The ANNUAL
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Faculty of HSS newsletter Winter 2018

NEWS FROM THE DEAN 1  AWARDS 1  INNOVATION 2  STUDIES 4  ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT 6
HSS BOOKS 13  RESEARCH AWARDS 14  HAPPENINGS 17  MILESTONES 18  IN MEMORIAM 20

BARBARA NEIS
ASKING THE BIG QUESTIONS ABOUT A POST-OIL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Story on page 10
2017 was a year of significant change in the dean’s office. We said a fond farewell to Dr. Lynne Phillips, Dr. Arthur Sullivan of the philosophy department took the reins briefly in the summer months and we have now welcomed our permanent new dean, Dr. Jennifer S. Simpson, who comes to us from the University of Waterloo.

A scholar with expertise in higher education, communication, critical pedagogy, and issues of race and equity, Dr. Simpson has an interdisciplinary background that draws on disciplines in both the humanities and social sciences.

In her work to date she has demonstrated deep and ongoing commitments to the significance of the humanities and social sciences to student learning, knowledge creation, and public practice.

In an introductory message to students Dr. Simpson had this to say:

Knowledge in the humanities and social sciences provides us with numerous tools to name what is going on around us. Through the study of human behavior, ethics and decision-making, languages and images, social organizations, and norms and institutions, those who examine the humanities and social sciences have consistently been committed to describing, analyzing, questioning, and presenting a complex and in-depth picture of various aspects of the world in which we live.

Study in the humanities and social sciences can lead us to imagine, and then work toward, a more equitable world. As the poet Gloria E. Anzaldúa has expressed in her book Borderlands/La Frontera, before change happens, we have to imagine what this change might look like.

We like the way she thinks!

Another new face in the office is Dr. Sharon Roseman who has succeeded Dr. Carrie Dyck as associate dean (research and graduate studies).

Plus we have two new administrative staff members – Beverly Evans-Hong and Kimberly Russell.

Welcome to all!

Dr. Jennifer S. Simpson
Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
AWARDS

PRESIDENT’S AWARDS

In 2017 our faculty members received multiple President’s Awards. Dr. Amanda Bittner (political science) received the Outstanding Researcher Award; Dr. Valerie Burton (history) received the Outstanding Teaching Award; Dr. Barry Gaulton (archaeology) received the President’s Award for Public Engagement Partnerships for a partnership with the Colony of Avalon foundation; and Dr. Barbara Neis received the John Lewis Paton Distinguished University Professorship.

Dr. Valerie Burton and Memorial University president Dr. Gary Kachanoski

HSS ALUMNI INTERNATIONAL INDIGENOUS INTERN

Jenelle Doyle will represent NanatuKavut, the Labrador Institute and Labrador as the institute’s International Indigenous Intern in 2018.

Ms. Doyle is a proud graduate of our faculty with a double major in history and French and a specialization in Aboriginal history. She is originally from Churchill Falls, Labrador and her ancestry is Inuit (but is considered Southern Inuit, formerly known as Labrador Métis).

The internship will give Ms. Doyle the opportunity to live and work abroad while gaining a perspective on Indigenous cultures in Norway and Finland, which she will then share throughout Labrador schools, as well as a university class, upon her return home.

VERY SMARTICE

For the second time in three years, Dr. Trevor Bell (Department of Geography) was honoured with the coveted Arctic Inspiration Prize (also known as the Nobel of the North) becoming the only person from Memorial University to receive the accolade twice. He and the SmartICE team were also named one of 19 winners worldwide of the United Nations (UN) Momentum for Change Climate Solutions Award in October 2017.

SmartICE is the world’s first climate change adaptation tool to integrate traditional knowledge of sea ice with advanced data acquisition and remote monitoring technology.
A LIFETIME OF FOLKLORE

Dr. Gerald Pocius was presented with the 2017 Marius-Barbeau Medal by the Folklore Studies Association of Canada (FSAC) at its annual conference in Toronto, Ontario.

The award recognizes significant contributions by a folklorist over their lifetime to the study of folklore in Canada.

DONNER PRIZE

Political scientist and associate dean (undergraduate) Dr. Alex Marland received the 2016-17 Donner Prize for his book Brand Command: Canadian Politics and Democracy in the Age of Message Control. The Donner Prize is a prestigious national award that encourages and celebrates excellence in public policy writing by Canadians and has a value of $50,000.

*Brand Command* was cited by the jury as “a path-breaking analysis” that is of “undiminished relevance looking forward.”

INNOVATION

‘AN INTELLECTUAL FERMENT’

The Nexus Centre has been established to foster collaborative and interdisciplinary research in the humanities and social sciences at Memorial University, in the wider academic community and in the public realm.

Historian John Sandlos is director of the Nexus Centre and believes firmly in its mandate to promote the humanities and social sciences as vital knowledge for understanding the past and for navigating the issues and the challenges of the present.

“I see the Nexus Centre as a means of creating an intellectual ferment and a stronger sense of mission for the faculty,” he said, adding he hopes another impact of the centre will be to promote the humanities and social sciences overall.

The Nexus Centre is located in SN-4022 of the Science building and online at [www.hss.mun.ca/nexus/home](http://www.hss.mun.ca/nexus/home) and can be followed on both Facebook and Twitter.
NEW PROGRAMS

Our faculty is constantly assessing and reassessing its offerings to address students’ interests and respond to global trends. In 2017 two new programs were launched – a certificate in food studies and a diploma in environmental humanities.

HSS now offers seven certificates (Aboriginal and Indigenous studies; ancient languages; food studies; film studies; Newfoundland and Labrador studies; criminology; and public policy) and seven diplomas (ancient worlds; environmental humanities; geographic information sciences; humanities; police studies; performance and communications media; and creative writing).

Discover more here: www.mun.ca/hss/about/contact/coordinators.php

PEPAMUTEIATI NITASSINAT

Place names have been used by cultures the world over to identify lakes, mountains, hunting grounds, rivers and other locations of interest.


Pepamuteiati Nitassinat is the culmination of a 40-year project involving geographers, linguists, anthropologists and, first and foremost, the Labrador Innu themselves. Now approved by the Newfoundland and Labrador Geographical Names Board (NLGNB), the 452 Innu traditional names of features and places of social and economic activities in Southern and Central Labrador will help to preserve an important component of Innu culture in the region.

The place names were collected in a database that was ultimately completed by Memorial linguist and professor emerita Dr. Marguerite MacKenzie, anthropologist Peter Armitage, and ethnolinguist José Mailhot.
NEW DEGREES

INTERNATIONAL BA
There is a greater need than ever before to understand international interactions.

Luckily the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences has recognized and addressed this need by introducing a new degree program that is unique in Atlantic Canada.

The International Bachelor of Arts (iBA) has been designed to encourage and recognize the study of peoples and institutions that transcend borders and aligns with Memorial University’s efforts to encourage global experiences and international perspectives.

For more information:
www.mun.ca/hss/programs/undergraduate/iba

SIMULTANEOUS STUDIES
In 2017 the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences partnered with the Faculty of Science to develop the BA/BSc, a new joint degree program. Students can now completed a bachelor of arts and a bachelor of science simultaneously in fewer credit hours than were previously required.

The goal is to make the process easier for students by taking advantage of the synergies between the two degrees, but does not limit students to combinations of majors that straddle the two faculties such as geography, economics and psychology.

For more information:
www.mun.ca/science/students/BA_BSc.php
The world would be a better place if everyone studied archaeology.

A sweeping statement, perhaps, but an understandable conclusion after meeting the undergraduate students from Memorial’s archaeology department who unexpectedly won the Ethics Bowl hosted by the Society for Historical Archaeology’s 2018 Conference held in New Orleans in early January 2018.

The group, comprised of students Maryssa Barras, Christine Conlan, Chanelle Zaphiropoulos, Mallory Champagne and Jazpyn Osmond (all in their final year) beat out five other teams largely comprised of graduate students from American universities.

The competition challenges students to debate possible solutions to real-world ethical issues that archaeologists face in their careers. The competing teams are scored on the clarity, depth, focus, and judgment of their responses.

“To be frank the Memorial students were outstanding,” says Dr. Mark Warner, president of the SHA. “I have been involved in this organization for approximately 25 years and this was one of the most satisfying things I have seen at that conference.”

The students attribute their success in the competition to their diverse backgrounds in archaeology, their connection as a team and their collective decision to take a united and strong stance on all ethical issues.

“The students attribute their success in the competition to their diverse backgrounds in archaeology, their connection as a team and their collective decision to take a united and strong stance on all ethical issues.

“With ethics there is no right answer,” says student Chanelle Zaphiropoulos.

Her teammate Maryssa Barras agrees. “It’s up to the individual and their moral compass. It’s ultimately what allows you to sleep at night and be at peace with your decisions.”

In the social sciences the goal of ethics is to determine what is the best course of action when facing a challenge that has no clear or simple answer, and for which no laws, codes or standards exist. Archaeology has its own set of complications when it comes to determining the best ethical position to take.

“In archaeology you might have 600 years or more of occupation on a site with 10 different cultures affected. You’ve got the person who owns the land, the people who own the stuff, the people who say they own the stuff,” explains Ms. Zaphiropoulos.

One scenario they were asked to address concerned the discovery of evidence of slavery on a dig site and how data sharing should be negotiated with a community of Afro-descendants.

“One scenario they were asked to address concerned the discovery of evidence of slavery on a dig site and how data sharing should be negotiated with a community of Afro-descendants.

“In so many of these ethical challenges we see how studying the past can influence and is influencing our contemporary societies,” says assistant professor Dr. Catherine Losier, who mentored the group.
Stephen Lee graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history and French (Dean’s List) from Memorial University in 2006. After graduation, Stephen successfully completed the certified sommelier program from the Court of Master Sommeliers.

His past professional experience includes key management positions at Raymonds Restaurant 2009–2011 (2011 — EnRoute Magazine’s Canada’s Best New Restaurant), Rifflin’ Hitch Lodge (Labrador), and Atlantica Restaurant (2007 — Canada’s Best New Restaurant).

Stephen is co-owner, general manager, and sommelier of Mallard Cottage restaurant and co-owner of The Inn by Mallard Cottage in Quidi Vidi Village.
What drew you to study history?
The old idea that you do not know where you are until you understand how you got there was a strong idea that pulled me towards history.

As many first year students, I was not sure which direction I wanted to take my studies. Given the global climate at the time (Editor’s note: 9/11 happened during his first week of classes in 2001), and understanding my lack of historical perspective, I just gravitated towards history.

Before I knew it, I was taking a full course load of history classes, and found myself chomping at the bit to learn as much as possible. My first couple of terms at Memorial were shaky, but once I found my footing, I really excelled and dove in head first. By the end of my first term, I had already started to make my plans to travel to the places I was reading about in my studies.

How did you go from a degree in history to the restaurant business?
While a degree in history gives you a well rounded approach to critical thinking and analysis as well as a broad perspective on humanities in general, you need to be creative in how you apply this degree and translate it to long term employment.

I largely paid for my education with restaurant work throughout my degree, and the support of my family. This restaurant work was initially a means to put myself through school, but I genuinely loved customer service, getting to know and understand food, and took a keen interest to wine — understanding how it was made, and how it affected the food I was serving.

Having a background in history gave me an innate understanding and interest into the world of wine and I became infatuated with the industry. I quickly began focusing my world travels around wine regions of the world.

After taking a year off to travel and complete some volunteer work, I came back to help open a restaurant in Portugal Cove called Atlantica with Chef Jeremy Charles. It was then I started to really take the restaurant business seriously, and began to further my wine education. This culminated in my successfully becoming a Certified Sommelier.

Through my experience as management of a couple of different restaurants in St. John’s, I partnered up with Chef Todd Perrin and Kim Doyle to begin the process of restoring Mallard Cottage.

What’s the best piece of advice you ever received?
To travel. While it is a cliché piece of advice, and not to detract from what I gained from my studies at Memorial, the extensive travel I was lucky enough to do in my 20s taught me more about the world than you can ever learn in a book. It’s invaluable to have a base knowledge of the history of any country before setting out on any travel, but it is incredible how quickly you absorb and build on that knowledge once you are immersed and can tangibly relate to a place.

What’s a typical day like for you at Mallard Cottage?
There’s nothing typical about it, which is what keeps it exciting. There is a lot that goes in behind the scenes in restaurants that results in the plate of food, glass of wine and cocktail that the public sees.

Contrary to popular belief, my day starts at 9 am and could go until midnight and beyond.

Within the long hours associated with the restaurant business includes everything from human resource management, client relations, creating events, forecasting, developing menus, wine and cocktail lists, sourcing products, educating staff on the food and wine, strategic business development, troubleshooting, accounting and back to where I started in the industry, washing dishes and polishing glasses.

From social media it looks like the gang at Mallard Cottage is taking over Quidi Vidi — can you give us a snapshot of your plans there (including new Inn at Mallard Cottage, etc.)?
We have been very fortunate to attract excellent partners to join in with Todd (Perrin), Kim (Doyle) and I in our developments in Quidi Vidi Village.

The Inn by Mallard Cottage is a development directly adjacent to the restaurant, and has seen Alan Doyle and his wife Joanne Pardy join us in creating an accommodation in Quidi Vidi Village that is directed by Newfoundland rural vernacular and architecture. We have used traditional materials and worked with local artisans to furnish the rooms with custom furnishings.

We opened our doors on June 1st of this year, and while the accommodation business is different than the restaurant business, we have hit the ground running.

In addition to the Inn by Mallard Cottage, we have partnered with Mark Dobbin at Killick Capital to redevelop a significant portion of the waterfront of Quidi Vidi Village. Our vision is to create a market-like space that incorporates traditional Newfoundland design and thoughtful landscaping that could...
act as a hub for the East Coast Trail and help connect the Grand Concourse to the village.

Quidi Vidi Village is such a unique part of St. John’s, and we want to create a space that naturally attracts locals and tourists alike to the area.

What has your biggest professional challenge been to date?
Without a doubt, the process of giving new life to Mallard Cottage, and turning it into a restaurant. Mallard Cottage is one of the oldest wooden structures in North America, and recognized as a National Historic Site of Canada, so we needed to make sure it was given the attention to detail it deserved.

While I have experience in opening restaurants, this was completely different. Todd, Kim and I acted as the general contractors for this project and over the course of the 18-month process had a hand in every decision made.

Just when we were getting ready to open, we had an electrical fire and came dangerously close to losing the building. It was devastating and caused a four-month delay. In retrospect, it gave us more time to really tweak our concept and made it all the more satisfying when we opened in November 2013.

In a perfect world, what initiative (building, service, cultural offering, etc.) would you add to Newfoundland and Labrador (or St. John’s) to make it a better place?
Newfoundland is extremely vulnerable when it comes to food security. Often the prices are matched with low quality products and limited availability. I would love to see a big push for year round green houses. It was unsuccessfully attempted with Sprung Greenhouse in the 80s, but I believe it would work in the right scale, with crops such as leafy greens and herbs that have quick turnaround times.

To stick close to our locally sourced philosophy at Mallard Cottage, we go months surviving on root vegetables. With so much improvement and advancements in agriculture, I would love to see a dramatic rise in our year round food production in Newfoundland. I believe it is a necessary step to take, and luckily there are organizations like Food First NL and the St. John’s Farmers Market that are driving for change. We have a long way to go, and it is definitely a big void in our province that needs to be filled.

In what ways has studying humanities/social sciences affected your world view? What do you say to those who question the value of an arts degree?
It has simply created my world view. Within the context of my studies, I was able to develop my own critical way to view the world. The study of humanities and social sciences is something that you can apply to most fields of work.

I would say it is always good to question the value of anything, but in my opinion an arts degree is invaluable. With that said, an arts degree is something that requires creativity to put to practical use.

It took a lot of time and thought for me to land where I did, and it was not easy to get there. I struggled with decisions in furthering my education through attending Law School, various Masters programs, and working in both the non-profit sector and public sector before deciding on the hospitality industry.

What advice would you give a student who is unsure of what to study?
Not to rush or bow to external pressure. Everyone seemingly has an opinion on what’s best for you. I was lucky to have extremely supportive parents who did not pressure me while I figured out my path.

Take your time. Looking back at my 17-year-old self is crazy. I had no idea what I wanted to do when I ‘grew up’. Life experience is essential to grow, so make sure you take the time to do so.

Be open to experiences outside your comfort zone, take your time, take chances and travel as much as possible. Oh, and go to class. In life, showing up is worth half points.

What is your biggest takeaway/learning from this year?
Working for yourself is extremely rewarding, but the success of our enterprise is wholly dependent on our team. I have known this as long as I can remember, but as we grow as a business and branch out, it has become more apparent.

Having to build a team at The Inn by Mallard Cottage while trying to ensure the restaurant kept improving every day just amplified how indispensable our team is.

Anyone can have an idea or a dream. The team that brings your vision to light is the main variable in our businesses succeeding and being able to retain our team will (hopefully!) be my biggest success.●
Trying to answer questions can put researchers into interesting places.

Take anthropologist Lincoln Addison as an example.

In April 2017, he found himself in a resettlement area in rural Zimbabwe, helping a family harvest millet from their field.

“I was surprised by the high yields people were getting in a very dry area,” said Dr. Addison who is studying the gendered and economic impacts of land reform in the African country. “Zimbabwe’s land reform is often portrayed as a disaster, but it seems to have significantly reduced poverty.”

His work in Zimbabwe is linked to the doctoral research he did at Rutgers University on migrant labour in South Africa. At the time he spent a year on a tomato plantation, living in a worker’s compound with a group of migrants from Zimbabwe.

Many of the people he met on that plantation were from Sovelele, a resettlement area that was established by the “Fast Track” land reform program in Zimbabwe. Since the early 2000s, the program has transferred 4500 formerly white-owned estates (representing 20 per cent of the total land area in the country) to approximately 140,000 black smallholder households.

Wishing to keep a connection with the Zimbabweans he had met in South Africa and learn more about alternatives to plantation agriculture, Dr. Addison opted to focus his research on 20 households in Sovelele, specifically on whether land reform had altered divisions of labour within households and enabled women to have more control over the land.

Dr. Addison worked the fields with the people of Sovelele, lived in a village, attended community meetings, participated in church services and carried out surveys with 20 households over a period of eight weeks.

His findings were significant.

“Because people now have much larger tracts of land, it’s better for women because they can grow a variety of crops – some of which they sell for personal income. Men work in the fields and outside the homestead but essentially women are doing most of the work on what are now medium-scale farms.”

Dr. Addison feels that Zimbabwe’s land reform represents an important counter-example to those who argue that the solutions to poverty and hunger in Africa can only come from large-scale farming or the adoption of foreign technology.

“My research adds to a growing literature which shows that the redistribution of land can empower women and enable livelihoods among the rural poor,” he says.

His research also looks at different marriage situations and how they contrast with the traditional way marriage was described in the communal areas.

“It’s hard to generalize about marriage anywhere – including rural Africa.”

Dr. Addison believes his research might be moving towards comparative studies of de-colonialism.

“Canada is struggling with its own colonial legacy and efforts to reconcile with Indigenous peoples,” he says. “The time is right for looking at other settler colonies and what has happened in other contexts. In some ways South Africa and Zimbabwe might be further ahead than we are in Canada about confronting their own colonial histories.”

The ANNUAL newsletter WINTER 2018
WHO WE ARE. WHAT WE DO.

Stephen Lee is just one in a long list of HSS grads that are succeeding in a wide variety of careers. Just a selection of some of the alumni that we have profiled this year include:

David Cochrane (English)
Senior reporter, CBC’s parliamentary bureau

Sarah Stoodley (Political Science)
Digital manager, Royal Sun Alliance (Canada)

Michele Tessier (English)
Commander, Royal Canadian Navy

Matt Howse (Folklore)
Enterpreneur and bookseller, Broken Books

Amanda Mews (English)
Entertainment and community reporter, NTV News

Drew Brown (Political Science)
Freelance journalist

Sociologist Barbara Neis has been a member of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences since 1984 and in that time has conducted research on many different aspects of the Newfoundland fishery including gender relations, occupational health, technological change, industrial restructuring, social movements and fisheries ecology. She was recently appointed the John Lewis Paton Distinguished University Professor and named to the Order of Canada. She is also a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

Dr. Neis is currently the co-director of the SafetyNet Centre for Occupational Health and Safety Research and is the project director for On the Move, a seven-year partnership grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

In 2016 she organized “Asking the Big Questions” a symposium sponsored by the Royal Society of Canada (Atlantic) and Memorial University, looking at what a sustainable post oil-dependent Newfoundland and Labrador might look like. A year later a book-length document reflecting on those events and the journey forward to post oil-dependence is available online at www.mun.ca/harriscentre/reports. The document and its subject matter will also be the subject of an upcoming collaboration with the Independent.ca in 2018.
ASASKING THE
BIG QUESTIONS
ABOUT A POST-OIL NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Why are you personally compelled to Ask the Big Questions?
As a member of the Royal Society and someone who runs a research centre (On the Move) with links across multiple disciplines and universities, I can access networks of scholars and resources that are not available to the general public. As a social scientist researcher, much of my day-to-day life is focused on efforts to help design, find funding for and guide the conduct of research (often done by students and research assistants) that addresses pieces of larger questions. I am very aware, as a consequence, that there is no guarantee that the pieces will get brought together to address those larger questions. Someone or ideally, groups of people because none of us has all of the skills or time to do this well, has to make that happen. I am in a position where I can sometimes access resources and people to do this piece of work.

After many decades of research and pointing out faults in the system (your work on crab asthma comes to mind), where does your motivation come from to continue to present such difficult material? From my point of view, tenured, full-time university professors are privileged. With that privilege comes a responsibility and an opportunity to identify and try to address difficult questions. We must, if not help resolve key issues, at least bear witness so that no one can claim (as with crab asthma) that they don’t exist. It is part of our responsibility when we have generated knowledge about things that threaten the public good, particularly when vulnerable groups are threatened, to try to ensure they don’t keep happening. Any motivation I have comes from having an opportunity to understand how we all lose — workers, employers, communities, and the province as a whole — from a failure to prevent things like occupational disease, over-fishing or climate change.

Where did the impetus for Asking the Big Questions come from?
It came out of the confluence of multiple conversations and studies I am involved with, the collapse of oil prices, the related fiscal crisis exacerbated by the Muskrat Falls debacle and the profound disjuncture between the relative silence around climate change in Newfoundland and Labrador and the escalating global debate to address climate change.

After being invited to present at the Petrocultures Conference in 2016, I started to read some of that literature and to think about Newfoundland and Labrador as a petroculture and how that might partly constrain critical debate about the downsides of oil dependency.

Through On the Move and in other parts of my life I am part of research teams working on climate change and have read about ways climate change and ocean acidification are affecting our marine ecosystems. I was inspired by a conversation with Catherine Potvin, the lead researcher in the Sustainable Canada Dialogue on Climate Change initiative and by the mobilization of physical scientists and others in response to gagging.

I was also surprised and disturbed by the emphasis throughout the oil boom years within the NL Research Development Corporation, and to some degree the university, on channelling more research funding into offshore development. This included the Arctic despite the contribution Arctic offshore development can make to climate change.

These bits and pieces of knowledge, expertise and conversations, a small funding opportunity through Royal Society Atlantic with enough latitude to
support a Big Questions initiative and, most importantly, the incredible response the organizing committee (myself, Bojan Furst and Ellen Steinhauer) received to a proposal sent to diverse individuals to write reflection pieces on post oil-dependency in NL helped crystallize the processes and collective effort that led, eventually, to this document. That response told me that I was not the only person struggling with these silences and contradictions.

What does a post oil-dependent sustainable Newfoundland and Labrador look like to you?
This document is not about what I imagine it would look like. But, if you read through the contributions to the Reflections document, one of the things that is striking is the extent to which there is a shared emphasis on social equity and inclusion to be achieved through fair and appropriate taxation, a different approach to education and other kinds of institutional change.

There is an emphasis on shifting to a low energy/renewable energy approach and away from our current emphasis on energy mega-projects. Creative public investment in the sustainable development of other sectors such as fisheries, tourism and cultural industries all feature in our reflections. As does changing our approach to building and design to better reflect our heritage and the environmental challenges and social needs of this place. More support for social enterprise development is hinted at, as is, through the discussion of Iron and Earth, the need to help the thousands of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians trained to work in large-scale construction of energy projects transition to work in the green economy.

In Asking the Big Questions, the answer seems to be to focus on the creative energy of people as opposed to physical kinds of energy such as oil (in both the ground and water). How would this work?
We have focused very heavily on designing and building a society around resource extraction. Resource extraction is not going to disappear in the future but part of transitioning to a post oil-dependent society is greater investment in the creative energy and capacity of people in the province.

In much of the discussion/debate about the current context in Newfoundland and Labrador — as a product of oil dependency — our aging population are treated as a liability. Older people are constructed as a burden on younger people because of health care and other costs. Older people contribute in many, many ways to the resilience and strength of our society and could do more with the right supports and efforts to engage them in strategizing for the future. People with a range of disabilities comprise an important part of our population. At present, they do not have as much opportunity as they could to contribute and to flourish.

Making a commitment now to transition to a more inclusive society and investing in that transition would be a huge benefit to all of us. In my view, Memorial University should be a leader in helping us achieve that transition. A more inclusive society would also entail a commitment to poverty elimination because poverty steals creative energy and contributes to poor health, as do gender and other forms of inequality and social exclusion. The environmental footprint of creative energy is much smaller than the environmental footprint of resource extraction so this kind of transition will help us achieve a more sustainable relationship with our environment.

What do you hope the impact of this project to be?
As we make clear in the Introduction to this document, it is only a beginning. We did not have the resources needed to come to a consensus on what a post oil-dependent NL would look like or to come up with a roadmap. That work still needs to be done and would require the engagement of a lot more people and stakeholder groups.

I hope it will help, along with other similar documents, to encourage a focused, positive response to the current doom and gloom scenarios we encounter on an almost daily basis that also tend to place responsibility in the wrong places. I hope it will encourage hope and faith in this place and our collective creativity among all groups including young people, and that, along with The Democracy Cookbook, will work against cynical withdrawal from the political process and in favour of positive social change informed by a commitment to social justice and environmental sustainability.
In 2017 ISER Books celebrated 50 years of publishing books emphasizing social and economic research.

In this special anniversary year Memorial’s publisher co-published (with Breakwater Books) Toward an Encyclopedia of Local Knowledge, a volume detailing the rich, place-based knowings and doings of more than 100 knowledge-holders from rural Newfoundland. In it renowned artist Pam Hall perfectly marries her singular artistic vision and her exhaustive community-based research in a stunning celebration and preservation of rural knowledge.

Another significant publication this year is The Democracy Cookbook (co-edited by Dr. Alex Marland and writer/professor Lisa Moore), a collection of short and snappy, non-partisan opinion pieces authored by 89 opinion leaders, academics, creative writers and other citizens. A unique form of grassroots mobilization, the book is also ISER’s first open access publication and is available for free at the ISER Books website (www.hss.mun.ca/iserbooks).

The publication of a book is often the culmination of many years of sustained research or concentrated creative energy. An (E) after the author’s name indicates editor; (T) indicates translator. Congratulations to our 2015–16 authors, editors and translators!

Dean Bavington (E)
Subsistence under Capitalism: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives

Sonja Boon
Telling the Flesh: Life Writing, Citizenship and the Body in the Letters to Samuel Auguste Tissot

Dominique Bregent-Heald
Borderland Films: American Cinema, Mexico and Canada During the Progressive Era

John Hewson
The Mi’kmax Grammar of Father Pacifique

Doug House
An Extraordinary Man: the Life Story of Edgar House

Arn Keeling & John Sandlos (E)
Mining and Communities in Northern Canada: History, Politics and Memory

J. Scott Kenney
Brought to Light: Contemporary Freemasonry, Meaning and Society

Halia Koo
Voyage, vitesse et altérité selon Paul Morand et Nicholas Bouvier

Kurt Korneski
Conflicted Colony: Critical Episodes in 19th Century Newfoundland and Labrador

Marguerite MacKenzie (E), JulieBrittain (T)
The Giant Eagle and Other Stories
Alex Marland
- Brand Command: Canadian Politics and Democracy in the Age of Message Control
- Canadian Election Analysis: Communication, Strategy and Democracy
- Inside Canadian Politics

Lisa Rankin (E)
Etudes Inuit Studies: the Inuit in Southern Labrador (special journal issue)

Rose Ricciardelli (E)
- Engaging with Ethics in International Criminological Research
- Adding Insult to Injury: (Mis)treating Homeless Women in our Mental Health System

Chesley Sanger
Scottish Arctic Whaling

Christopher Sharpe & A.J. Shawyer
Sweat Equity: Cooperative House-building in Newfoundland 1920–1974

Kelly Vodden (E), Ryan Gibson (E), & Godfrey Baldacchino
Place Peripheral: Place-Based Development in Rural, Island and Remote Regions

Jeff Webb
Observing the Outports: Describing Newfoundland Culture, 1950–1980

Lincoln Addison, Anthropology
The Gendered and Economic Consequences of Land Reform in Sovelele, Zimbabwe
Using Sovelele, a formerly white-owned conservancy in the southeastern part of Zimbabwe, as a case study, this project examines how the community’s male and female land recipients access, control, and use land; how labour is divided by gender; how patterns of economic stratification intersect with gender; and the implications of land reform on long-term economic development in Zimbabwe.

Karlo Basta, Political Science
Redrawing Internal Borders in Multinational States: the Political Feasibility of Institutional Change
Since World War II, more people have lost their lives in civil conflicts than in inter-state conflagrations. To peacefully manage conflict in multinational states, practitioners need to know not only what institutional models are available, but which ones are politically workable. This project, using field research from India, contributes to policy-relevant knowledge by adding to the ‘troubleshooting’ toolkit of policymakers.

Amanda Bittner, Political Science
Personality, Party Leaders and Election Campaigns
This project will provide Canadians and members of the international community with a better understanding of voters and voting behaviour, and will act as a first step to the systematic, international study of the role of party leaders in elections.

Mario Blaser, Archaeology
Projects under the Shadow of the (Good) Anthropocene
This research asks, how is this vision of a ‘good Anthropocene’ negotiated and reshaped as it is translated into strategies, policies, and concrete interventions?

Dominique Bregent-Heald, History
Northern Getaway: the Tourism Film and Selling Canada
Drawing from the fields of film, tourism studies, and cultural history, this project examines the complex film/tourism relationship in Canada as a whole.

Carol Lynne D’Arcangelis, Gender Studies
Towards an Accountable Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in Canada
A forum compiling information about the specifics of the issue in NL based on the perspectives of the Inuit,
Innu, and Mi'kmaq nations resulting in a deeper synthesis of grassroots and scholarly knowledge on how best to implement an inquiry into the MMIW in Canada. Such advances are only possible when Indigenous peoples have direct influence on academic work.

Tony Fang, Economics

Syrian Refugee Arrival, Resettlement and Integration into Newfoundland and Labrador

The project is designed to examine and improve the integration and long-term retention of recently resettled Syrian refugees in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Danine Farquharson and Fiona Polack, English

Petroculture 2016: the Offshore

The third Petrocultures conference is a forum to discuss the social and cultural dimensions of oil and energy and the first in the series to include a specific focus on offshore extraction.

Anne Graham, Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures

A Translation into Modern English and Critical Edition of Theodore de Beze’s 1550 Play: Abraham Sacrificant

For the first time in 450 years Anglophone scholars, students and theatre-goers will be able to discover this important and vital Renaissance play.

Maria Mayr, Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures

Transnational European Memory in German-Language Literature from Eastern Europe: Yugoslavia and Beyond

This research analyzes the relationship between the EUR's Eastern expansion and the formation of a transitional European memory.

Robert Ormsby, English

Global Shakespeare Intercultural Performance and Festival Tourism

This project shows those in the heritage tourism sector how they can best employ Shakespeare’s prestige, and local and global cultural forms and expectations, to develop identities for their attractions that can lead to more richly meaningful experiences for theatregoers and tourists.

Nancy Pedri, English

Mixing Visual Media in Comics

At a time when the instrumental use of images is blossoming in the humanities and scientific fields, research into visual communicative process and visual literacy is crucial. This is an important forum for connecting those who ask: How do different types of images communicate?

Adrienne Peters, Sociology

A Longitudinal Study of the Reoffending Outcomes of Serious-Violent, Gang-Involved, Mentally Disordered and Sexual Offenders Supervised on Specialized Youth Probation

The assessment of the later adulthood impact of competing specialized probation supervision as a young person can enhance our understanding of how to reduce the small proportion of chronic offenders in the population. This is the first Canadian study of its kind and aims to reduce the societal and financial costs of chronic offending and promote offender’s rehabilitation and reintegration.

Yolande Pottie-Sherman, Geography

Immigration, Urban Change and the Contemporary Rust Belt

By determining how mid-sized post-industrial cities engage in the politics of immigration at different scales, this project lays the ground work for future comparative U.S.-Canadian research on subnational immigration actors. When policy is informed by this work, it will improve the lives of immigrants and help to develop socially inclusive programs.

Maureen Scheidnes, Linguistics

Language Experience and Linguistics Complexity in Child Bilingual Development

This project sheds light on how bilingual language acquisition proceeds in children and the impact that language experience variables have on language performance.

Liam Swiss, Sociology

Developing Conformity: Foreign Aid and the Diffusion of Gender Norms

This project examines how the flow of foreign aid and other forms of development finance from North to South contributes to the spread of common policies, institutions and norms within development societies.

Eric Y. Tenkorang, Sociology

Examining the Help-Seeking Behaviours of Female Victims of Intimate Partner Violence in Ghana

This project builds on a previous research project on how vulnerable groups such as youth and women negotiate safer sex and extends the exploration of the socio-cultural dimensions of violence and its effects on the sexual reproductive outcomes of women and youth in sub-Saharan Africa.
Gerard van Herk, Linguistics

Sisters under the Skin: Input, Maintenance and Post-Insularity in Atlantic English-Based Varieties

The first linguistic research project to combine historical and contemporary methods of research in comparing the social and linguistics conditioning of four linguistics variables in four Atlantic communities – two in Newfoundland, one in the Bahamas and one in South Carolina – to determine how local conditions have shaped and remade previously similar input dialects.

Russell William, Political Science

Politics in the Era of Globalized Finance — Reassessing the Role of Domestic Institutions, Networks and Ideas in Financial Regulation

This project compares the politics of financial policymaking in four countries — Australia, Canada, Ireland, and South Africa — in order to identify successful strategies for navigating future financial crises.

OTHER RESEARCH AWARDS

ECONOMICS

Wade Locke
• Applied Research in Economics

GEOGRAPHY

Alistair Bath
• Nature Conservancy Canada and the Salmonier Line Sensitive Wetland Areas in New Brunswick

Trevor Bell
• Circumpolar Arctic Coastal Communities Observatory Network (Cacon): Regional Engagement Partner Activities for Future Earth Coasts

Evan Edinger
• Video Analyses of Sponge and Coral Observations in Baffin Bay, Summer 2016
• Integrated Marine Geoscience to Guide Environmental Impact Assessment and Sustainable Development in Frobisher Bay Nunavut
• Analyses of Soft Corals Collected during Research Surveys from 2004–2016 in Support of the IGS Project

Neha Gupta
• Northern Kerala Archaeological Project (Norkap): Geovisual Perspectives on Change and Country in the Bharathapuzha River Valley

Arn Keeling
• NSERC Strategic Network Terre-Net

HISTORY

Gerhard Bassler
• Escape Hatch: Newfoundland’s Quest for German Industry and Immigration, 1950–1970

Sean Cadigan
• Develop and Disseminate Unique Mannion Emigrant Records Collection

LINGUISTICS

Paul DeDecker
• Sociophonetic Variation in Canadian Voices, Dialects and Languages

SOCIOLOGY

Alan Hall
• Closing the Enforcement Gap: Improving Employment Standards Protection for People in Precarious Jobs

Barbara Neis
• Preventing Occupational Disease: Designing a System That Works
• Improving Fishing Safety in Newfoundland and Labrador
• Policy and Practice in Return to Work after Work Injury for the Precariously Employed or Geographically Mobile Workforce: a Four Province Study

Rosemary Ricciardelli
• Supportive Reporting in Flat Bay

Liam Swiss
• Canadian Development Cooperation and the New Politics of “Partnership”

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES AND THE OCEAN FRONTIER INSTITUTE

HSS is playing a significant role in the joint Dalhousie/Memorial/University of Prince Edward Island Ocean Frontier Institute, funded by the federal Canada First Research Fund (CFREF). There are two HSS-affiliated research prongs — Coastal Governance in NL, led by Ratana Chuenpagdee (geography) and Sustainable Community Development (including Social License to Operate), led by Dr. Charles Mather (geography). Sixty per cent of the HSS funds (approximately six million dollars) are allocated to graduate students and post-doctoral fellows in HSS. Learn more at:
oceanfrontierinstitute.com
A FINE CROWD

At the annual spring celebration honouring our faculty and staff, we highlight those who have published books, and received research grants and special recognition throughout the previous academic year.

DEAN’S AWARD WINNERS (2017)

Michael Wernerheim
Teaching Excellence, tenured instructor

Julie Temple Newhook
Teaching Excellence, non-tenure track instructor

Scott Matthews
Distinguished Scholarship

Evan Simpson
William Kirwin Award for Retiree Recognition

Helen Knapman
Award for Exceptional Service to the Faculty

Tony Fang
Award for Graduate Supervision

Jeff Webb
Peter Cashin Award

Trinity Bay North
HSS Community Research Engagement Award

STATE OF THE ARTS

In order to introduce our faculty members to a wider audience and to increase knowledge of how the humanities and social sciences are critical in understanding our changing world, the faculty has launched State of the Arts, a semi-regular Facebook Live broadcast hosted by English professor and writer Lisa Moore.

JOIN LISA MOORE FOR
STATE OF THE ARTS

A FACEBOOK LIVE BROADCAST EXPLORING THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

“One of the first things I noticed in coming to work at Memorial was how much research is happening at the university and how varied and in depth and exciting it all is! You walk down the corridor and you find yourself in a conversation about the earliest record of a Shakespeare play being performed in St.John’s. You head down the stairs and somebody is talking about Muskrat Falls, or the economics of the Health Care system or, how policing, over the decades has shifted from, say, protecting labourers on a picket line, to protecting the interests of multinationals,” says Ms. Moore. “The idea behind State of the Arts is to dig deep into this research, and give the faculty working in HSS a chance to share this stuff. I am so excited about this series.”
LEGAL EAGLE

The second annual Francis Forbes Law Lecture featured Canada’s top law maker, the Right Honourable Beverley McLachlin, Chief Justice of Canada, in one of her last public engagements before announcing her retirement. She spoke to a capacity crowd of over 300 people on “Canada’s criminal justice system in the 21st century – Addressing the challenges.”

The lecture is a partnership between our faculty and the Law Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador to address legal issues of public concern. It is dedicated to the memory of Sir Francis Forbes who served as the Chief Justice in Newfoundland from 1816 to 1822.

STATE VISIT

It’s not every day the Russian ambassador comes calling. H.E. Alexander Darchiev, the Ambassador of the Russia Federation, visited the St. John’s campus in November 2017 to speak with students and to formally donate a 34-volume facsimile manuscript of The Illustrated Chronicle of Ivan the Terrible to the QEII Library.

48 MONTHS OF FINASTERIDE

The Trump presidency has seen many of us reeling from the reality of what is our new “normal.” Enter English professor Dr. Andrew Loman who has responded by organizing regular public readings of political plays to count down the 48 months of the current U.S. administration because, as he says, “theatre is well-suited for lessons in social anatomy.”

To date the troupe has read: Eugene Ionesco’s Rhinoceros, Tony Kushner’s A Bright Room Called Day, William Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar, Albert Camus’s Caligula and Arthur Miller’s View from the Bridge.

MILESTONES

In the 2016–17 academic year we have seen the retirement of a number of faculty and staff members. Among these are:

- Philip Hiscock (Folklore)
- Mark Cumming (English)
- David Hawkin (Religious Studies)
- Magessa O’Reilly (Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures)
- Messod Salama (Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures)
- Paul Smith (Folklore)
- Robert Sweeney (History)
- Darlene Kennedy (Dean’s Office)

THANK YOU

for your service to our students, our faculty and to Memorial University.
ARTSWORKS: 10TH ANNIVERSARY

In 2017 ArtsWorks, the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences award-winning exploration program celebrated its tenth anniversary. Its purpose is to guide students in narrowing their career focus so they will have a clearer plan on how to identify and prepare for a career while completing their degree.

Throughout the program, students explore interests and skills, identify potential careers, learn to research the labour market and complete a volunteer component to further explore and acquire skills related to their career interests. They leave the program with a plan outlining the next steps to get the career they want. Over 430 humanities and social science students have completed the program in the past decade. Now that’s reason to celebrate!
Chris Dunn
Dr. Christopher Dunn’s career at Memorial spanned nearly three decades beginning in 1987. He developed a reputation for meticulously researched and highly detailed scholarship. His publications about cabinets, deputy ministers, federalism and government have been widely read across Canada.

He taught many students over the years and had a significant impact on many young lives.

His books include The Institutionalized Cabinet: Governing the Western Provinces (MQUP 1995), Canadian Political Debates (OUP 1995), and, with Eric Mintz and Liviana Tossutti, Canada’s Politics: Democracy, Diversity and Good Government (Pearson 2017).

He is perhaps best known for editing multiple editions of The Handbook of Canadian Public Administration (OUP) and Provinces: Canadian Provincial Politics (UTP). Together with Jacques Bourgault he co-edited Deputy Ministers in Canada: Comparative and Jurisdictional Perspectives (UTP 2014).

Peter Pope
Peter Pope began teaching in the history department at Memorial but later joined what was then called the archaeology unit, eventually becoming head of the archaeology department and an Honorary Research Professor. He was also director of the Newfoundland Archaeological Heritage Outreach Program.

In 2001, he was awarded the President’s Award for Outstanding Research in recognition of his achievements in uncovering the past and preserving it for future generations. He was an award winning author as well, earning praise for works such as Fish into Wine and The Many Landfalls of John Cabot. He will be remembered for his impeccable research covering a wide array of topics including Breton ceramics, John Cabot, waterfront archaeology, the early cod fishery, French material history and so much more.

Patrick O’Flaherty
A pioneer in many respects, Dr. Patrick O’Flaherty introduced the first Newfoundland literature course at Memorial, he was instrumental in the creation of the interdisciplinary journal, Newfoundland Studies, and he introduced creative writing courses into the English department. He was named to the Order of Canada in 2007 and was awarded an honorary doctor of letters degree from Memorial in 2011.

Dr. O’Flaherty wrote The Rock Observed, the definitive study of Newfoundland literature to the mid-1970s; edited By Great Waters, an anthology of Newfoundland writings with historian Peter Neary; and wrote short stories, novels, historical studies, literary criticism, travel guides and a memoir of childhood, Paddy Boy.

Their work will remain their living legacy.
The Annual is a publication of Memorial University's Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. It is intended to highlight our best and brightest achievements — to show off who we are and what we do — and to recognize the support from so many that help us accomplish so much.

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Join the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Facebook group and keep up to date on events, network with students and alumni, and help to reinforce the value of an arts education.

Do you Twitter? Well we do. Follow @memorialhss

#whowearewhatwedo