arts.mun.ca/frecker/



Students from the 2008 European Studies program in Ballycastle, Northern Ireland

CTRAVEL, in the younger sort, is a part of education.

- Francis Bacon

Interning in Africa

Chantal Cardinal, the recipient of the 2008 Students



for Development Scholarship, is still buzzing from the three months she spent in Tanzania this past fall.

A second-year graduate student in the Women's Studies Department, Chantal spent her internship creating and implementing HIV/AIDS awareness to high schools in

World AIDS day in Tanzania.

the region, speaking to students from the ages of 13 to 19. Tanzania has a high prevalence of HIV infection, primarily in women.

Chantal says her experience was quite an eye opener in terms of the issues faced by locally-based NGOs. "UKUN (Uhakika Kituo cha Ushauri Nasaha , Swahili for Professional Counselling Centre), the organization I was working with, hadn't received any funding for over five months."

Regardless, Chantal was able to make some significant achievements with the limited resources available. In addition to the high school program, she organized and facilitated a teacher's workshop on participatory teaching methods for the topic of HIV/AIDS. She also created two brochures for the UK UN office and acquired educational resources on topics of interest to youth in the community. Finally, she initiated a project that involved meeting with primary and secondary students to discuss the challenges that girls face in some educational settings.

"Ultimately my experience reinforced to me that more support to local women's organizations is needed in order to make women's voices heard and for them to actually have a role in the decision-making process. Women and people living with HIV/AIDS are especially vulnerable in this situation," says Chantal.

The internship program offered to graduate students by the Department of Women's Studies was the big draw in attracting Chantal, an Ottawa native, to study at Memorial's Faculty of Arts.

Ultimately, the Northern Ontario native would like to

work for an NGO on women's rights at an international level. No doubt her experience in Africa will come in handy in her future career path which she hopes will take her back to Tanzania.

"I'd go back in a heartbeat—I didn't want to leave. The people there have nothing compared to what we have access to in North America but they were the happiest people I had ever met."

Visiting from afar

The Maritime History Archive has seen many hard-working researchers come and go but none have inspired such awe as Dr. Marjorie Ragosta.

The 78-year-old has been visiting the Faculty of Arts facility regularly since the mid-1990s. Her project? Tracing her family tree and identifying those she calls "my people." In some cases she has gone has far back



as 12th-century England and she has an inch thick book of records to prove it.

The daughter of Ella Freeman of Champneys West on the Bonavista Peninsula, Dr. Ragosta began tape recording the reminiscences of her

Dr. Marjorie Ragosta in her favourite place

family when accompanying her mother during visits to Newfoundland in the 1980s from their home in New York.

"It has been a little like detective work," said Dr. Ragosta, who ironically bears a strong resemblance to Agatha Christie's fictional detective, Jane Marple.

Eager to extend her research, Dr. Ragosta went from tape recording and transcribing family interviews to examining local church records in Bonavista. When she had exhausted that route she visited the QEII library. They then directed her to the Maritime History Archives: "I thought I had died and gone to heaven when I walked in these doors."

FOSTERING STUDENT SUCCESS

National recognition

ArtsWorld

The Canadian Association of College and University Student Services recognized Adam Daniels,



Adam Daniels accepts his award from CASA reps David Newman and Krista Steeves

a political science major and geography minor, for his outstanding contribution to the Memorial University community and for his interest in learning about and contributing to, the development of student services.

Mr. Daniels' award was presented at CACUSS 2008, the annual Canadian Association of College and University Students Conference which took place in June 2008.

Celebrating the best

On Oct. 29, the faculty held its second annual Dean's Reception in the full-to-capacity Inco Auditorium, celebrating the 219 students who achieved a minimum grade point average of 3.5 and an average of at least 80 per cent in the 2007-2008 school year.

In addition to recognizing each student on the Dean's List individually, departmental book prizes were awarded to 14 students who, in the view of their department heads, demonstrated academic excellence in their declared major over the past academic year.

"I'm all for celebrating in a very public way the excellence, hard work and talent of our students in the Arts faculty," said Dr. Annette Staveley, who was in attendance on the night. "They are an integral part of the intellectual community at Memorial. Many go on to outstanding careers in the arts, law, business, politics, education, medicine and the media. Occasions like the Dean's Reception testify to the tradition of excellence at Memorial University and reinforce the faculty's continued commitment to praising individually our students' hardwork and dedication."

Following the Dean's Reception, the second Forum for Excellence was held on Nov. 8. First held in May 2008, this initiative of the Faculty of Arts and the Centre for Career Development is a day-long session specifically designed for those students on the Dean's List.

"Whether students are contemplating an academic or professional career, considering taking a year or two off to travel the world, or are wondering how to land that first, all important 'real job', we designed the Forum for Excellence to offer our academic achievers a progressive, value-added experience and to showcase our ongoing commitment to their success," said Dr. Reeta Tremblay.

Students enjoyed presentations from advisors from the Faculty of Arts and successful Faculty of Arts alumni from the St. John's business community.

Blowing our own horn ...

In 2008, the Student Affairs and Services Organization (SASA) awarded their annual Innovation Award to ArtsWorks, an exciting new program initiated by the Faculty of Arts and Career Development and Experiential Learning that helps arts students prepare for life after graduation.

As part of the application process, testimonials from students were requested. Among the many positive



Denise Hooper, centre, with proud ArtsWorks grads

things students had to say about the program was this ringing endorsement from a winter 2008 participant: "I have to say, joining ArtsWorks was one of the best decisions I have made thus far while attending Memorial."

The 10-week program reinforces and recognizes the "real-world" value of the knowledge and skills arts students receive through their classroom work. Students learn the latest job seeking and networking skills, and get expert instruction in writing resumes and interview techniques.

ArtsWorks also partners with local community organizations to offer rewarding service-learning experiences for students.

"I am not at all surprised that ArtsWorks has won this prestigious national award," says Dr. Tremblay, dean of Arts. Dr. Tremblay particularly praised Denise Hooper's role in conceptualizing the program and implementing it so effectively. "This has been a crucial project for the Faculty of Arts in retaining our students and helping them succeed. Bravo!"

Poetry prize

Duncan Major,

a fourth-year honours student in the English Department, was this year's winner of the Gregory J. Power Poetry Award.

Mr. Major's poem, "Springtime" was first prize in the annual competition that honours emerging student poets at Memorial.



Duncan Major, right, is pictured with Winter 2008 Writer-in-Residence and former Power Poetry Award winner Michael Crummey

Encouraging Non-traditional Students

Recognizing that the nuts and bolts of student life continues to evolve, the Faculty of Arts has focused much energy in developing programs for non-traditional students. As a result, 2008 saw significant increases in online registrations. In the past, distance education courses were available to supplement a bachelor of arts, but did not have all the components to fully complete a degree. Now, thanks to ongoing collaboration between the Faculty of Arts and Memorial's Distance Education and Learning Technologies, students are able to complete a bachelor of arts degree program entirely online.

Combined with course development of the bachelor of arts for online delivery, resources have also been used



to establish the online bachelor of arts (police studies) program. These programs were developed out of a need to make post-secondary education more

accessible to non-traditional students. Several new programs including a major in law and society are planned for the future.

Students who have completed a diploma program in the Faculty of Arts but don't hold an undergraduate degree are now eligible to be awarded their diploma, thanks to a change in regulations approved by the University Senate in the spring of 2008. This new initiative offers flexibility to those looking for retraining, upgrading or updating of their skill set in a particular professional field.

Control to the second secon

- Helen Keller



CUTTING EDGE RESEARCH

A new take on an old story



Dr. Sean Cadigan, associate professor in the Department of History, has published extensively on the history of Newfoundland and Labrador. Now his latest book, *Newfoundland and Labrador: A History*, is being released by the University of Toronto Press in time for the 60th anniversary of confederation with Canada.

Sure to be the definitive history of the province, Dr. Cadigan's book examines our region from prehistoric times to the present and is also an illuminating portrait of the Atlantic world and European colonization of the Americas. The book pays particular attention to the ways in which Newfoundland and Labrador's history has been shaped by its environment, and considers how natural resources such as the Grand Banks, the disappearance of cod, and off-shore oil have affected the region and its inhabitants.

"I hope that this book will draw attention to the diverse experiences of the many peoples who have made Newfoundland and Labrador, and that it will highlight the different levels of adversity these peoples have faced," said Dr. Cadigan.

The book will retail for \$29.95 and is available in most bookstores.

CRESERVE Research is formalized curiosity. It is poking and prying with a purpose. It is a seeking that he who wishes may know the cosmic secrets of the world and that they dwell therein. ??

 Zora Neale Hurston (1891-1960), African-American novelist, short story writer, folklorist, playwright and anthropologist.



Trevor Bell

Climate change research gets assistance

Dr. Trevor Bell of the Geography Department has just received funding from the Department of Environment and Conservation to assist in his research on climate change in Labrador. His project, "Climate Change Adaptation in Labrador: Consolidating the Base," builds on key actions identified during the March 2008 climate change conference in Labrador that Dr. Bell co-chaired. These actions include: improving collaboration amongst communities, researchers and governments in Labrador; engaging communities on climate change issues in Labrador; and compiling existing knowledge on climate change studies in Labrador.

Needless to say, Dr. Bell is pleased with the support from the Department of Environment and Conservation. "The funding will certainly enhance our ability to undertake climate change adaption work with the communities, researchers and governments in Labrador."

Research Matters: Arts edition



The Faculty of Arts has launched a new publication devoted specifically to the research being conducted by faculty members. *"Research Matters: Arts Edition* is the result of a partnership between the Faculty of Arts and the vice-president of research to showcase the diverse work being done within our faculty and how this work impacts both the local and global worlds in which we live," said Dr. Reeta Tremblay.

The publication also showcases the work of key student researchers such as Nasrin Akter of the Women's Studies department and Andrew Song who is completing his MA in geography. The second edition is scheduled to appear in September of 2009. *Research Matters: Arts Edition* can be read online at www.mun.ca/arts/research/ docs/research_matters_arts_2008.pdf. Please contact the dean of Arts office if you wish to be placed on the mailing list for this publication.

Innu place names website culmination of years of work

Representatives from Memorial's Faculty

of Arts have played a key role in the launch of a new website. Called *Pepamuteiati nitassinat* (as we walk across our land) it is the first comprehensive cultural website dedicated entirely to Aboriginal place names.

The website gives access to over 500 Innu place names in Labrador, as well as stories, photos and video clips associated with the names.

One of the key issues during the project was validating the names and implementing a common spelling of each.

Through Linguistics Department head Dr. Marguerite Mackenzie's CURA project, funding was made available to review names that had been collected since the 1970s through previous projects.

Obviously there have been significant changes in data collection since a 1980 project where giant maps were laid on the floor at a local school. Older hunters were invited to walk about on these maps pointing out the location of place names as well as old travel routes, camp sites, birth places and good hunting and fishing locations. The current project, which dates from 2004, covers the geographic area of Labrador to the east of Churchill Falls, and uses GIS technologies to pinpoint locations, such as the mouth of a particular river.

"The project began with 1,200 place names, which have been whittled down to the 500 which made it to the website," said Dr. Marguerite MacKenzie, who assisted project manager Peter Armitage and ethnolinguist José Mailhot in the validation process.

One of the complications of this process, according to Dr. MacKenzie, was that as the community's elders passed on, many words could no longer be verified with younger speakers. In some cases, words were recorded so inconsistently that they couldn't even be deciphered.

Some of the 500 place names are scheduled to be "officialized" with the Provincial Geographical Names Board and will show up in future versions of digital maps of the area. In addition, with the implementation of a common spelling and an attached sound file, it is hoped that more Innu pronunciation of names by non-Innu will now be possible.

The website can be explored at www.innuplaces.ca.



GENEROUS DONORS

Heaslip—Big Money, Big Results

Two second year Faculty of Arts students are still stunned by the good news they received just prior to Christmas.

Evan Walsh and Leah Burt have been named as the beneficiaries of the substantial \$15,000 scholarship, which is renewable for two additional years.

The award is funded by a donation from The William and Nona Heaslip

Foundation and is the largest scholarship available to undergraduate students at Memorial.

Coincidently, both students are studying political science.

Upon receiving the official letter notifying him of his win, Evan Walsh was "ridiculously surprised at the amount it was for." He goes on to say, "I assumed I had misheard them in the interview and that it was for \$1,500 per year—I'm like that with numbers. I had to count the zeros as I read the letter just to make sure."



Heaslip award winners Evan Walsh and Leah Burt

Leah Burt, who is pursuing a double major in French and political science, says that winning the Heaslip will make her future plans of studying environmental law " a lot easier."

In addition to this year's winners, Eleanor Daley's inaugural scholarship has been renewed for a second and final time and Andrew Harvey, a winner from 2008 who is pursuing a degree in linguistics, has received

notice of his first renewal.

Heaslip Scholarships are awarded to two students annually who are registered for full-time studies, have scholarship standing, are in financial need and have demonstrated outstanding involvement in university and/or community affairs. They are renewable for an additional two years provided the above noted requirements continue to be demonstrated. Preference is given to students in the Faculty of Arts.

Graham family comes through



Mrs. Kathleen Graham addresses winner Steven Woodworth

Steven Woodworth, who is completing an honours degree in French with a minor in English, was this year's recipient of the Graham Family Scholarship, established by Mrs. Kathleen Graham Birchall and her son, Dr. David Graham. The award is given annually to an outstanding Memorial student majoring in French studies. Selection is made by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Scholarships and Financial Aid upon the recommendation of the head of the Departments of French and Spanish.

Mr. Woodsworth and several past winners were honoured at the Graham family event in September.

Planned giving as a philanthropic tool

According to a recent article in *Investment Executive*, charitable donations in Canada are projected to double over the next decade with an increased trend



of those seeking advice from their financial planners.

In fact, this expectation reflects a culture of giving in Canada that saw charitable giving almost double from \$4.3 billion to \$8.5 billion in the ten years from 1997 to 2006 according to *Philantropic Trends*. In 2006 alone, charitable

giving rose approximately 8.3 per cent which can be attributed in part to the elimination of the capital gains tax by the federal government on donated securities. Subsequently, planned giving has become one of the most powerful and popular philanthropic tools available today.

Planned giving is essentially deciding in advance what happens to your estate. Whether it's cash,

securities, life insurance, real estate or gifts in kind, it puts you in control and a well-planned gift ensures your legacy makes a statement about the things that are important to you. Of course there are many reasons to give, whether they are tax-related or altruistic, but all of them are extremely influential.

With the markets experiencing some very disturbing instability, charitable giving tends to slow down and often prompts individuals to postpone their plans. However, that doesn't have to be the case. Timing the market is almost impossible to accomplish and philanthropically minded individuals should instead consider a giving approach that speaks to them personally and maps out a long-term strategy to account for market turbulence.

The convenience of putting your investment in the hands of professional managers and ensuring that family and financial matters are resolved privately gives you peace of mind and allows you to realize your charitable choices now instead of later. Everyone benefits from the power of a planned gift - you, your family and your university. For more information on planned giving or making a gift to the Faculty of Arts, contact Danny Hayward, development officer for the Faculty of Arts and School of Music on 709.737.7539 or via e-mail danielh@mun.ca.

Good Scholarship indeed

Kyle Rees was named as the recipient of the third annual James A. Good Scholarship in philosophy at a reception hosted by His Honour Lieutenant Governor John Crosby at Government House.

The James A. Good Scholarship in Philosophy was established in memory of its namesake. Mr. Good was an alumnus of Memorial's philosophy program, and had a stellar career in politics and investment banking before his life was cut short by illness in 2005.



Philosophy students Steve Woodworth, Joseph Carew and this year's Good scholarship winner Kyle Rees celebrate at the Government House reception

(IF EDUCATION is beaten by training, civilization dies)) - C.S. Lewis



Faculty of Arts

The Global Cinema Series has been called "a mini film studies



A unique opportunity to view multiple award-winning

international films and participate in discussions moderated by Faculty of Arts professors. Films are screened at the Inco Innovation Centre and tickets are \$6 per film. Please see www.mun.ca/ arts/alumni/cinema2009.php for Spring 2009 schedule.



ArtsWorld is a publication of Memorial's Faculty of Arts. It is intended to highlight some of our best and brightest achievements to show off what we've become, and what we're still becoming and of course to recognize the support from so many that helps us accomplish so much.

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If you would prefer to receive an electronic copy of this newsletter, or wish to be taken off the ArtsWorld mailing list, please contact one of the editors.

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EVENTS The Faculty of Arts hosts a variety of events to inspire, inform and entertain. Keep your eye on our Event Calendar, found at www.mun.ca/arts/events/ or visit our home page at www.mun.ca/arts/about/. Other sites you might want to visit are:

> www.bluestockingsalon.blogspot.com/ www.infonet.st-johns.nf.ca/providers/nfldhist/ www.mun.ca/soc/newsletter/issue02/index.html www.mun.ca/arts/alumni/cinema2009.php www.haminterestgroup.ca/ www.mun.ca/cclas my.munalum.ca/ – Memorial University alumni www.heritage.nl.ca www.arts.mun.ca/admreformnet/index.html wanl@aibn.nf.com - Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador www.mun.ca/cinema



A BACHELOR OF ARTS creates an attitude, an approach to problem-solving and to life in general that will serve the graduate for a lifetime and lucky employers for many years. Increasingly in our ever-changing world, creativity and innovation are what companies are looking to workers for. Being able to write, understand a situation and assess its context are truly invaluable to any employer. Now more than ever before, a BA is one of the best investments a student can make. We're looking for testimonials about your arts degree and how it has affected your career and your life.

Please e-mail jharron@mun.ca with your stories.

RSC, cont'd from pg. 1

things are used, the society goes on to comment, Dr. Pocius "has produced studies both sensitive and rigorous, earning him international standing as a scholar. While trained as a folklorist, he is a true interdisciplinarian."

The Royal Society of Canada calls Dr. Beverley Diamond "a guiding voice in contemporary ethnomusicology in Canada" and "an inspiring mentor to more than 70 MA and PhD students" and credits her for developing cross-cultural perspectives on gendered musical practices. Dr. Diamond is the director of the Music, Media and Place Research Centre (MMAP) and is the country's only senior research chair in music.

Regarding Dr. David Bell, the Royal Society comments on his "wide-ranging work" that has "significantly expanded our knowledge of medieval and early modern intellectual history, especially monastic intellectual history." The author of 16 books, Dr. Bell is also recognized by the society as a "pioneer and leader" in terms of his contributions to bibliographical research, manuscript studies, the history of libraries, and the learning and literacy of medieval nuns.

"This is an opportunity to be part of a nationwide community of scholars," Dr. Bell said. "I'm sure I speak for Jerry and Bev when I say that this is an important recognition of the work we love to do and we are suitably honoured by being singled out in this way."

The RSC elects members from all branches of learning who have achieved national and international recognition by publishing learned works or original research in the arts, humanities and sciences. Founded in 1882, the country's oldest scholarly organization currently has about 1,800 fellows.