Students in the Faculty of Arts are the beneficiaries of several new endowed scholarships. Scholarships reward talent and hard work, and for those who rely on these to begin or continue their studies, scholarships can make the future possible.

Establishing an endowed scholarship is easier than most people think. “A minimum of $10,000 is all that’s required for an endowed bursary to begin helping students. For a scholarship, the minimum is $20,000,” says arts development officer Jennifer O’Neill. At that level, she explains, awards can be given based on a portion of the investment income.

Bursaries are given out based primarily on financial need or other factors, while scholarships are awarded primarily for academic standing. However, many new scholarships now combine these two criteria.

Some funds are established through a one-time lump sum donation, but an award can be created through donations made over five years.

Often, a scholarship fund is begun to honour or remember someone, and donations are made by several individuals and groups. In this way, funds grow quickly, allowing deserving students to reap the benefits.

If you’re interested in establishing an endowed scholarship or bursary, contact Jennifer O’Neill, development officer for the Faculty of Arts, at (709) 737-7539, or e-mail joneill@mun.ca.

Linguistics leading the way in language acquisition

The opening of two new linguistics labs on campus, along with the development of cutting-edge software, is positioning Memorial University as a national and international leader of research in language acquisition.

Dr. Yvan Rose, a phonology researcher interested in the physiological and articulatory aspects of speech and how children acquire language, is working with Memorial’s Computer Science Department on the development of software called Phon, and the subsequent creation of a database called PhonBank, a massive, powerful open-source tool for those working in language acquisition and speech disorders. Ultimately, this will allow researchers and practitioners around the world to quickly locate segmented phrases, words and syllables using terminology standard to phonology. By aligning sound files, users will be able to see where discrepancies in speech are occurring, and access data that will shed light on possible causes.

In addition to its significant computing power, the Speech Sciences and Language Acquisition Lab includes a soundproof recording booth and a compact ultrasound machine that provides an image of...
Linguistics

the tongue in motion. This visual assistance can help those with articulatory problems.

The neighbouring Aboriginal Language Research Lab, also new, is an important resource centre for those involved in the study of Aboriginal languages. This lab houses the department’s Native Language Archives.

Dr. Marguerite MacKenzie, head of the Linguistics Department, is leading a project called Knowledge and Human Resources for Innu Language Development. Funded by the Community-University Research Alliance (CURA), the project aims to maintain and strengthen Innu-aimun, a Labrador language that, unlike most Aboriginal languages, is still learned by children. Dr. Mackenzie and her colleagues are compiling a dictionary that will serve as a valuable educational resource for both students and teachers, many of whom arrive in Innu communities not speaking the language.

Memorial researchers are also involved in the preservation of Cayuga (Iroquoian) phonology and grammar, as well as in a first-ever study into how children acquire the Cree language.

Patrick Leveque headed for greener pastures this winter – he traded snowy St. John’s for a semester at the University of Limerick in southern Ireland. Memorial’s Faculty of Arts has a student exchange agreement with Limerick that allows students to pay tuition to their home institution, but live and study on the other campus for one term. Leveque, a fourth-year political science student, said he was looking forward to studying Irish politics and history during his first-ever visit to Ireland.

Members of the Memorial English Students’ Society (MESS) raised in excess of $1,000 for the MESS Scholarship Fund through their annual sale of donated books.

One of Canada’s foremost authorities on political parties and electoral systems, Dr. R. Kenneth Carty, professor of political science and the Brenda & David McLean Chair in Canadian Studies at the University of British Columbia, delivered the Galbraith Lecture in March. In his address, called “Doing Democracy Differently,” Dr. Carty spoke about various movements underway in Canada to change the way governments are elected and right imbalances in our systems. While on campus, Dr. Carty also shared ideas with political science students.
Scholarship remembers love of philosophy

Philosophy undergrads at Memorial will be the beneficiaries of a generous new scholarship, endowed at over $80,000, that was established in memory of James A. Good, whose life was cut short by illness last year.

Born and brought up in St. John’s, Mr. Good was an extremely proud Newfoundlander. He completed an undergraduate degree in philosophy at Memorial University. “Jim struggled to put himself through university and did so with distinction, going on to get a master’s degree at Dalhousie and do his PhD studies at the University of Toronto,” noted his wife, Mary Symons.

It was during his doctoral studies that Mr. Good was persuaded by the Honourable Dr. John C. Crosbie to join his team in Ottawa. In the 1980s, Mr. Good served as Chief of Staff to Dr. Crosbie, who held federal ministerial portfolios such as Justice, Transport, Finance, International Trade and Fisheries.

In his tribute to Mr. Good, which was reprinted in the Globe and Mail (Nov. 27, 2005), Dr. Crosbie, now Memorial’s Chancellor, said: “In the 11 years I worked with Jim, I discovered he had the ability to grow, the ability to learn and keep learning, to see beyond the obvious, to disagree and express his disagreement.....”

In 1990, Mr. Good left government service to embark on a new career. He became a successful investment banker and a partner of Capital Canada Limited in Toronto.

“The endowment for the scholarship fund, established last fall, grew quickly thanks to a significant gift from the Eric Baker Family Foundation, and contributions from many friends and colleagues who wished to remember Mr. Good in this way.

Ms. Symons notes that it was Mr. Good’s wish that the scholarship be awarded to a Memorial University undergraduate student. “Despite his own struggles as an undergraduate, it was during this time that he realized he wanted to pursue post-graduate work. This scholarship may help other young philosophy students realize their goals through further education.”

The James A. Good Scholarship in Philosophy will be awarded annually to one student who excels in philosophy studies; financial need will be taken into consideration. The decision will be made on the recommendation of the head of the philosophy department, with the approval of the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Scholarships.

Rothermere Fellowship will fund economic development studies at Oxford

Joe Rowsell, a former Memorial economics student now teaching in the Economics Department, received a major boost when he learned he’s the 2006 recipient of the Rothermere Fellowship.

The prestigious fellowship will allow Mr. Rowsell to pursue graduate studies at Oxford University in the UK, where he will study economic development in Africa. He intends to explore why some countries have experienced substantial growth, while others have resisted adopting modern technologies and institutions that could, it is generally agreed, drive development.

“Essentially I’m interested in the broad economic question of why some countries are so rich when so many other countries – those with similar resources, geography, and populations – aren’t. It’s tough to think of a more compelling question,” he said.

He hopes to extract concrete lessons that can then be applied to other developing economies, even Newfoundland and Labrador’s. “I believe there are a number of ways that the research I’ll be doing can also be applied to our own economy,” he explained.

Established by Memorial’s first chancellor, Lord Rothermere, the Rothermere Fellowship will provide a yearly stipend and cover Mr. Rowsell’s tuition and fees at Oxford, as well as annual airfare to and from Canada. Each year, one award is given to an exceptional scholar who has completed a first degree at Memorial. Mr. Rowsell graduated from Memorial in 2004, and last year received an MA from Queen’s.

He has ambitious plans beyond Oxford: he hopes to work with a multilateral organization such as the World Bank, and then bring the knowledge and experience he’s gathered home to Atlantic Canada. Ultimately, he wants to pursue a political career.
Scholarships

Rewarding excellence

Rebecca LeDrew was the recipient of the Graham Family Scholarship, given to an outstanding student majoring in French. Ms. LeDrew was flown to Winnipeg to be presented with the scholarship by Mrs. Kathleen Birchall.

Mrs. Birchall recently explained: "I have been giving to scholarships for years. I have one at Queen's named after my late husband Roger Graham, and another at the University of Winnipeg that I created after he passed away. The one in Winnipeg was built up by our graduating class and today the value of the capital is over $190,000. I was telling all this to my son David (Graham), the former Dean of Arts at Memorial, and he said he would love to have a scholarship at Memorial. Well, between the two of us we decided to match each others' funds and create the Graham Family Scholarship. I am proud to say that I plan on continuing to contribute to it and I’d love to see it reach the size of the one in Winnipeg!"

The 4th annual Dr. Paul O’Neill Scholarship for Excellence in Newfoundland and Labrador Studies was presented to Daryl Maddigan of Bell Island in a ceremony in March. Mr. Maddigan is completing a double major in archaeology and sociology this spring, along with a Diploma in Heritage Resources.

“Right now the province is seeing a move towards developing the industrial sectors, but it’s also important to look back and understand the history that goes along with it,” he explained. “You can’t have one without the other.”

Mr. Maddigan says he hopes to stay in Newfoundland and work in cultural tourism, and eventually pursue a master’s in Newfoundland studies and cultural geography.

The $1,000 scholarship was presented by the Historic Sites Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (HSA).

Bursary in Spanish awarded for first time

Friends and family of the late Stephan Muzychka gathered at Alumni House on the St. John's Campus to congratulate Natalie Ralph, the first recipient of the Stephan Muzychka Bursary in Spanish.

This bursary was established by Dr. Julita Muzychka in memory of her husband, who taught Spanish language and literature at Memorial University from 1960 until his death in 1985. Mr. Muzychka was born in 1926 in Pukiw, Ukraine and attended the Ukrainian Teacher’s Training College and the University of Madrid, receiving his MA in philosophy in 1959. He joined Memorial’s Department of Modern Languages the following year, and later headed the Spanish section of the department.

His children Ivan, Martha, Yuri and Irene, all alumni of Memorial University, were on hand for the presentation to Ms. Ralph.

The bursary will be awarded to a student beyond second year who is majoring or minoring in Spanish, or, if no such student is available, to a student studying modern languages. Its amount is based on a portion of the annual interest. This year it was valued at about $500.

The recipient is selected by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Scholarships and Financial Aid, which considers both academic achievement and financial need and the recommendation from the head of the Department of French and Spanish.
New scholarship rewards cartographers of the future

Geography students Suzanne Smith and Andrew Cuff were the first to receive a new scholarship that remembers a great Newfoundland cartographer, while encouraging those who would chart a similar course.

The Honourable Fabian A. O'Dea QC, LlD Scholarship was established by the O'Dea family in memory of their father, a well-known public figure - naval officer, Rhodes scholar, businessman, barrister and Newfoundland and Labrador's youngest lieutenant governor.

“This scholarship is important to us because it continues our father's relationship with this university,” said Viki O'Dea, who joined her brother Stephen O'Dea in presenting the inaugural $1000 awards. She explained that her father, through his will, also established scholarships at two other alma maters: Oxford University and the University of Toronto. In addition, he left an extensive collection of maps and mapbooks to Memorial.

Dr. Keith Storey, head of the Geography Department, detailed the impressive accomplishments of Dr. O'Dea, and concluded: “As geographers, we will remember him for his passionate interest in the cartography of Newfoundland.”

It is fitting, then, that a scholarship be designed, as Ms. O'Dea explained, “to recognize outstanding students who may be the cartographers of the future.”

Both of the scholarship recipients honoured are in their fourth year of study, and both are previous winners of the Captain James Cook Scholarship, which rewards achievement in the earlier portion of undergraduate work.

Ms. Smith is taking a double major in geography and Canadian studies with a minor in French. Mr. Cuff is majoring in geography and German and also doing our Diploma Program in Geographic Information Sciences. Like Ms. Smith, he has achieved a cumulative average of 83 per cent in all courses. Both Mr. Cuff and Ms. Smith are considering graduate studies as they map out their futures.

Beneficiaries honour donors at arts event

The Faculty of Arts celebrated its supporters at a reception in St. John's on March 22. The evening was an opportunity for donors to meet faculty researchers and students who have benefited from their generosity.

Gabriel Piller was one of several scholarship winners who came to show his appreciation for those who make scholarships – and so much else – possible. The fourth-year student of Classics has picked up three scholarships in his four years of study, although he remembers most acutely the first one – a $100 prize for exemplary performance in Latin.

“It's nice, when you do something well, when you achieve something, to be recognized. It's especially nice to be recognized for doing something you love,” he told about 75 assembled guests in the Inco Innovation Centre. “Please keep recognizing students through scholarships because we need it, and we appreciate it.”

An arts appreciation event was also held in Calgary in February, and similar events are planned in other cities in the future.
Faculty of Arts NEWS and HIGHLIGHTS
There is never a shortage of new and interesting endeavours in our thriving faculty. Here is just a sampling of news:

Memorial Prof. to lead national scholarly federation
More than 25 years after she delivered her first academic paper at a Canadian Federation for the Humanities conference, Dr. Noreen Golfman has become president-elect of the national advocacy body.

Over the years Dr. Golfman, a professor of English and the associate dean of graduate studies, has become an active and dedicated participant in the Canadian Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences. Known for its annual Congress of the Learned Societies, which brings thousands of academics together, the federation represents more than 30,000 scholars in universities, colleges and organizations throughout Canada. Its aim is to foster research and teaching, promote the importance of the social sciences and humanities, and lobby for improved federal support.

Dr. Golfman says she can draw a line straight from that first paper to her upcoming presidency of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences. “It was a very important event in my career in terms of entering a community of scholars, which allows one to have a much bigger, much richer conversation than you would otherwise have.”

Work terms put student on track for success
Taracetta Butt was one of four recipients of the inaugural Memorial University Co-op Student of the Year Award. An outstanding student throughout her undergraduate program in economics, Ms. Butt made significant contributions in her co-op work terms. In her final placement with the Strategic Partnerships Secretariat of the Department of Innovation, Trade and Rural Development, she was involved in a project replicating an economic competitiveness model created by the Ontario government. Ms. Butt received a pass with distinction for her efforts on that project.

According to Lisa Russell, who co-ordinates the economics co-op program, Ms. Butt built not just her skills and a reputation as an energetic and valuable employee, but also a strong network during her work term placements. Together, those benefits were instrumental in landing Ms. Butt employment as an economist with the Executive Council of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, where she started work immediately upon graduation in the fall of 2005.

Assoc. vice-president (academic) Michael Collins and Taracetta Butt

Two new diplomas target emerging writers
Two new diploma programs offered by the Department of English will give students the chance to hone their writing skills in professional writing and creative writing genres.

Designed for those who have completed or are near finishing a bachelor’s degree, and who have demonstrated an aptitude for writing, the professional writing program will cover subjects such as investigative reporting, creative non-fiction, the art of reviewing, and editing. Students will build critical skills and learn to read analytically for argument and style, to consider audience and context, and to edit tactfully. In addition to doing 18 credit hours of coursework, they will also complete a work term in a professional setting.

“This is about drafting, re-drafting, editing, getting good advice and determining how to use it,” explains Professor Jean Guthrie, who will co-coordinate the Diploma in Professional Writing program.

Students of creative writing will be able to select from a wide array of courses in many genres. Dr. Larry Mathews, who is leading the development of that diploma program, believes this is a desirable addition for a university that offers such a diversity of programming in other artistic fields.

“The absence of a program in creative writing, especially in a place which has produced so many excellent writers, seems anomalous,” he notes, adding that there has been a steady demand for writing courses over the past few decades.

“We think that, over time, the creative writing diploma will make an important contribution to the cultural life of the province,” says Dr. Mathews.
In March, four Memorial University faculty members were invited to attend an international conference in Santiago de Compostela, the capital city of Galicia, Spain. Drs. Sharon Roseman, anthropology professor, David Close, political science professor, Raoul Andersen, honorary research professor in anthropology and Donald Steele, professor emeritus of biology, attended the event. Called “Canada and the European Union: Connected by the Sea,” this conference was co-sponsored by the Spanish Association of Canadian Studies, the Government of Galicia, and the Canadian Embassy to Spain. It was held on the 500 year old campus of the Universidade de Santiago de Compostela.

Together with professors from Spain, France and Portugal, as well as Canadian embassy staff, the Memorial contingent took part in a comparative examination of the history, the present and potential future directions of the fishery as well as the possibilities for new management protocols. In their presentations, Drs. Close and Roseman focused on shared challenges in the social and economic development of rural communities.

The conference was part of a number of related cultural and educational activities, including the official opening of a travelling museum exhibit on the history of the cod fishery on the Grand Banks. The exhibit was curated by one of the conference organizers, Spanish anthropologist Dr. Rosa García Orellán, who used the rich archival and library resources at Memorial University as part of her research for this exhibit and for her 2004 book Hombres de Terra Nova.

Fieldwork guide simplifies ethnographic research

Dr. Wayne Fife, head of the Anthropology Department, has published a research methods book that is accessible – in language, content and cost – to an audience well beyond academia. Doing Fieldwork: Ethnographic Research for Fieldwork in Developing Countries is a guide to conducting long-term, qualitative research in any setting, on any topic. The book is intended for a broad audience that includes professional researchers, graduate and undergraduate students, community group researchers and especially scholars in developing countries who are frequently asked by governments with few resources to conduct studies in areas where they have no background or expertise.

Dr. Raoul Andersen listens to a museum guide in the small Galician fishing town of Lira. This museum is part of a set of successful projects that highlight the townpeople’s commitment to preserving a sustainable inshore fishery off the Galician Atlantic coast into the future.

Drawing on experiences from his own research in Papua New Guinea, as well as in Ontario, Newfoundland and Spain, Dr. Fife has included examples of how a researcher might respond when things don’t go as planned. And he has avoided recommendations and solutions that rely on any advanced technology.

The book is available in both hardcover and affordable paperback, and is being distributed throughout North America and broadly around the globe.

Marine historian wins international oceanography fellowship

Dr. Sean Cadigan, a professor of marine history at Memorial, has been awarded the 2006 William E. and Mary B. Ritter Memorial Fellowship from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in San Diego, California. Dr. Cadigan is the second Canadian – and the first person from Newfoundland and Labrador – to win this prestigious international research award, which will provide him with a working grant of $15,000 US. He will travel to the Scripps Institution in the fall to give a major public lecture and conduct seminars, offering insight into how marine sciences and the treatment of knowledge have affected the Newfoundland fishing industry.

Working to sustain the province’s living heritage

Dr. Jerry Pocius, co-ordinator of the Heritage Resources Diploma program, was asked to share his expertise on intangible cultural heritage at Harvard University in February. “Intangible heritage involves the stories, customs and knowledge that people pass on that are relevant to a culture,” explains the professor of folklore, who has been working in this arena for several years. “It’s not like a building. It’s living knowledge that adapts and changes; once lost it can’t be restored.”

Dr. Pocius was one of the authors of the international UNESCO Convention, which came into force internationally in April. He is also helping to co-ordinate a Living Heritage Forum on Memorial’s campus this June. Organized in collaboration with the Association of Heritage Industries, the forum will give those involved in local heritage an opportunity to learn from world experts, and take part in developing recommendations for government policy in this area.
Dr. Christopher Youé, along with colleague Dr. Michael O’Brien, kept a promise to diligent students in March. The pair had agreed earlier to lose their locks if the History Society students raised over $1000 for scholarships. In all, the students brought in $1600 through bake and book sales, mixers and silent auctions, and the hairy pair sat for the barber at a Friday evening mixer.

The money raised will be used for scholarships and toward purchasing some required reading texts in honours courses for the departmental library.

“It was easy to raise money once we told people what they had agreed to do,” laughed Kristen Scott, the History Society’s Social Chair.

Before being shorn, Dr. Youé thanked the History Society for this opportunity at public humiliation, and noted the irony of his role as departmental head.

Arts honours some of its best
Arts students, faculty and staff gathered in February to celebrate their best at the annual Staveley Awards Dinner. Only three remarkable students were able to attend – “The other five are off doing great things in a variety of other places,” Dr. Steve Wolinetz, interim dean of the Faculty of Arts, noted.

Former Dean of Arts Dr. Michael Staveley, left, presents the award he created to Amy Flight. The Staveley Award recognizes the achievement of those who maintain Dean’s List standing for all eight consecutive terms of study in their undergraduate programs. Ms. Flight is completing her honours degree in French, and plans to go on to graduate school.

William Oxford also received the Staveley award. He is working on his master’s in linguistics at Memorial, where he’s researching the Innu language.

Susanne Ottenheimer, left, receives the Dean’s Award for Excellence in Teaching from interim dean, Dr. Steve Wolinetz. Ms. Ottenheimer, Department of Sociology, was recognized for her holistic approach to guiding students.

Allan Farrell, left, was honoured with the Dean’s Award for Exceptional Service to the faculty for his ability and willingness to solve computer frustrations.

Staveley Award-winner Jordan Wright talks with Dr. Chris Loomis, vice-president research. Mr. Wright majored in French during his undergraduate years. Now he is in the second term of his MBA program at Memorial’s School of Business.

Not pictured: The Staveley Award winners not in attendance were: Andrew Collins, Michael Collins, Gregory Harris, Marc Hollett and Andrew Snelgrove.

Keen observers will have noticed that Memorial University is sporting a brand new logo. The new look is designed to better reflect Memorial University: its name rendered with strength and assurance, anchored by a distinctive shape that suggests transition and growth from yesterday to today — from one who seeks to be, to one who has become.

Those who choose Memorialbring with them big ideas, and find the freedom to explore and experience their creativity and ingenuity. Students who flourish here are bright, adventurous, and intrepid. Many seek a path of their own, and are drawn by the idea that this university is on the edge — not just geographically, but in new technologies, cultural richness, ingenious discoveries and compelling ideas.

Memorial University is a place where people and ideas become.