This is us

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Cover Story
This is us
We asked eight members of the Queen’s community to give us their views on diversity and inclusion. Here’s what they told us…

Campus and Community
Supporting Indigenous academics and research; Building inclusion into the workplace; University District Safety Initiative; and more.

Feature Story
Talk nerdy to me
Benjamin Woo, Artsci’04, explores the social worlds of geek culture in his new book, Getting a Life.

The Last Word
Let’s all build a safer Homecoming
Jeremy Mosher, Artsci’08, asks alumni to be active participants in ensuring that Homecoming is a safe, inclusive, and respectful event.
Diversity and inclusion

When I was asked to help Andrea with this issue, I reflected back on my student years at Queen’s, as well as the stories I have collected from family and friends. My father-in-law came to Queen’s from Barbados in the late 1950s. His experience on campus was such that he forbade his children from coming to this university. A decade later, my father arrived at Queen’s as an international graduate student from what is now Bangladesh. His experience, during the Trudeau era that celebrated multiculturalism, and after the creation of the Queen’s University International Centre, was a positive one in which he built many lasting connections.

My own experience on campus in the 1990s was also positive, with support and motivation to succeed academically. I never had a problem with religious accommodation, due, in part, to the connections that the Muslim community and previous generations of students and faculty had made with the university since, in the absence of a mosque in Kingston, campus was the centre of our activities. Fast forward another decade, though, and Queen’s saw an increase in both Islamophobic and anti-Semitic acts. Today, with more discussions happening on campus and the culmination of the PICRD1 and TRC reports, we hear more stories of individuals who are feeling excluded.

A university campus gathers people from all walks of life and from all over the world; it is the perfect environment to learn about perspectives that differ from our own. But in order to benefit, we need to listen to, and seek to understand, each other. The culture of an environment depends upon the people in it. A university, with its constant flux of people, has a dynamic culture, which may explain the drastically different experiences through the ages by different groups.

This year I served as interim co-chair of the University Council on Anti-Racism and Equity (UCARE) with Stephanie Simpson, with whom I have been discussing these issues off and on since our undergraduate years. UCARE members are passionate individuals who are striving to make our campus a more diverse and inclusive one. What has come out of our discussions is the need to change the culture of campus. It seems a daunting task, but I am confident that it is something that we can achieve if we can put down the foundations that will strive to maintain the spirit of inclusivity, no matter the ebbs and flows of the population. Part of that is listening to the perspectives of others. We cannot improve if we do not know where the problems are.

Members of our community, including members of UCARE, have agreed to share their experiences in this issue. This is just a small snapshot of the multitude of stories that are out there. I hope that you can read these stories with an open mind and heart. I have seen how building strong connections can form a community where individuals can feel confident in being who they are, be encouraged to explore different perspectives, and be able to respect the differences of others. You can’t build bridges without meeting in the middle. Diversity and inclusivity enrich us as a community, but we need to work towards a sustainable culture that fosters them.

Mona Rahman
Towards peace

The young woman holding the “Towards peace” sign was my sister, Alison Gordon, member of Arts’64. She was quite active in campus politics, including the peace movement, and also had a jazz records program on CFRC.

Alison, who died in 2015, never graduated from Queen’s, but had a wonderful career as a writer and broadcaster. She is perhaps best known for being the first woman beat writer in major league baseball, covering the Toronto Blue Jays for the Toronto Star from 1979 to 1983. She is being honoured this year at the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame as “a courageous pioneer who broke down barriers for female sports reporters across North America.”

After leaving the baseball beat, Alison turned to novels, publishing five mysteries with a baseball theme. She was also active in PEN Canada, supporting writers around the world.

Charles Gordon, Arts’62

I have just received my copy of the current issue of the Queen’s Review. The lovely young woman in the photo on page 38, taking part in a silent vigil for peace on Nov. 11, 1964, is Alison Gordon. We were roommates at the time, sharing an apartment at 59 West Street. She left Queen’s before graduating, to become a civil rights activist in the United States, and was later a novelist and sports writer at a time when sports reporting was an exclusively masculine
purview. She died in February 2015 at the age of 72.

Indra Kagis McEwen, Arts’66

Re: the photo of the Remembrance Day vigil: I was there! That is Alison Gordon in your photo, who later became a mystery novelist.

We were enjoined to dress very conservatively, ladies in skirts despite the cold weather, so we would not be dismissed as ‘hippies.’ People accused of us insulting the war dead, and we were at pains to point out that on the contrary, we wanted to prevent such horrors from happening again.

Thank you for bringing this back.

Jeannie Rosenberg, Arts’68

What a pleasant surprise to open the Review and see an old friend of mine from the ‘60s, Alison Gordon, the mystery woman on page 38.

Alison was a member of the Queen’s chapter of the Combined Universities Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CUCND) which became the Student Union for Peace Action (SUPA) in December 1964, shortly after the photo was taken. The head office of CUCND/SUPA was in Toronto and in the spring of 1965, SUPA rented a large house from the U of T for their new office called Peace House. The rest of the rooms were rented to SUPA members and workers. As a SUPA worker, I lived there, and Alison moved in that spring, probably after her exams were finished at Queen’s.

Although her room was just down the hall from mine, our close association was short-lived, because in an odd twist of fate, I was headed off to Kingston! The Queen’s chapter of SUPA was preparing for a summer community organizing project and I was recruited to be the director of the project, because I had had “previous slum experience.”

The project was called the Kingston Community Project (KCP) and it became the model for the soon-to-be-formed Company of Young Canadians, a kind of domestic CUSO/Peace Corps developed by the federal government (and led by another Queen’s grad, Stewart Goodings).

Dennis McDermott, ME’88

Printmakers at War

I am heartened by the fact that the Agnes Etherington Art Centre will host Printmakers at War, 1914–1918 later this year. How fitting. The sheer volume of “war art” of all forms created both during and after the First World War – prints, paintings, sculptures, memorials, and so on – was indeed unprecedented and served a multitude of purposes from recruiting to commemoration. I do, however, wish to note an error of fact in the article announcing this promising exhibition: the Canadian National Vimy Memorial does not list “the names of 11,285 Canadian soldiers killed in France,” but rather memorializes those Canadians who died in that country and, through the sad misfortunes of war, have no known grave.

Incidentally, the article’s use of the adjective “mechanized” to describe the fighting of the Great War is also problematic and unfortunate; a better word might have been “industrialized.” The former suggests a war of movement using armoured fighting vehicles, like tanks, that – although present at times – was not a defining feature of the war, while the latter connotes, in part, the development, large-scale production, and employment of the many technologies of war (and the mass, anonymized casualties that resulted therefrom), something for which the Great War is most certainly known.

Craig Leslie Mantle, MA’02 (History), PhD

In this 1979 photo, Alison Gordon conducts a post-game interview in the Blue Jays locker room with centre fielder Rick Bosetti.
Progress on diversity and inclusion

BY PRINCIPAL DANIEL WOOLF

If a future history of Queen’s says anything about the academic year 2017–18, I hope it will recognize it as the year that our university, perhaps belatedly, made significant, rather than merely incremental, progress on issues of diversity and inclusion. Since the spring 2017 twin reports of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Task Force and the Principal’s Implementation Committee on Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion, a number of decisive steps have occurred. Our governance bodies have had robust discussions of matters falling broadly under the category of diversity and inclusion. We have committed funds to support initiatives (including the Principal’s Dream Course program, which has supported several courses connected with Indigenous issues). We appointed Kanonhsyonne (Janice Hill) as the university’s first director of Indigenous initiatives, and an expansion of the Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre is now underway.

Under the overall supervision of Deputy Provost Teri Shearer, other plans are afoot, including creating a welcoming space, analogous to Four Directions, for racialized students. The University Council on Anti-Racism and Equity (UCARE) has been created. Student Affairs has launched a first-generation program targeted at minority students who are the first in their family to attend university. To assist with this initiative, we appointed alumnus Curtis Carmichael (Arts’16) as our first recruiter, based in Toronto, to help build relationships with communities and organizations that serve and support students who may benefit from the new program, and we continue to work with Pathways to Education Canada. Also, faculty and staff hiring is occurring with considerably greater attention to inclusion in order to expand the pool of candidates for any position to embrace persons who may not have felt that Queen’s would be a place for them to work. Inclusion must include diversity of all kinds: racialized minorities and Indigenous peoples, to be sure, but also diverse sexual and gender orientations, and those with physical challenges (our campus is not as accessible in places as it should be, especially in some of our older buildings). And diversity itself, as noted in my previous column, must also embrace diversity of thought and perspective.

There’s still a lot to do and inclusion and diversity are not boxes to be ticked one time but are an ongoing process. We also have to come to terms with some of the less pleasant episodes in our past. We know from the records that Queen’s, and other universities, have not always provided a positive atmosphere for certain minorities. We’re justly proud of the admission and welcome of Robert Sutherland, our first black student, in the 1840s, and of Alfred Bader a century later, both of whom became remarkable benefactors of their alma mater. But we have some stories that are, frankly, ugly. One that has come to my attention in the past year is the expulsion from Queen’s medical school of a number of black students – despite the fact that there had been several in the past – during the First World War, for apparently frivolous reasons, and the failure of the university to redress that indefensible decision for decades thereafter.

I’m a historian, and I don’t believe in hiding from the past, disowning it, or trying to make it disappear. We have to own it. We can’t judge our predecessors too harshly – they made decisions, right or wrong, in a particular context and set of circumstances. But circumstances and social values evolve, and Queen’s has to evolve with them. We should, of course, take pride in our 177-year storied history, but also recognize those occasions where we failed to live up to the values and principles that, I believe, the university has always and should continue to stand for.
University District Safety Initiative

Over the last several years, Kingston has struggled with recurring unsanctioned street parties that have drawn thousands of people to the University District. Unsafe and disruptive behaviours often accompany these parties and put the community at risk by putting a significant strain on emergency services and creating dangerous situations when roads and traffic are blocked. In an effort to curb these behaviours and their effects, the City of Kingston, Kingston Police, and Queen’s have collaborated to introduce the University District Safety Initiative pilot program.

The pillars of this new initiative are changes in how people are charged for committing specific offences at certain times of the year and for any contravention of the Nuisance Party Bylaw occurring at any time; information sharing among the city, police, and the university; and potential university-related non-academic consequences for any Queen’s University student issued a summons through the initiative.

Those charged for committing an identified offence during Orientation Week, Homecoming weekend, and St. Patrick’s Day weekend, or for any offence under the Nuisance Party Bylaw will now be issued a summons to appear before a Justice of the Peace in Kingston, regardless of where they live. They will not have the option to settle the charge by mail, online, or by phone. The goal is to ensure that people charged with an offence account for their actions in person.

Learn more about the University District Safety Initiative: bit.ly/QRx2828.

Order of Canada

The following faculty and alumni were named to the Order of Canada on July 1.

OFFICER
Wendy Craig, O.C.
Professor and Head,
Department of Psychology
“For her seminal research on bullying and its impact on youth, and for her groundbreaking work in linking basic research, public policy, and community action to address the issue.”

MEMBER
Alan Latourelle, C.M., MBA'94
CEO, Parks Canada (retired)
“For his ongoing efforts to instill a sense of pride, encourage innovation, and foster a desire to preserve Canada’s natural and historic wonders.”

Barry Wellar, C.M., Arts’64
Professor Emeritus, University of Ottawa; President, Wellar Consulting
“For his extensive contributions to the development and advancement of the field of geographic information systems in Canada.”

International award for Queen’s

The Council for Advancement and Support of Education honoured Queen’s with a silver award in its 2018 Circle of Excellence awards program. Queen’s University Marketing was recognized in the Special Events: Year-long category for its campaign to celebrate Queen’s 175th anniversary. Anniversary events included a successful Guinness World Record attempt and an exhibit profiling Nobel Prize-winning researcher Arthur McDonald.
Agnes artist-in-residence brings in the community

In June, the Agnes Etherington Art Centre welcomed Tau Lewis as its 2018 Stonecroft Foundation Artist-in-Residence.

During her 13-week stay, Ms. Lewis, a Jamaican-Canadian artist, is teaming up with Kingston-based Roots and Wings, a grassroots community group that works towards making space for racialized girls in Kingston.

Through Roots and Wings activities, girls are encouraged to explore their diverse identities and are provided with learning opportunities about social justice issues in a fun, engaging, and age-appropriate way. They are encouraged to teach and share their unique skills with each other, as well as the larger community, through action on social justice issues.

“Getting to be a part of the Roots and Wings program was a great privilege for me,” Ms. Lewis says. “I always feel blessed to encounter children’s artworks and the process by which they create them, because you’ll rarely encounter a more honest kind of storytelling. I feel honoured to work with such a talented and diverse group of young women, and happy that I’m able to contribute to something that was crucial to me as a kid, and I think in some ways helped me to arrive to where I am now.”

The link between Ms. Lewis and Roots and Wings has a Queen’s connection – Ms. Lewis visited Queen’s in 2017 and was introduced to Yasmine Djerbal, a PhD candidate in Cultural Studies. Ms. Djerbal co-founded Roots and Wings, and this collaboration was formed from their discussions.

Ms. Djerbal says the collaboration was a wonderful experience for the girls.

“They were able to see and meet an artist that looked like them, that they could look up to, and maybe even aspire to become one day,” she says. “Our goal is to have our girls grow strong roots into our community and create lifelong connections to people and organizations from which they will learn about social justice, identity, and culture, and collaborating with Ms. Lewis really exemplified the work we want to do!”

The exhibition Tau Lewis: when last you found me here will be on view at the Agnes from Aug. 25 through to Dec. 2. Several programs are scheduled for the fall including an artist talk, two panel discussions on Art and Black Canada, and an open workshop in which Ms. Lewis will introduce her practice, drawing connections between her material choices and the thematic concerns of her work.

The Stonecroft Artist-in-Residence program is supported by the Stonecroft Foundation for the Arts, the Queen’s Department of Gender Studies through Katherine McKittrick, the Queen’s Arts Fund – Visiting Artist in Residence, and the Bachelor of Fine Arts (Visual Art) Program.

For more information on Ms. Lewis and her work, visit taulewis.com.

Phil Gaudreau
Supporting Indigenous academics and Indigenous research

One in four Canadians holds a bachelor’s or advanced degree, according to Statistics Canada. Yet for Indigenous people in Canada, the number is just one in ten – making it more of a challenge for Indigenous learners wishing to obtain a graduate education.

The School of Graduate Studies has earmarked additional funding and introduced a new admissions policy for Indigenous applicants for master’s and doctoral programs, in keeping with the spirit of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission task force’s report.

“These actions are a step toward increasing access to graduate studies,” said Brenda Brouwer, Vice-Provost and Dean (Graduate Studies), in June. “They align with increasing inclusivity in our graduate community and promoting opportunities for research and scholarship that actively engage Indigenous communities.”

The new Indigenous Student admission policy applies to all graduate programs in the School of Graduate Studies. The evaluation of applications from Indigenous candidates will consider academic, cultural, personal, and professional background, along with other factors indicative of capacity for graduate study.

To be considered under this regulation, applicants must self-identify as Indigenous (defined as First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Peoples) upon application for admission. “Financial supports such as the Robert Sutherland Fellowship, which I received in my first year of doctoral studies, and other awards with allocations designated for Indigenous students are invaluable for promoting the advancement and development of Aboriginal communities throughout Canada,” says Alex Veinot, a PhD candidate in chemistry. “While Queen’s has made significant improvements in supporting its Indigenous students both culturally and financially, there are still issues that need further attention in order to greatly improve the experience of Indigenous students at Queen’s.”

The School of Graduate Studies has also set aside funding resources to support graduate students conducting research that requires travel to Indigenous communities. Master’s and doctoral students engaged in Indigenous-related research can apply for a Graduate Dean’s Travel Grant for Indigenous Field Research to help offset the costs.

For more information on support for Indigenous graduate students at Queen’s, visit queensu.ca/sgs/aboriginal-students.

Alex Veinot is a PhD candidate in chemistry and a member of Glooscap First Nation in Nova Scotia.
Building inclusion into the workplace

Don’t be surprised if you see Queen’s Physical Plant Services (PPS) employees using more sign language in their work.

In June, PPS held a “Lunch and Learn” session to educate employees about Deaf culture, proper etiquette when interacting with those who are Deaf, and American Sign Language (ASL). The workshop was facilitated by a pair of presenters from the Canadian Hearing Society.

“This training was identified as something PPS employees would benefit from in working with Deaf colleagues and clients,” says Llynwen Osborne, who organized the workshop on behalf of PPS. “It is important to demonstrate our support and respect for the challenges that Deaf people face in the workplace.”

One of the presenters signed her portion of the presentation to the group while an ASL interpreter interpreted to the class. The group experienced first-hand what it is like to rely on an interpreter to participate in an information session.

Deaf staff members also participated in the workshop, sharing their experience and explaining their communications preferences.

“The workshop taught me about proper etiquette and a few simple signs, and it has changed the way I work,” says Jesse Bambrick, another PPS employee. “It’s a hard habit to break, but I know now when I am in meetings I need to look at my Deaf colleagues so they have a chance to pick up on what I am saying. This has opened the door for me to ask more questions, and I am interested in learning more in the future.”

The presentation covered topics such as appropriate terminology to use when referring to Deaf people; polite ways to get the attention of a Deaf person; and some introductory ASL, including general phrases like “hello” and “goodbye” along with more job-specific words such as “plumber” and “grounds”.

“IT was nice to have such a good turnout for this session because it shows support for our Deaf colleagues,” says Ms. Osborne. “Both have exceptional skills in communicating with hearing people so it was nice for them to see us trying as well.”

IN MEMORIAM

James Herbert Brown, BSc’50 (Metallurgical), Professor Emeritus, former Dean of Engineering and Applied Science, died June 3.

Russel Code, former professor (Chemical Engineering), died June 25.

Millard Schumaker, PhD’70 (Philosophy), former professor, Queen’s Theological College, died June 20.

Nancy Ossenberg, Professor Emeritus (Anatomy), died on June 23.

Caroline Falkner, Associate Professor (Classics), died July 16.

Kim Renders, Associate Professor (Drama), died July 17.

Donna Gallagher, former professor (Physical and Health Education) and volleyball, field hockey, and badminton head coach, died July 18.

Obituaries are posted in the online version of the Review. If you have memories of these professors you’d like to share, please write us: review@queensu.ca.

Communication tips from the Canadian Hearing Society

- To get the person’s attention, tap them on the shoulder or wave your hand.
- Maintain eye contact with the person.
- If the person can read lips, talk at a moderate pace and keep your hands away from your face.
- Engage in written communication (text, email, or hand-written notes).
- Talk TO the person, not at the person.
- Use body language (within reason) to help communicate what you are trying to say.
Concrete ideas for the future
Queen’s engineers build Canada’s first Moving Load Simulator for highway bridge testing

In July, Queen’s researcher Amir Fam and his team unveiled a cutting-edge Moving Load Simulator featuring new technology designed to test the structural integrity of bridge materials and designs.

The system simulates the forces borne by a bridge from vehicle traffic. It collects data that are then analyzed by engineers to assess the performance of all aspects of the bridge structure, including the deck, girders, and joints.

“This equipment here at Queen’s is remarkably unique,” says Dr. Fam, Donald and Sarah Munro Chair in Engineering and Applied Science and Associate Dean (Research and Graduate Studies). “We wanted to take the lead in understanding bridges under full-scale moving loads by creating testing infrastructure that was innovative and new.”

The $4.2 million in funding to design and build the simulator – the first of its kind in Canada – and other support infrastructure was provided by the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), the Ontario Research Fund, and the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science, with additional in-kind contributions.

“The important research enabled by the Moving Load Simulator will save lives and reduce costs,” says Roseann O’Reilly Runte, President and CEO of CFI. “Aging infrastructure in bridges across North America can be a serious issue of safety and security. The ability to study simultaneously both load and motion will be key to building better bridges in the future and to knowing today which bridges should require load limits.”

Traditionally, bridge materials are tested using a pulsating technique that sees a large hammer-like instrument pounding the material repeatedly in the same spot. But in reality, says Dr. Fam, this isn’t how bridges are used in the real world. By driving back and forth over the test material, the simulator recreates the forces bridges undergo every day and over a long period of time.

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation is one of the first partners to use the load simulator to test bridges in Ontario. As well as testing existing structures, the technology will also contribute to more design efficiencies. And, says Dr. Fam, the Moving Load Simulator will be made available for Queen’s student research projects as well.

Anne Craig
Teachers-turned-students
The first PhD candidates of the Mastercard Foundation partnership reflect on their first year at Queen’s

After a successful first year at Queen’s, Mulugeta Chala and Molalign Adugna will head home to Ethiopia to conduct field research that will contribute to the foundation of an internationally accredited rehabilitation therapy program at the University of Gondar in Ethiopia. Both are doctoral students in the School of Rehabilitation Therapy and participants in the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program.

Mr. Adugna taught sociology and worked as the director of continuing and distance educational programs at the University of Gondar.

“My focus has shifted to rehabilitation from sociology for my PhD, and specifically on the nexus between stigma and inclusive education among children with disabilities in rural Ethiopia,” says Mr. Adugna.

“I want to learn different stigma reduction strategies that work in Canada and find which can be applied to Ethiopia. I also want to develop an intervention strategy for disability awareness for future Ethiopian researchers to practise.”

Mr. Chala is a physiotherapist and clinical educator who coordinated the Office of Research Linkage and Knowledge Transfer at the University of Gondar to connect researchers with the local community.

“My focus is on chronic lower back pain. I’m hoping to develop a chronic pain self-management program customized to the Ethiopian context. Most programs used in developing countries copy strategies from Europe, the United States, and Canada. Those may work for a while, but they’re not sustainable because they lack the context of the developing country,” says Mr. Chala. “While at Queen’s, I want to gain the research skills to develop a research question, and also lay the foundation for the next generation of researchers in Ethiopia. We have a responsibility to train those that follow us.”

The Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program is a 10-year, $24-million partnership that brought Queen’s and the University of Gondar together to support the growth of rehabilitation therapy at the Ethiopian university. The partnership, now in its second year, includes

- scholarships for 450 undergraduate scholars, including those with disabilities and from areas of conflict, to study at Gondar,
- 60 faculty members from the University of Gondar to study at the graduate level at Queen’s,
- a Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) certificate, and
- an internationally recognized occupational therapy curriculum at the University of Gondar.

Having completed their required graduate coursework, Mr. Chala and Mr. Adugna are now taking comprehensive examinations. Once complete, they will spend the next two years collecting data and writing in Ethiopia, with support from the Mastercard Foundation project office at the University of Gondar.

Sarah Linders

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Sarah Linders
Having access to the best assistive technologies can mean the difference between dependence and independence for people living with disabilities. The simple joy of reading an exciting novel, for example, can be out of reach for someone who can’t comfortably hold a book upright and open or turn its pages for long enough to get lost in the story.

“I’m at the point where I either need someone to read to me or I can listen to audiobooks,” says Jim Stinson, who uses a wheelchair and has multiple sclerosis that affects his ability to hold a book or a pen. “But a big factor in reading a book is that you get to imagine the different scenarios. When the story is read to me, someone else develops the characters with their imagination. I like to do that myself.”

There are lots of assistive devices on the market that propose to help people with similar challenges but mass-market devices so often demand compromises from end users. Results are much better with custom assistive devices, or devices that can be infinitely adapted over time to an individual user’s specific needs and wants.

That’s where Queen’s engineering students come in. Fourth-year biomechanical engineering students Olivia Roud and Leigh Janssen, under the supervision of professor Claire Davies, are working with Stinson this summer to design, build, and refine the devices he wants to enable him to read and write more routinely and independently.

“Engineers need to design for people. It’s a responsibility we instill in students from the start, and that’s why it’s so important they get experience working with real-world clients before they graduate.”

Dr. Claire Davies, Assistant Professor, Mechanical and Materials Engineering

“Engineers need to design for people. It’s a responsibility we instill in students from the start, and that’s why it’s so important they get experience working with real-world clients before they graduate.”
so much more information and feedback than we would get in a hypothetical situation.”

Among the devices Roud and Janssen are working on is a special copy stand to fit over the armrest of Stinson’s wheelchair. It can help support the weight of a book and hold it open in just the right position so Stinson can read the text clearly and turn the pages much more easily. Another device provides support for Stinson’s right forearm to help steady his hand for writing with a pen.

“With the system they’ve developed, I can write more easily,” says Stinson. “I can sit here and read a book pretty naturally, so I’ll be able to finish all the books I’ve started but couldn’t read to the end.”

“It’s an iterative process,” says Roud. “There are some stability issues in some of the devices at the moment but the next steps are to look at the designs, take them apart, and improve each piece until we get the best results we can for Jim.”

For Roud and Janssen, the first steps on the road to this project came as part of Davies’ MECH 393 Biomedical Product Design course. That course is part of an interdisciplinary initiative called Building Better Together, in collaboration with PhD student Elizabeth Delarosa (Mechanical and Materials Engineering), and professors Catherine Donnelly and Susanne Murphy (both Rehabilitation Therapy). In the class, biomechanical engineering students collaborate with occupational therapy students to make custom assistive devices for real-world end users.

“Four teams work with each end user in the course,” says Davies. “Then, the end users decide which devices to move forward with. I’ve engaged a couple of students from the class in each of the past two summers to move those projects forward. We iterate on the designs until they meet the end users’ needs before we give the devices to the end user. We re-interview the end user after one week, using quality assessment tools that enable us to evaluate how well the devices perform. We do that again after four weeks, and again after six months. That’s how we ensure the needs of that end user are met throughout the year and the devices continue to be beneficial into the future.”

For Stinson, the preferred outcome is quite simple: more independence in his daily life.

“The philosophy I use in my life is that if you have a problem, you learn how to work around it,” he says. “We’ve worked around some things that were difficult for me and the devices they’ve developed are very good solutions for people who have difficulty reading or writing. I have nothing but great things to say about the engineers and occupational therapists who work at Queen’s.”

**Matt Mills**
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This is us

We asked eight members of the Queen's community to give us their views on diversity and inclusion. Here’s what they told us...
Ms. Rahman just completed her BA in English and is now pursuing her BED with a focus on teaching intermediate-senior classes (grades 7 to 12). Last year, she became involved in the English department’s diversity committee, which was tasked to examine how courses in English include (or don’t include) writings by authors from equity-seeking groups and then suggest changes to the department’s curriculum. The committee was struck in response to the recommendations of the Principal’s Implementation Committee on Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (PICRDI). “Lots of students were finding that there wasn’t much diversity in the works we were reading,” says Ms. Rahman, “just a lot of old white men! So we came up with suggestions, did surveys, and we’re still working on it into the summer.”

Basmah Rahman
ConEd’19

Why is representation important in an English syllabus?

“It’s really for engagement. That’s a huge one. In some classes, there aren’t that many people of colour, so already you feel scared to talk. When there’s no work that represents you, it makes you feel even more scared. Imposter syndrome is real! And I felt it, from first year all the way up to third year. I think in fourth year, I got my footing. But I think lots of us are scared to talk about our viewpoints. And for many students, English isn’t even their first language, so that’s another hurdle.

“Basically, I’d be in the classroom and when someone was talking, even if I had an answer, it just felt like I didn’t belong there. I remember I was questioning whether I should pursue English, especially in second year – it was in an English 200 lecture and it was so big. I just felt like I didn’t belong at all. I never spoke up.”

In another class, she was uncomfortable when reading Thomas More’s Utopia and coming across a passage about foreign slaves. “So everyone was raving about the book, and I just put up my hand and said ‘Umm … I’m not feeling it!’ It was a utopia for a certain class of people, but others were brushed aside.

“I have a laid-back approach to talking about how I feel. I use humour a lot more than actually saying ‘This is wrong!’ all the time. I feel it is easier to connect: otherwise, people may label you as ‘that bitter POC.’ And unfortunately, if people do that, they will quickly start to filter you out. So I use a more comedic approach to explain myself and judge for myself when to directly call people out.” She still sees the value of reading books like Utopia, but also knows the benefit of making time and room in the classroom for discussion of topics that don’t resonate with everyone.

“Even if the curriculum doesn’t always include works by people of colour or different sexualities or different genders, we could still approach those perspectives through theory. I think that would be very useful, if we were just introduced to scholarship that approaches things in different ways. So it’s not just about having that person of colour in the text, it’s being able to see them.”

Imposter syndrome:
the persistent inability to believe that one’s success is deserved or has been legitimately achieved as a result of one’s own efforts or skills.

– Oxford English Dictionary
This summer, Ms. Rahman began working with Youth 2 Kingston, a regional initiative of youth advocating for youth. “We work with different groups within Kingston, like ISKA [Immigrant Services Kingston and Area] and Youth Diversion and other groups that cater towards kids and help them adjust to Kingston life and really get involved in the community.

“It can be really daunting for immigrant youth. Everyone around you already has their friend groups; there may be a language barrier. So we work with them. It is a job, but it’s more fun than anything. Anything they are interested in, we help them pursue. We create those connections and guide them to the right place to seek help or information.” They also connect young people (ages 12 to 24) with opportunities on the Mayor’s Youth Council, MP Youth Council, and MPP Youth Council. These councils enable local youth to share their perspectives and priorities with their government representatives. “We did away with resumes for the applications: if you have a 12-year-old and a 22-year-old applying for a role, obviously the 22-year-old will have more work experience on their resume, and not just babysitting. So instead, we have them write about why they are interested in the position. This made me really happy because it supports accessibility and representation of different age groups within the community.”
My research looks at how we prepare teachers to do particular things in their daily work surrounding diversity and equity, but particularly gender and sexual diversity. We usually think of that as meaning people who identify somewhere under the LGBTQ+ umbrella.

“There’s a whole spectrum of gender diversity that isn’t just about trans people over here, and everybody else over there. There are ways in which people do and don’t conform to different kinds of local gender norms. My work looks at what teachers need to know and to be able to do about those things in order to create an environment where gender and sexual diversity can exist as openly as possible.

“I try to give teacher candidates the tools to welcome how gender is being lived by all their students, even if they don’t yet know what words students use for themselves. Even if all their students are cisgender boys or cisgender girls, there are still many different ways those students are living what it means to be a boy or a girl. But usually only a couple of those are valued in the school, so I try to prepare teachers to know how to think about and recognize the different kinds of gender diversity in their classroom and to make space for those in their everyday interactions.

Lee Airton
Assistant Professor
Gender and Sexuality Studies in Education
Faculty of Education
"I do a lot of thinking about interaction, about how we negotiate gender and sexuality in the classroom, and what are everyday teacher practices that actually close down who their students are, or who they think they can be. These can happen without teachers even knowing it; they are doing their best, but may not have a sense of the impact they have in the ways they talk and the ways they relate to their students."

In 2016, Dr. Airton, whose pronoun is singular "they," created the No Big Deal campaign. NBD aims to help people become comfortable with practicing the use of gender-neutral pronouns for others. As the campaign says, "My pronoun is a big deal to me; using it doesn’t need to be a big deal for you. It’s no big deal."

Trying out new language
What NBD tries to do is give a starting place for people who are trying out new language, such as using singular ‘they’ for one person they know, but it sounds wrong for them. And that orientation towards providing a starting place comes directly from my teacher education practice, where I get whole rooms full of good people who want to do the best they can for the different children and youth they work with. And they come from all different kinds of backgrounds and they’re all very anxious about doing the best job they can.

“We all want to be good people,” they say, “but sometimes we just make a mistake and we have a negative impact on someone else. And in that moment, you really see that our intentions don’t matter. And it isn’t about being a good or a bad person at all. It’s about being the person who recognizes that we have to do a little bit of work for each other in the world.”

Dr. Airton’s book, Gender: Your Guide (A Gender-Friendly Primer on What to Know, What to Say, and What to Do in the New Gender Culture), will be published by Adams Media and Simon & Schuster in October.
“You need to realize what it means to leave everything behind and start from scratch in a whole new country.”

Adriana Lopez at the Queen's University Biological Station
At QUBS, among other responsibilities, Dr. Lopez oversees the natural history collections and the expansion of the digital database of the Fowler Herbarium, a collection of more than 140,000 specimens of vascular plants, mosses, and lichens.

Dr. Lopez, who is originally from Mexico, did her BSc at the Universidad de las Américas Puebla and her MSc at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Instituto de Ecología.

What brought you to Queen’s?
“I always wanted to do a PhD abroad. And when I was finishing my master’s degree [in ecology and evolutionary biology], I went to an international conference in New York and I met Chris Eckert [Professor, plant evolution and population ecology] there and I thought, ‘I’d like to work with him!’ I talked to him after about the possibility of doing a PhD with him, and he offered me some projects. I applied for a scholarship from CONACYT Mexico [Mexico’s entity in charge of the promotion of scientific and technological activities], got it, and that’s what brought me to Queen’s!”

Why did you apply to work with UCARE?
“When I got here, back in 2007, I would say I was one of the very few international students in the biology department. And, although people were very welcoming to me, I found it very hard. Over the years, I’ve seen this transition from a purely white to a more diverse community, which is amazing. I thought, well, I’ve been here almost 10 years, who better than me can give an opinion about my own experience and what I’ve seen as a student and a teaching assistant?”

Why does representation matter in terms of faculty and teaching staff?
“Representation matters from the point of view of a student feeling comfortable with expressing himself or herself, as well as in learning outcomes. We have two issues here; one is representation about gender and the other is race. In terms of gender, I feel like women go through different challenges in their careers than men. Full-time female faculty are still under-represented in many disciplines. Female students need to have role models and more examples of leadership.

“In terms of race, there are several reasons why having a diverse faculty and teaching staff is good for education. Students may benefit from having professors and teacher assistants with similar racial/ethnic backgrounds because it raises the value that students place on academic success. Students may also work harder if they feel like their teachers have high expectations of them. Racially diverse teachers may also be more culturally sensitive and less likely to be biased by stereotypes about their students, helping them feel understood and fostering meaningful interpersonal connections.

Adriana Lopez
PhD’17 (Biology)
Collections and Data Manager,
Queen’s University Biological Station (QUBS)
Volunteer, University Council on Anti-Racism and Equity (UCARE)

“In my experience as an international student – you need to realize what it means to leave everything behind and start from scratch in a whole new country, to make new friends, to start a new community – and also to have an accent! – it’s very difficult. And that’s on top of all the academic demands!

“It also gives students who haven’t had the opportunity to travel and meet people from other cultures the chance to see that we are all the same.”

What are your priorities for your work with UCARE?
“First of all, establish the centre [for racialized students, one of the PICRDI recommendations]. That’s a big step. Because that’s going to initiate the movement across campus.

“Queen’s is becoming more diverse. More people from different backgrounds and races are being incorporated in staff and in faculty; there are more international students from many different places. So I think this has kind of been taken care of. What I am not entirely sure has been taken care of is in terms of making the culture more accepting, raising awareness among our student community, and giving a space for those minorities to find somewhere they can find help and feel support.

“I think perhaps one of the first steps, in the already diverse community of students that we have, is to give them more tools so they can thrive.”
I advance the accessibility initiatives at Queen’s, especially those that stem from the AODA [Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act] and the coordination might involve wrangling a bunch of stakeholders to get them in a room to come together and come up with a strategy or policy.

“The current standards of the AODA for the built environment came into full force in 2016: they apply to new builds and major renovations. Under the AODA, Queen’s isn’t required to re-fit the buildings that have been around for 175 years and make them accessible, unless we are going to renovate those buildings anyway. When working with older buildings and getting them up to current codes and accessibility standards, it’s a big job: it takes a big budget and it takes a lot of time.

“In new builds, they can incorporate accessibility into the design. But when things go over budget, you have to make sure that the proper accessible features that should be there aren’t cut. You don’t want to pay twice for something that should have been there on Day One.”

Andrew Ashby
Accessibility Coordinator, Queen’s Equity Office
Manager, Queen’s Accessibility Hub

One entrance for everybody
“In older buildings, and we see this at Queen’s, the accessible entrance might be at the back of the building, and there’s nothing really to indicate where people have to go. There’s quite a movement in new builds to not have both stairs and a ramp and just have one level access so that everybody uses the same entrance.”

Other accessibility issues on campus
“Bathrooms are an issue; having all-gender washrooms is an issue. Just having enough space; ensuring wide doorways, hallways that people can comfortably navigate and turn in, and find their way around. Being able to get from a study space to a washroom to a classroom.

“In terms of emerging issues, we’re seeing a lot of requests for information and guidance for the use of service animals. It’s been across the education sector. We’ve seen that an increase in mental health issues – depression and anxiety, for example – have been big drivers of that, where using service animals may assist with reducing barriers around those issues. There’s been an increase in students coming to campus with service animals, into residence. The AODA doesn’t really give much guidance to our sector in this regard. If you own a business like a restaurant and someone with a service animal comes in for a short period of time, the AODA tells you what you need to know and do. But in a shared space where people live, work, and go to school, spending most of their day, we’re trying to figure out how to best serve our community.”

Online resources
“I manage and monitor the Accessibility Hub [queensu.ca/accessibility]. The hub came about from the need to inform students about how to locate services: they had to go here and there and elsewhere. And then the same thing happened with employees. So the Equity Office and I saw the need to pull all that information into one website. That was created in 2013. It has information for students, faculty, staff, and visitors to Queen’s.”

What has Queen’s done well in terms of accessibility?
“I think that attitudes have changed somewhat. There’s more of a recognition that we need to address the environment, as well. The traditional definition of ‘disability’ is very much a medical model, focusing on the disability in the individual. I think we’re starting to move toward a social model of disability and recognizing that the environment has a very large role in that. I always use myself as an example: I use a wheelchair and nowadays, it’s not really a barrier. But if I were to go to downtown Kingston, for example, I can only get into a handful of stores and restaurants. [That limitation] is certainly more on the environment than on me.”

And where do we need to do more work?
“There’s always, for us – and for society in general – the virtual environments to consider. Social media, email, virtual communications, it’s important to make sure they are as accessible as possible and usable by more people. It’s going to take a lot more effort, I think, in what we are putting out there, and for whom. Who is our audience? Who benefits? In Kingston, as of the last census, we now have more people over the age of 65 than we do people 14 and under. So, of course, as you age, you are going to acquire disabilities. Accessibility increases usability for everyone.”
What does inclusion mean to you?

“I saw this on Twitter [@VernaMyers], and it spoke to me:

‘Diversity is being invited to the party. Inclusion is being asked to dance.’”

Andrew Ashby at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre

Follow the Queen’s Accessibility Hub on Twitter: @AccessHubQU
A joint project from Student Affairs and the Human Rights and Equity Offices, a new training module for student leaders aims to make Orientation Week more inclusive to all new students. This was one of the recommendations from PICRDI and the Undergraduate Orientation Review Working Group.

Vanessa Yzaguirre, from the Division of Student Affairs, and Erin Clow, from the Human Rights and Equity Offices, have developed this training. One of the activities is to get students to examine what they consider Queen’s traditions, from songs to activities, and which of those traditions may be outdated and exclusionary.

The goal is to help students embrace a diversity of experiences, abilities, and opinions while helping to create an inclusive campus community.

Another component is to introduce students to strategies they can use to navigate difficult conversations and maintain lines of communication among people with differing experiences and opinions. [See boxed note on civil discourse.] The training aims to give student leaders new tools to model empathetic leadership, tools they can use long past Orientation Week and pass on to newer students.

The training will be premiered this August as Orientation leaders gather to plan their activities to welcome the undergraduate class of 2022 in September.
Ms. Yzaguirre’s role is a fairly new one, created to address PICRDI recommendations. She bridges gaps and maximizes opportunities to support students across the division in the areas of equity, diversity, and inclusivity.

**On unconscious bias:**

“It’s important to acknowledge that we all have unconscious biases. It’s not a bad thing by itself – it’s simply a shortcut in the brain, a pattern of thinking. Even being aware of how the unconscious biases operate helps to counteract them, and to be able to prevent them from guiding our decision-making process.

“It helps to understand that this is how our minds work; be aware of your bias before making a decision that can impact someone else’s life. If we diversify our community, we are reducing the negative impact of these biases. My lived experiences are not the same as yours. I am a recent immigrant, from Venezuela. My positionality is that of a Latin American woman. It is a big part of my identity and how I define myself. By making sure that we include different voices and perspectives and that we all are aware of our biases and how they operate, we can make decisions that are not hurtful to others and we can also start combatting unequal power dynamics.”

Dr. Clow is responsible for the implementation of training and communication strategies relating to equity and human rights. The Equity Office has specific roles in employment equity, such as compliance with the Federal Contractors Program. The Human Rights Office provides services to clients, including students, staff, and faculty.

**On listening to understand:**

“[In one training session] we were talking about diversity of perspectives and having different voices in the room. And then someone in the room said, ‘Yes, it’s great to have diversity of voices and perspectives, but you have to be willing to listen.’ And then they said, ‘There’s a difference between listening to understand versus listening to respond.’ And that was a light-bulb moment for me. Diversity is really important, we need to have people who come from different backgrounds and perspectives in our workplaces, in our student community, but that’s only the first step. If we don’t actually get to the part of listening to understand or listening to change or evolve, and really including the voices in our programs and institutions, that’s the next step. That’s what we actually need to be doing.

“I know from my positionality, as a white, able-bodied, cis-gendered woman, I try to be very conscious of the privileges that I embody. And when I go into a room I carry those with me, and I try to be conscious of providing that space [for others]. And sometimes that means that I don’t say something, or I defer, or I say, ‘Okay, what do you think?’ and I listen, before I provide my thoughts on something.’

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**Civil discourse: the LARA method**

The LARA method was developed by Bonnie Tinker, an American Quaker social activist.

When talking with someone about a contentious issue, these steps can be useful:

**“Listen** behind the words until you can hear how a person of principle could possibly hold the view being expressed. Listen until your heart understands how what they are saying connects to something you believe to be true. Don’t say anything until you have heard this.”

**“Affirm** , with the first words out of your mouth, that you share some principle or value with this person. Don’t talk about the shared belief, but demonstrate it by using an ‘I’ statement.”

**“Respond** with a direct answer to the concern expressed. By not dodging the question or issue, you show that you respect the other person, and you show that you are not afraid of their opinion.”

**“Add** some new fact, or better yet, something from your personal experience that gives some new information, or a different point of view.”
Monica Stewart has worked at Queen’s for 16 years, helping new faculty and their families settle in Kingston. “It still feels like a new job every day. Every new faculty member, every family is different. It’s always another opportunity to help someone settle at Queen’s, and settle in the community.

“I see most of the candidates who are on the short-list and being interviewed for faculty positions. Many are from outside Ontario, or outside Canada. This year, for instance, we’ve had a lot of people applying from the United States, many of whom were from other countries to begin with, but are now looking to come to Canada.”

Ms. Stewart helps new faculty members navigate the big issues – like the immigration system – as well as small ones.

“Housing is one of the biggest questions, understanding the local housing market. Helping people understand the school system for their children. I have community connections who can help them figure things out. ‘How do I bring my dog across the border?’ ‘Where can I find a hairdresser or a dentist?’ Sometimes it’s the small things, like ‘How do I start looking at cell phone plans?’

Many of her clients have questions about resources for their kids, but at least one needed help for her aging parents, who were relocating with her.

“So I helped them learn about the seniors’ centre and the library. And they just love Kingston. It was just so much easier for the faculty member to really get into her work because she knew her parents had learned something about the community and had made some connections.”

Since 2009, Ms. Stewart has volunteered with the Kingston Immigration Partnership (KIP). KIP is a collaborative organization that provides leadership to the Kingston community in its efforts to attract, welcome, include, and integrate immigrants. “It helps me to do my job better,” she says of her volunteer work. “It helps me to connect people better. I don’t see it as something that takes up time; it is something that gives me better ways to help people.”

She and Stephanie Simpson, Executive Director of the Equity and Human Rights Offices, both sit on KIP’s council as Queen’s representa-tives. “Queen’s is one of the reasons that people from many different countries enter this community so I think it’s important that we’re involved,” says Ms. Stewart.

One of the KIP initiatives is its “Say Hello” campaign. “The campaign came out of some issues in the community where people of colour were being harassed by other people. It came to a head:
“If we can’t be an inclusive community, we’re going to be a dying community.”

Kingston City Council and others in the community became aware of it and said, “This cannot go on. We need to do better.”

Through a variety of media, the initiative both draws attention to acts of racism in the community and highlights ways in which individuals can counter discrimination.

One of the campaign’s components is a conversation centre at Kingston’s Springer Market Square, unveiled in July. “Their umbrellas say ‘Welcome’ and ‘Hello’ in 11 different languages. Hopefully this will encourage people to sit and chat, and share, which is so important. That’s how you get to know people. And when you know people, it’s easier to include them in things in the community. Really, when it comes down to it, if we can’t be an inclusive community, we’re going to be a dying community,” says Ms. Stewart.

“I came to Queen’s as an immigrant, from Germany. I was not obviously a visible minority, but even when you’re not, you’re still not included many times, because you don’t understand how things work. Things as easy as understanding signs to get to a building, or needing people to slow down a little when they explain things to you, these things are so important. So, I really appreciate the KiP campaigns for that as well. And I see it very much as a cool thing, as someone who came here with a suitcase and an acceptance letter for Queen’s, that I’ve been able to participate in something like this, that makes more people feel welcome and included. And I’m not saying I did not feel welcome or included at the time but it took a lot of effort, and I think it always will for people, for a number of reasons. But we can make it a little easier. By just reaching out.”
“We are talking about systems that oppress people and we are all part of that.”

Yolande Davidson at Queen’s Park, Toronto
Volunteerism is just a personal priority for me. At Queen's, I was a member of the African and Caribbean Students’ Association starting in my first year, and I was on the executive from years two to four. I think when you have the potential to help — in some small or large way — make things around you a little bit better, if you have the resources and the time to do it — then volunteerism is a great way to make a difference, as well as to stay connected to your community and to other people.

“My priority is that Queen’s continues to be a centre of academic excellence but also a place where every student feels welcome and safe. One of the things that I said in my application to UCARE was that I had some great years at Queen’s but that didn’t mean there weren’t challenges or that unpleasant things didn’t happen. Even so, I still think fondly of the school and it would be my wish that every student leaves the campus feeling that way at the end of their time there, because the reality is that not all students do.

“People might assume that my unpleasant experiences came down to my interactions as a black woman, and obviously the Queen’s campus and the student population were very white. Those interpersonal moments were part of it, but I also had very specific institutional experiences that sometimes impacted me more than the demographic reality, if you can call it that.

“In one particularly impactful moment — I didn’t really have the awareness or the emotional maturity to articulate why this made me so uncomfortable — but I distinctly remember being in my first-year world history class as one of very few students of colour in this huge lecture hall. We spent a lot of the semester talking about different aspects of world history from different places. A lot of the discussion was focused on European history, and there was some focus on Asian and other histories. Then we got to a tiny segment on African history. The main conversation was about the connection of Africa to the rest of the world through the transatlantic slave trade. That made me really uncomfortable because I thought, ‘Well, there’s a lot more to my history, the history of African people, and the African diaspora than our proximity to somebody else’s oppression of us.’

“In that moment and for a long time afterwards, I felt intensely uncomfortable, but I didn’t know how to address that. As I went through my time at Queen’s and became more involved in student life, particularly around issues of diversity and equity, I came into myself. That coming of age is one of the reasons why I value my time there.

“During my time [as a student], and I don’t know the numbers now, visibility was part of the barrier: people just didn’t know racialized students, in particular, were there, or didn’t expect to see us there. In the early days of my first year, people in my residence asked me, on more than one occasion, if I was lost or if I was visiting someone else. I think that the visibility issue impacted how people who belonged to a marginalized community or equity-seeking group were able to take up space on campus.

“Outside of that, one of the main barriers is a lack of willingness to acknowledge that just because we are talking about systemic marginalization and issues of racism and discrimination, it doesn’t mean that we are looking to attack any particular person. We are talking about systems that oppress people and we are all part of that. Sometimes people really have a problem separating the personal from the political and make what is an institutional issue a personal issue. Of course, racism is a personal issue too, definitely; there is interpersonal racism and that results in negative interactions. But there is also an institutional form, a systemic form, which is really what we need to be getting at so that when people experience discrimination — either at the institutional level or at the personal level — there are mechanisms in place to address it and to move the culture forward. A big part of the school’s journey towards being a more inclusive, safe space is to focus on culture change and the internal as well as external perception of Queen’s.”

Yolande Davidson
Arts’03 (Political Studies)
Policy manager, Ontario Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services, Toronto
Volunteer, UCARE

Interviews conducted by Andrea Gunn
Our war and peace issue (May 2018) profiled Christine Whitecross (Sc’84), Commandant of the NATO Defense College in Rome. In January, Lt.-Gen. Whitecross was named to Prime Minister Trudeau’s Gender Equality Advisory Council, a high-profile group dedicated to ensuring that “gender equality and women’s empowerment are integrated across all themes, activities, and initiatives of Canada’s G7 Presidency.” The council met as part of the G7 summit in Charlevoix, Que., in June.

The council’s work at the G7 caught the attention of the world press, due in part to the late arrival of one of its guests.

At the summit, the Gender Equality Advisory Council released its recommendations for Canada’s G7 presidency, addressing

■ societies in which girls and women are equally represented in decision-making bodies and are free from harassment and violence;

■ economies that are prosperous, innovative, inclusive, and more equitable;

■ a healthy and sustainable planet; and

■ a world that is peaceful, just, and secure.

You can read the council’s full recommendations from a link in the online version of our story on Lt.-Gen. Whitecross, “Collaborating for a more peaceful world.” Find it online: queensu.ca/alumnireview.

New book on North American defence

The war and peace issue also explored just some of the research done at the Queen’s Centre for International and Defence Policy (CIDP).


The book examines the security challenges facing North America; highlights U.S., Canadian, and Mexican approaches to regional defence; and considers possible futures of North American regional defence organizations, particularly NORAD. The book also includes timely insights from expert academics across the region.

Dr. Leuprecht, PhD’03 (Political Studies), is the Class of 1965 Professor in Leadership at Royal Military College of Canada (RMC) and a fellow of the Queen’s Institute of Intergovernmental Relations and the CIDP. Dr. Sokolsky is a professor of political science at RMC and a senior fellow at CIDP. Mr. Hughes is a PhD candidate in the Department of Political Studies at Queen’s.
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Our water issue (February 2018) profiled the new Beaty Water Research Centre (BWRC) at Queen’s. The BWRC fosters an environment that encourages collaborative interdisciplinary research, education, and outreach, spanning traditional water-related disciplines as well as non-traditional and emerging disciplines.

In June, a team of students from BWRC qualified for the finals of the AquaHacking Challenge in Toronto. The Sensing Wastewater with Infrared Monitoring (SWIM) team competed against 15 other teams in the event, which aims to create innovative solutions for water-related issues in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Watershed Basin. SWIM is developing a new technology, combining an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) with an HD visible-spectrum camera and an infrared sensor. It will be used to detect and track sewage overflow, providing rapid results related to sewage overflow and contamination.

In September, the BWRC will offer a new program, LEADERS in water and watershed sustainability, funded by NSERC’s Collaborative Research and Training Experience initiative. Led by Professor Stephen Brown (Chemistry, Environmental Studies), the LEADERS program will offer 44 graduate and 24 undergraduate students an opportunity to work at the forefront of water research through an interdisciplinary lens to develop water-related science and policy.

During high rainfall events, untreated sewage is discharged into nearby rivers, lakes, and oceans through combined sewer overflow to prevent sewer back-ups and flooding. In Ontario, there are more than 800 registered beaches to monitor. Last year, within the Ottawa River Valley alone, there were more than 65 closures at local beaches. SWIM will work toward helping protect the public from exposures to sewage pollution through monitoring beaches and pinpointing areas affected by sewer overflows.

The SWIM team is composed of three graduate students in the Department of Civil Engineering – David Blair, Shuang Liang, and Alexander Rey – with Maraika De Groot, a student in the Master of Management, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship program at Smith School of Business. They’ll compete in the AquaHacking Challenge finals on Oct. 25. The winning team will receive $25,000 toward initial capital and a spot at an incubator.

Since 2014, the BWRC has hosted the Water Initiative for the Future (WATIF) conference, which is organized by graduate students. WATIF offers students the opportunity to share their research, develop leadership skills, and form new collaborations with peers. The next WATIF conference, chaired by David Blair, takes place in early 2019.

Also in 2019, the centre will launch an online Water and Human Health graduate diploma program, the first of four planned accredited graduate diploma programs.
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That’s the start of Benjamin Woo’s new book, *Getting a Life: The Social Worlds of Geek Culture*. The book is a scholarly and humorous work, drawing from both cultural theory and individual interviews. It also tackles head-on the stereotype of geeks as loners isolated from the rest of society. Geeks, says Dr. Woo, whether they are gamers, comic book collectors, or cosplayers, are also community-builders, expressing their values through a valid shared cultural experience.
“Part of the stereotype that needs to be debunked,” says Dr. Woo, “is that something that is mediated – whether it is electronically or otherwise – is somehow not as social or not as real as other forms of interaction.

“One of the things I’m trying to write back against is the narrative we’ve told ourselves about entertainment media over the last hundred years or so. It’s the story we told ourselves about reading novels, about watching television, about video games, and it’s definitely a story we’re telling ourselves about social media and smartphones, the idea that new forms of media isolate us from other people; they hive us off into a private world of fantasy.

“But one of the things that struck me, in my own experiences as a comic book fan and someone who plays role-playing games like Dungeons and Dragons, is that interaction with these media – even if there is a moment of private consumption – typically feeds back into forms of interaction with other people, and that our relationships with media are often simply ways to structure and shape our relationships with other people.”

**On expressing your deepest, truest self**

“The problem of individualism in mass society is a long-standing concern for social philosophers and social scientists. How is it that people think of themselves as expressing their deepest, truest selves by purchasing commodities that are mass-produced by corporate capitalism? How do people think of themselves as expressing their deepest, truest selves by imitating groups that they’re joining? There’s been a lot written about this kind of dilemma, this seeming bind that people find themselves in.

“But it’s not something that vexes me terribly because I think the desire to find and create community is to create a space in which we can think through and articulate what is important to us as individuals. There is no one that is this kind of absolute, Rousseau-ian individual, radically on their own, and trying to figure out, from square one, ‘What is best in life?’ Instead, we are always working those questions out in the context of our relationships to other people. So I see the kinds of communities that form in the space of leisure, like fan communities that make up what we call geek culture, as just another set of contexts in which people can pursue those questions. It looks pretty different than the more traditional ones, such as religious communities, our immediate family, people who share our ethnic or national background – those are also spaces for working out those questions. None of those have gone away but we have added a bunch of other kinds of spaces and contexts wherein people can explore different aspects of those questions of their identity and of their values.”

**VALUES AND VIRTUES**

“What is best in life?” In a memorable scene from *Conan the Barbarian* (John Milius, 1982), the eponymous Cimmerian is asked this question and replies, “To crush your enemies, see them driven before you, and to hear the lamentation of their women.” I certainly don’t want to endorse Conan’s answer, but explicitly asking what people value is a worthwhile exercise.

Value is a sometimes subtle but always important part of lay theories. Every claim or description of the social world incorporates assumptions about the good. Furthermore, processes of valuation go hand in hand with projects of identity formation: Conan is a barbarian precisely because he values crushing his enemies, et cetera.

“Value,” in the sense of what we esteem, is intimately connected with “values,” in the looser sense of “cultural values” or “moral values.”

– Excerpted from *Getting a Life*
On toxic masculinity in geek culture

“There is nothing wholly unique about geek culture as a staging ground for toxic or problematic behaviours. It didn’t take geeks and nerds to invent racism or sexism or homophobia. These are deep, poisoned waters in our culture that we are all drinking from, to greater or lesser degrees. But by the same token, there are certain features of geek culture that shape how these broader socio-cultural forces are expressed in these communities that I think has made them spring to the spotlight now.

“The sense that many fans have – that deep emotional connection they have with the object of their fandom – often bleeds into a sense of ownership. The way that some people have reacted to things like Gamergate, the *Ghostbusters* reboot, or the latest *Star Wars* episode is propelled by that subjectively felt experience or feeling of ownership over these franchises. The fact is that the marketing of many of these products, particularly over the last couple of decades, has actually *played* to this type of exclusive fan identity. One of the features of the promotional apparatus, particularly with adaptations, is the sense that the producers of a film adaptation of a beloved comic book or science-fiction novel have to prove their credibility to the fans. They need to get those fans on side to do their own free, viral guerilla marketing for them. So they have to establish the idea that ‘Hey, we’re fans, too. We understand this deep understanding of this.’ It plays into the sense of fans having a kind of special relationship to the good.

“But one of the things we are seeing now is that producers of popular media are finally seeing that women and people of colour and LGBTQ+ folks are also fans, also audiences, and if you want to make a film doing a billion dollars worldwide, you’re not going to do that without getting them on board as interested audience members, too.

“The one thing I *dislike* about that is that the narrative often seems to pretend that women and people of colour and queer folks weren’t *always* participants in fandom. But certainly, they – *we* – are able to articulate ourselves as audiences *now*, with particular interests and demands about representation and participation in these spaces. And from my point of view, that is a very positive thing.”

Benjamin Woo

Assistant Professor, Communication and Media Studies,
School of Journalism and Communication, Carleton University
BA’04 (Film, Sociology), Queen’s University
MA, PhD (Communication Studies), Simon Fraser University
Post-doctoral fellow, Department of English, University of Calgary

“Producers are finally seeing that women and people of colour and LGBTQ+ folks are also fans.”

Faculty of Education celebrates 50 years The Queen’s Faculty of Education celebrates 50 years of teaching excellence in 2018. Its first graduating class convocated at Grant Hall in 1969. Do you recognize any of these new grads from 1969?

The anniversary is being marked with a book, 50 Moments of Queen’s Education, and a conference, Teachers as Change Leaders. Panels of alumni, faculty, and leaders in education will discuss the critical role teachers play in classrooms and communities. Information on the book, conference, and other events to mark the 50th anniversary can be found at educ.queensu.ca/education50th.
Up to 1959

Notes
Since turning 80, George Calder, Arts’57, has written three books exploring the history of the Saugeen Shores area of Bruce County. His first, The Story of William Kennedy, is about the co-founder of Southampton who, in the early 1850s, led one of the Franklin searches at the request of Lady Franklin. The second book was Saugeen: A Fine Speculation of a Probable Harbour. George’s newest work is Saugeen: The Valley of the Railways.

Deaths
Donald Delahaye, MD’50, died May 11. He is survived by his wife, Mabs, their children and extended families, as well as Don’s sister Joan Tremain, Arts’62. At Queen’s, Don played football; he remained a great supporter of the Gaels throughout his life. During his final year of medical school, Don participated in the Faculty of Medicine’s arctic research school, Don participated in the Faculty of Medicine’s arctic research in Coral Harbour, Nunavut, to study the effects of climate on health. This experience began Don’s lifelong exploring the history of the Saugeen Peoples, Don and his colleague Alex Bryans organized the first medical school contract with Health & Welfare in the James Bay and Hudson Bay communities. The program, first known as the Moose Factory program, continues to this day as the Queen’s Weeneebayko Program. Don served as program coordinator from 1971 to 1982 and as the resident paediatrician from 1984 to 1989. He and Mabs, a registered nurse, lived in Moose Factory full-time from 1986 to 1989, providing medical care to the surrounding communities. A pilot himself, Don once flew to eastern James Bay in a small aircraft to deliver emergency antibiotics: his flight involved radio failure and two emergency landings. In the early 1990s, Don chaired the fundraising committee to establish Almost Home, a Kingston guest home for the out-of-town families of paediatric patients. Once Almost Home was established, Donald Delahaye, MD’50, died May 11.

Keith Flegg, MD’56, died April 19. He is survived by his wife, Joan, and children Kathryn, OT’80, MSc’01 (John), Douglas, Artsci’83, MBA’87, and Brian, Artsci’85, MBA’87, five grandchildren, and sister Sharon. Keith lived life to the fullest and brought much energy to his family life, his professional life, and his numerous hobbies. At Queen’s, Keith met Joan, the love of his life and his wife of 62 years. Keith joined the Royal Canadian Navy and was first posted at Stadacona in Halifax, where he served as a medical officer on destroyer escorts. He later served at the Shearwater Air Base and, in 1962, moved to Philadelphia to enter the residency program in ophthalmology at the American Naval Hospital and at Wills Eye Hospital. On his return to Canada, he was posted to the National Defence Medical Centre in Ottawa as a practising ophthalmologist. In 1974 he opened a private practice office and was on staff at the Grace General Hospital where he became chief of ophthalmology. Cottage life was always a focal point in Keith’s life as it provided an important family gathering opportunity and also many learning experiences in nature. Music was always dear to Keith’s heart and his bass voice could be heard as part of the many choirs in which he volunteered. Keith was very active in St. Thomas the Apostle Church for 50 years in many capacities, including as warden and lay assistant and on many committees.

Donald Ross Fraser, BA’47, MDiv’50, died May 2. He is survived by his wife, Aurelie; children Donna L. Neil, Rebecca, Douglas, Kathryn, Scott, Cameron, and Melanie; brother Murray, Meds’45; and extended family.

Nancy Grace (Dyson) Hamilton, BA’48, died Feb. 1 after a brief illness. She had just turned 90 years old and...
had been able to visit with family in the days before her death, sharing with them her thoughts on living well. Nancy studied mathematics, French, and Latin at Queen’s. In 1951, she married Gordon Hamilton, BSc’48. Nancy had worked as a teacher after graduation and continued working as a supply teacher after her marriage, while raising three children. Nancy had a passion for learning and was always interested to hear of new ideas and try new things. She was a remarkable role model for aging well. She took swimming lessons in her late 80s, as she had always wanted to improve her front crawl. She continued with exercise classes even weeks before her death. An avid reader, she enjoyed conversations on science, politics, and all parts of life. She confessed that she was considering emailing NASA with a few of her ideas on travel to Mars. Nancy thoughtfully included Queen’s in her estate plans by establishing a planned gift to benefit the Queen’s Centre Fund and the Science ‘48 S.N. Graham Award. Nancy was predeceased by Gordon and their son Michael, BSc’75. She is survived by sons Peter, Sc’77, and Roger, Sc’81, Meds’85 (Wendy-Lee, PT’86), and extended family.

**George Broder Macpherson**, BCom’53, died Oct. 26, 2017. George had a long career in both business and education. In 2009, he was inducted into the Sports Wall of Fame for Vancouver Island University. He had been instrumental in building VIU’s athletics program; he also coached the VIU hockey team for ten years. He is survived by his wife, Judy, four children, and extended family.

**Charles William Morgan**, BSc’48 (member of Sc’47), died April 23, aged 93. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie, children Pam and Nancy, Arts’90, and their families. After graduating from Civil Engineering, Bill earned his MBA from the University of Windsor. He worked in that city, first as city inspector and later at the University of Windsor as resident engineer. In 1963, he became director of engineering services there, and held increasingly senior roles until his retirement in 1989. A devoted community volunteer, Bill was active in his local Anglican Church and Lion’s Club. Fiercely loyal to both Queen’s and the University of Windsor, Bill did not care for any discussion about the University of Western Ontario, especially when it came to football. He enjoyed many reunion weekends and was lifelong friends with his Queen’s classmates, especially Ken MacDonald, Tom Oosterhoff, and Jim Boyd, all BSc’47. Bill had a devilish grin, and the most beautiful blue eyes that attracted a series of widows in his retirement home, despite Marj sitting next to him. **George B. Murray**, BA’58, died April 1. George was a pioneer of the advertising industry; he helped found Ogilvy & Mather Canada. He was an industry titan, widely known for a colourful style, accurate predictions of trends, and development of many future leaders. He is survived by his wife, Alice; children George and Alexander and their families; and his brother David, Sc’55 (Phyllis). The son of Sarah (Bums), BA 1924, and John Murray, BSc 1925, George was also predeceased by his brother John, BSc’57.

**Jack Paavila**, BSc’57, died March 22. He is survived by his wife, Karen, two children, two grandchildren, and a great-grandchild. Jack was predeceased by his brother David, BSc’48.

**David Albert Panabaker**, BSc’53, died April 23. David is survived by his children Christi, Arts’05 (Terry), Peter (Mary), and Jim (Dawn); nine grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren. David was predeceased by his wife, Lorraine, children Holly Alberta, James Wilbur, and Holly Elizabeth, and granddaughter Becky. David had a long life with many fulfilling careers. He served as a lieutenant in the Corps of Royal Canadian Engineers, worked as a civil engineer in Ottawa, and as director, fire protection division, for a Hamilton company. He completed his working years as a teacher (adult education) at Loyalist College in Bancroft. David was active in municipal affairs, serving as councillor and reeve in his community. He was a family man, pilot, motorcycle rider, reader, and traveller.

**Vera (Common) Parmiter**, BA’44, died March 7, aged 98. She was predeceased by her husband, Arthur Parmiter, BA’41.

Vera and Art met at Queen’s and they married in 1941. At Queen’s, Vera competed on the swim team. She left Queen’s in 1941 but completed her degree by correspondence, graduating in 1944. Continuing her education was very important to her: her mother, Minna Common, had received a full scholarship to St. Lawrence University, but was not allowed to attend. As a result, Minna (and later on, Vera) was passionate about the importance of higher education for her children. Vera and her brother and five sisters all completed university, as did her own six children. Vera and Arthur lived in Perry, N.Y., for 70 years where Vera taught English at the local school. She is survived by six children, 14 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

**Peter Thomson Sarjeant**, BSc’53, MSc’56, (PhD, Penn State) died June 26 in Bedford County, Va., surrounded by his family. Peter always had a keen interest in chemistry. His brother David, Arts’53, can attest to the many violent explosions and ghastly smells emanating from the back room of the family house in Orillia, Ont. Peter first studied chemical engineering at Queen’s, furthering his education with an MSc in organic chemistry in 1956. He took his first job with Merck Sharp and Dohme in 1954 as a supervisor in the pharmaceutical division located in Valleyfield, Que. It was there that he met his beautiful wife-to-be, Marjorie Jean Gilbert. Peter and Jean were married in November 1956. In 1957, Peter took a job with the Westvaco Corp., where he was...
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appointed product development supervisor at its research centre in Charleston, S.C. He took a leave of absence to complete his PhD in material science at Penn State University, then rejoined Westvaco where he held several senior research and managerial positions through his career. Even in retirement, Peter continued his love of knowledge and experimentation, brewing beer and wine, culturing cheese and yogurt, papermaking, and exploring a myriad of hobbies and interests. He could also play a mean bagpipe! Peter is survived by Jean, his wife of 61 years, daughters Evelyn and Sandra, four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Donald James Walton, MSc’57, PhD’59 (Chemistry), died June 4. Post-graduation, Donald worked as a chemist and college lecturer in England before returning to Kingston to take up a teaching and research position in the Queen’s biochemistry department. He took a great interest in the chemical interactions of sugars with proteins, particularly in tissues of diabetic people. Donald leaves behind his wife, Rosalind, Arts’59, ArtsCI’89; children Jennifer, Christopher, and Michael; and four grandchildren. Donald loved canoeing and hiking in the parks and conservation areas in the Kingston area, and he was very pleased to observe similar enthusiasm for the outdoors among his children and grandchildren.

William Weed, BSc’52, MSc’54, died May 6. Predeceased by his wife, Nancy, Bill is survived by their children Judi (David), Christopher, Susan (Paul), and Brian; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. Bill met Nancy while he was at Queen’s; their blind date led to 62 happy years together. Bill had a long career with Charles E. Frost (later Merck Frosst). He was an avid music lover, curler, and sports fan. Memorial contributions may be made through Queen’s University to the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science Dean’s Excellence Fund online (givetoqueens.ca) or by mail: Queen’s University, Attn: Emily Mackwood, Old Medical Building Room 303, Kingston, Ont., K7L 3N6.

**Notes**

Douglas Jordan, Arts’68, MBA’71, reports that since the death of his wife, Marlene, last year, he has started to make a number of changes in his life. He is selling his house; downsizing to a townhouse; closing his office, but not his business (AFS Consulting);

**REMEMBERING LORRAINE**

Lorraine (Allen) Bridgeman, BMus’77, died 20 years ago when her daughter, Amber, was very young. Amber is now looking for information about her mom, whom she didn’t get to know. Amber writes, “If anyone knew her or had stories of her in her university days, that would mean quite a lot to me.”

Please email her at amberbridgeman@hotmail.com.

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and is devoting more time to writing. He has two new works in the hopper: The Marlene Effect and The Treasure of Stella Bay.

Deaths
Kenneth William Allan, BSc’62, MA’72, died in his 79th year. He is survived by his wife, Paddy, son Johnathan, and two granddaughters. Ken was a champion bridge player and a dedicated and innovative vegetable gardener. He edited and published Vegetable Garden Research and wrote Sweet Potatoes for the Home Garden. He also wrote two bridge mystery novels, Deadly Endplay and Shades of Grey. His advancing illness prevented completion of the planned trilogy. In addition to a BSc in engineering physics, Ken held an MA in English. He was a true Renaissance man. His creativity and inventiveness were expressed through pottery, stained glass, art, and literature. Ken was both an independent thinker and the kindest of men.

Norman Kurck, BSc’64, died April 3. He is survived by his wife, Betty, children Ron and Valerie, and brother James, Sc’56.

1970s
Notes
Ron Jamieson, Sc’72, MBA’77, recently completed an assignment in the Philippines, where he worked with a group of cacao farmers in Cagayan Province to establish a co-op to build a chocolate-making plant.

Bob Publicover, Arts’72, MPA’90, and his partner, Brenda Dunbar, are now retired and living in Waterloo, Ont. Bob’s three grandchildren live in Toronto and Stockholm. Bob is recovering from two months of radiation treatment at the Ottawa Cancer Centre; he is taking part in a clinical cancer drug trial at the Princess Margaret Cancer Clinic in Toronto. He plans to return actively to volunteer work as soon as his health permits. Bob and Brenda can be reached at publicb@storm.ca.

Reinolde (Renee) van Weringh, Arts’72, was bereaved by the loss of her spouse, Donna Gallagher, on July 18. Donna was a retired professor of Physical and Health Education at Queen’s and a coach for a variety of Gaels sports teams. An obituary has been posted in the online Review.

Honours
Melodie Campbell, Com’78, told us that her 11th crime book, The Bootlegger’s Goddaughter, was shortlisted for the 2018 Ontario Library Association’s Golden Oak Award. The second book in this series, The Goddaughter’s Revenge, won both the international Derringer Award for crime writing and the Arthur Ellis Award, presented for excellence in Canadian crime writing, in 2014.

Deaths
David Jayakar Daniel, MSc’71, PhD’74 (Mathematics), died April 30. He is survived by Jamuna, his wife of 50 years, children Jyothish and Rekha, Artscl’01, and extended family.

Lauretta Kedrosky-Knight, BA’71, died peacefully after a short illness on April 9 in Vancouver, aged 69. She was predeceased by her brother Peter. Lauri is survived by her husband, Ted Knight, brother David, and nieces and nephews Lisa, Kelly, Steven, Kayla, and Leanne. Lauri was a positive, independent individual who brightened up the lives of those who knew her.

Janice Evelyn (Morrison) Pearson, BA/BPHE’76, died May 23, surrounded by family and close friends. Janice was a lifelong athlete. At Queen’s, she played varsity volleyball. She enjoyed playing golf and soccer and belonged to a number of sports teams. An avid hockey fan, she especially enjoyed watching the Oilers. She loved to travel, camp, and canoe with her family and friends. Janice was predeceased by her parents, Constance (Merritt), BA’44, and Ian A.W. Morrison, BSc’48½, and by her brother-in-law John Simmons. She is survived...
by her beloved children: Kristina, Andrew, and Nicholas, and by her siblings: Patricia Kisman, Arts’69, Barbara MacDonald, NSc’78, Carol Morrison Simmonds, Arts’80, David, and Stephen. Through the last four years of her life, Janice received significant support from the ALS Society of Alberta to help her adapt to the disease. Janice was a beacon of courage, hope, and love to all who knew her.

Nelson Watson, PhD’70 (Biology), died May 31. He is survived by his wife, Jean; children Anne, Catherine, and James, three grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Nelson taught biology at Wayne State University, Queen’s, and McGill, later working as a researcher in Burlington, Ont. Moving to Dartmouth, N.S., in 1983, Nelson and Jean became very active in the community and shared their love of nature through their involvement in the local and provincial gardening communities. They were both dedicated members of their local United Church and active supporters of the church’s food bank. Nelson served on a number of different stewardship committees. He loved a good book and was an active member of the St. James United Church book club for many years.

1980s

Job news

Alvin M.T.K. Hew, Com’86, is now group managing director of Southgate Ventures, an educational platform based in Singapore. Alvin’s son, Inaki, is a first-year Commerce student and plays on the Gaels soccer team.

Jackie Roberge, Com’88, became a marketing and strategic planning consultant after graduation. But upon learning meditation at 23, her career path shifted and she became a yoga teacher and life-purpose coach. Now, she writes, “my two worlds have collided and I am happy to say that the business world now seems open to the power of mindfulness-based resilience training and even meditation. I have developed what I call ‘whole person coaching’ for business people. I help people create more balance and alignment in their life and help them be at their best at home and at work.” Jackie’s new company is called Business & Beyond.

Steve Rowins, Arts’87, is now professor of mineral geoscience and the new director of the Centre for Exploration Targeting (CET) in the School of Earth Sciences at the University of Western Australia. After graduating from Queen’s, Steve did a MSc at the University of Ottawa before heading to the warmer climes of Perth, Australia, where he completed a PhD in 1994 at the CET. Fortunately, says Steve, memories fade with time and members of the hiring committee
WELCOME HOME

All classes ending in 3 and 8 and all members of Queen’s Tricolour Guard are invited to celebrate. Congratulations to the classes of 1968 celebrating their 50th!

Thank you to the hundreds of dedicated alumni class reunion volunteers for their commitment to supporting current student life at Queen’s and for planning special events and activities to welcome their classmates home.

Every member of the Queen’s community, including alumni returning to campus for a reunion, has a role to play in promoting an environment that is safe, respectful, and inclusive.

HOMECOMING

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Young alumni events

This fall, alumni branches around the world will welcome the class of 2018 and young alumni (2008–2018 grads) with a series of events. Find an event in your area at queensu.ca/alumni/YA2018.

Canada
Calgary  Kingston  London  Montreal
Ottawa  Toronto  Vancouver  Winnipeg

International
Boston  Hong Kong  London  Los Angeles  Paris  United Arab Emirates

Upcoming events
queensu.ca/alumni/events
facebook.com/queensalumni

Bermuda
Nov. 1 – Reception with Principal Woolf
Alumni and friends of Queen’s in Bermuda are invited to join Principal Woolf for a special reception.

Calgary
Dec. 1 – Annual wine and cheese
The Calgary Branch tradition continues, now at a new venue. Join us to reconnect with fellow alumni and friends of Queen’s and celebrate the holidays with Principal Woolf.

Kingston
Sept. 11 – Paul Stothart memorial golf tournament for Queen’s men’s hockey
Enjoy a round of golf at a top-notch course, reconnect with other alumni, and meet current players and coaches.

Sept. 21 – Queen’s rugby alumni golf tournament
Come support Queen’s Rugby Football Club with 18 holes and dinner at Glen Lawrence Golf Club.

Oct. 19 – Graduate and post-doctoral networking reception
The School of Graduate Studies invites alumni to a reception at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre to meet current graduate students and post-docs.

London, U.K.
Oct. 3 – Reception with Principal Woolf
The London Branch welcomes Principal Woolf at a reception open to all alumni and friends of Queen’s, with a special welcome for new graduates and young alumni (2008–2018).

Ottawa
Oct. 16 – Ottawa Cha Gheill retirement panel
Join the Ottawa Cha Gheill group and the Ottawa Branch for expert advice on planning for your retirement, including advice on investment, taxes, and estates.

Cheer on the Gaels

Queen’s football away games:

Aug. 26: 1 pm @ Laurier Golden Hawks (Waterloo)
Sept. 15: 1 pm @ Carleton Ravens (Ottawa)
Sept. 22: 1 pm @ Guelph Gryphons (Guelph)
Oct. 5: 11 am @ McMaster Marauders (Hamilton)

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Congratulations to our Branch Award recipients

The Kathleen Beaumont Hill Award
VANCOUVER BRANCH
Nov. 28, 2018
Katherine Keep, Artsci’81
Gordon Keep, Artsci’79

The Toronto Branch Award
TORONTO BRANCH
Nov. 7, 2018
Deborah Turnbull, Artsci’75

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Learn more about the Queen’s University Alumni Association Branch Awards at queensu.ca/alumni

QUEEN’S UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
commented that “You have matured a lot!” before offering him the job. Prior to the move, Steve was chief geologist of the British Columbia Geological Survey and an adjunct professor at the University of Victoria in Victoria, B.C. Steve, his wife, Carolyn, and their three sons Tristan (22), Kieran (20), and Ethan (18) are all immigrating to Australia and they welcome their Queen’s friends to contact them at steve.rowins@uwa.edu.au if visiting down under.

Family news

Jeeva Sam, MDiv’82, retired in December 2017 after more than 35 years of service in the United Church of Canada. He lives in St. Catharines, Ont., where he provides spiritual mentorship to leaders in business, entertainment, media, and church spheres. He and his wife, Sulojana, also provide marriage mentorship to couples who are at the point of breaking up and to couples who are just starting out in marriage. Jeeva and Sulojana celebrated 35 years of marriage on Aug. 18. The Sams are proud of their three children – daughter Priya, who is filling in as news anchor for CTV’s Your Morning, son Sathiya, who serves as executive assistant to the CEO of a major ministry network, and son Jaya, who recently launched his career as a physiotherapist.

Notes

Peter J. Dravers, MBA’88, celebrated his 25th year at CIBC Wood Gundy (York Mills and Yonge branch in Toronto), where he’s now vice-president, portfolio manager.

Mark Green, Com’81, is embarking on one of his periodic odysseys, taking a year off from Transport Canada to wander with his wife, An Chi, through Asia and beyond. “It may not be the quickest path to a corner office, but it will come with loads of memories. Follow the adventure on Facebook, if I finally decide to sign up,” he says.

Brent Henry, Comp’84, was chosen to play for Team Canada 45+ at the World Cup of Roller Hockey for the second year in a row. Last year, Brent travelled to Italy with the team to play. This year, Team Canada won the bronze medal at the tournament in the Czech Republic. Here’s Brent with his wife, Donna, after the bronze medal game.

Kathleen MacKay, Com’83, retired from Canada’s Foreign Service in August 2017. Kathleen spent years working on trade disputes and trade negotiations. Her career included postings in Japan, India, Belgium, and Taiwan. Classmates can reach her at catskath@gmail.com.

Robert G. McFarlane, Com’83, was appointed to the board of directors of Entertainment One Ltd. in October 2017. Entertainment One is a global independent studio that specializes in the development, acquisition, production, financing, distribution, and sales of entertainment content.

Deaths

Edward Albert Charles Ford, BA’85, BED’86, MDiv’86, died Nov. 2, 2017 in Prescott, Ont. Edward was ordained as a minister of the Anglican Church, and worked for a time in this capacity in James Bay before the onset of illness – schizophrenia and bipolar disorder – made it impossible. He is survived by his daughter and his ex-spouses, including the Rev. Patsy Schmidt-Ford, Arts’c’85, MDiv’86. Edward donated his body to the human body donor program of the Department of Biomedical and Molecular Sciences at Queen’s. While there was no memorial service for Edward after his death, as a human body donor, he will be remembered at a university burial service at Kingston’s Cataraqui Cemetery.

1990s

Job news

Grant Belford, Arts’c’93, is now head of risk at SBI Virtual Currencies, a registered cryptocurrency exchange in Japan. Grant is interested in catching up with fellow alumni in Tokyo. grantbelford@gmail.com

2000s

Births

Sarah (Atkinson) Schumacher, Arts’c’00, Law’03, and her husband, Karl, are pleased to announce her songwriting craft at the Berklee School of Music after graduation from Queen’s. You can see old family photos and read about the people who inspired her songs at dorisfolks.com.

A FAMILY SONGBOOK

Doris Folks, Arts’c’01, Pr’04, has released an EP of original folk music based on her own family histories. The eponymous work contains seven songs, some haunting, others humorous. “Lonesome in the Grave No More,” a song about family loyalty and small-town shenanigans, won a “Songs from the Heart” award from Folk Music Ontario. “Lemon Drops in the Lake” is the tale, told by at least four generations of Doris’s family, of an ancestor who disappeared trying to drive his horse and buggy across a frozen lake in Northern Germany. Doris, who works as a physiotherapist in Guelph, Ont., has always been musical. She began playing guitar at university and honed her songwriting craft at the Berklee School of Music after graduation from Queen’s.

You can see old family photos and read about the people who inspired her songs at dorisfolks.com.
the birth of Sebastian Wolfgang on April 26, a brother for Wilhelm.

Scott Dalgleish, Com’02, and Alex Lithwick, Com’09, welcomed their daughter Ivy Bella in Santa Monica, Calif., on Dec. 5, 2017. The family is moving to Laguna Beach, which is closer to Scott’s work as V-P of finance for a healthcare-services company. Alex is a V-P at TOMS Shoes, where she leads the finance team.

Shannon (Mitchell) and Liam Mulligan, both Arts’09 (above), welcomed their son Holden Bowser in March. Shannon and Liam met at Queen’s in 2005. Holden is “encouraged” to graduate Queen’s class of 2040 by various alumni, including the Toronto softball team Sons of Pitches, Queen’s Players alumni, P&CC former managers, Herstmonceux Castle alumni, and Shannon and Liam’s friends and neighbours.

Jennifer Lovrics and Connor Page, both Com’06, welcomed Finnigan Joseph Watkins to their family on Nov. 14, 2017.

Jennifer (Modica) Riley, Arts’06, husband Tom, daughter Violet, and Bonnie the cat welcomed Oscar Francesco on March 6 at home in Christchurch, N.Z. Jennifer is on parental leave from her position with SAFE, New Zealand’s leading animal rights organization.

Commitments

Derek Hepburn, Arts’09, and Allison MacLachlan, Arts’10, were married in Toronto on May 12. They met when paired as Walkhome partners in 2008. In marrying her Queen’s sweetheart, Allison is carrying on a family tradition. Her parents are Laurie (Stolley) and David MacLachlan, both Arts’79, Law’82; her grandparents were Helen (Gordon), BA’39, and Arthur Stolley, BSc’39.

Notes

Jeff Bradley, EMBA’01, is retiring from InfoVista in August. Jeff lives in Australia but says he will celebrate retirement with a return visit to Canada for a two-week tour of Newfoundland and to catch up with his MBA team.

Job news

Brian W. Harvey, Com’07, is a quality and patient-safety specialist for Niagara Health. “I provide leadership and support in the implementation, maintenance, and integration of quality improvement and patient-safety processes at five hospital sites,” he says. In June 2017, a safety initiative on which he worked won the 2017 National Award for Excellence in Patient Safety from the Canadian College of Health Leaders.

Faizal A. Hasham, EMBA’02, his wife, Safeena, and their children Khaleem and Zahaan moved to Abu Dhabi, UAE, from Ottawa, in 2016. Faizal is an environmental engineering consultant in air quality with the Abu Dhabi Environment Agency. Faizal says he and his family “are loving the adventure of living in a new country, exploring our own understanding of the world, and finding new ways to contribute.”

Jim McAllister, EMBA’08, has been appointed head of marketing, ruminants, MetAsia for Boehringer-Ingelheim Animal Health.

Kristi Soomer, AMBA’09, has expanded her ethical fashion e-commerce brand, Encircled, which she launched in 2012. She now has more than ten employees, and a studio in the Junction area of Toronto. Kristi says her clothing is entirely sewn in Canada and has been featured in Fashion magazine, Apartment Therapy, and other publications.

Deaths

Jesse Michael Skillings Fetterly, BA’04 (MA, University of Ottawa), died April 21. He is survived by his sister Nicole Fetterly, mother Jamey Skillings, Arts’70, Meds’74, father Alexander Fetterly, Arts’69, Meds’73, niece Nora Crowley, and nephew Max Crowley.

2010s

Commitments

Kelly-Anne Lahey, Arts’10, MIR’11, and Graeme Armster, Sc’10, were married on Oct. 14, 2017. The wedding ceremony was held at St. Michael’s Cathedral in Toronto, followed by a reception at Casa Loma. Queen’s alumni in attendance included David, Patricia, Curtis, and Jennifer Lahey, Stephen Fedor, Terry Walker, Brian Ketcheson, Tom Oldman, Andrew Melvin, Matt Stam, James Higgie, Ivana (Walker) McIntosh, Stephanie (Barnes) and Andrew Dobbin, Karlee (May) and Chris Siems, Kieran Robins, Scott Annesley, Ian Foster, Michael Tighe, Michael Costas, Spencer Segula, Jeremy Langburt, Jason Keum, and Jordan Hodder.

Family news

Maia Gibbon, Arts’21, is a fifth-generation member of her family to
attend Queen’s. Her great-great-grandfather, George Clark Wright, Sr., graduated from Applied Science in 1907. (He was also mayor of Kingston, twice, in 1934–35 and 1953–56.) His son, George Clark Wright, Jr., entered Queen’s in 1932, also in Applied Science, and completed two years at the university. He often said that he played too much bridge at the Queen’s Tea Room with Lorne Greene! Maia’s grandmother, Susan Wright Gibbon, a music major, graduated in 1984 (she started with the class of 1965 but three children and 15 military moves got in the way of her studies for a few years). Maia’s dad, David Gibbon, studied geophysics at Queen’s, graduating in 1990; Maia’s mom is Susie Bruce Gibbon, Com’91. Other Queen’s connections include uncle Jamie Valliant, Sc’90, and step-aunt Ingrid Johnsrude, Arts’89. Two great-great-uncles, Douglas Slater Wright and Grant MacLachlan Wright, graduated in the late 1940s, having both served in the Canadian Army in the Second World War.

**Kristian A. Kraemer**, Sc’17, graduated in May 2017 with his proud mother, Valerie A. Palda, Arts’86, Meds’89, and grandfather Kristian S. Palda, Com’56 (Professor Emeritus, Business) in attendance. Kristian is now working on his master’s in chemical engineering at Queen’s.

**Job news**

**James Armstrong**, AMBA’10, is now vice-president of Heritage Royalty, a subsidiary of the Ontario Teachers’ Pension Plan based in Calgary. James continues to teach cases in petroleum land management at the University of Calgary.

**Steve Camacho**, EMBA’17, was appointed chief information officer for the Toronto Catholic District School Board in March.

**Drew Cormier**, Sc’11, MBA’12, has been promoted to the role of senior strategist, search at Google.

**Ahilan Kumaravel**, AMBA’16, has joined Ernst & Young LLP as manager of risk management and assurance in Toronto.

**Joshua Robinson**, EMBAA’11, is a director in Ernst & Young’s M&A practice in Singapore. His Asia-Pacific remit includes connecting multinationals with local companies to align with their capital agenda and acquisition strategy.

**Amélie St-Onge Tousignant**, AMBA’15, is now regional manager — Canada for Micromine Ltd., a mining software company headquartered in Perth, Australia. Amélie works from the company’s Canadian head office in Vancouver. She’s in the process of opening a second office in Toronto to serve the eastern Canadian market.

**Katherine Wong Too Yen**, Com’12, was promoted in March to senior manager, digital banking, contact centre, at EQ Bank, part of Equitable Bank. Katherine also recently started volunteering with the Canadian Olympic Foundation.

**Notes**

**Alexander Carbone**, Com’16, founded the Toronto Professionals’ Volunteer Hub, a non-profit initiative that connects young professionals with local volunteer opportunities for leadership and personal development. tpvh.ca

**Leslie Dunning**, EMBA’10, has been elected president of Golf Canada. She has volunteered in golf for more than 20 years. One of the themes for her presidency is “Inclusion” and making golf more accessible to anyone who wants to play.

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my mind is a tree
you are the match
and you burn me
right down to the
heart-grey ground.

This short piece, “Musings,” is from Dust Blown Side of the Journey, the latest work from Eleonore Schönmäier, ArtsSci’85, NSc’86. A woman hides her love letters in beehives, a cherry tree in full blossom is transported horizontally on a bike, and three crows tap their beaks on a metal door. Reflecting a childhood in the northern Canadian boreal forest, combined with an adult life lived without borders, Ms. Schönmäier’s vivid and sensual language invites the reader to join in fully and enjoy the journey.

Ben Bradley, PhD’12 (History), is the author of British Columbia by the Road: Car Culture and the Making of a Modern Landscape. It explores how residents of the Pacific province and visitors from afar learned about its natural and cultural landscapes during the years 1925 to 1970 by viewing them from their cars. The book explores how popular experiences of “wilderness” in parks were shaped by the expensive, disruptive highways that traversed them. It then examines how the motoring public’s understanding of B.C. history was molded by old buildings, ghost towns, and an array of monuments, markers, and museums set up along the roadside. The author says that although modern roads and automobiles seemed to promise freedom, they ultimately offered drivers constrained and curated views of the landscape, while ineluctably shaping the popular image of the entire province. Since completing his PhD at Queen’s, the author has held post-doctoral fellowships at the University of Toronto and University of Alberta.

Robert Du Broy, MBA’79, has translated, from French to English, Henri Lemay’s Training in Christian Healing, Level Six. (He also translated levels 1 to 3 of the series). You can download the full series at holyspirithalimg.com. Mr. Du Broy was the principal translator, from English into French, of Priser pour obtenir la guérison, Deuxième edition, published by the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services (ICCRS) office of the Vatican.

David Palma, ArtsSci’00 (MD, Western; PhD [Radiation Oncology], VU University, Amsterdam), is the author of Taking Charge of Cancer: What You Need to Know to Get the Best Treatment. The book teaches patients how to obtain and understand their medical records, how to double-check their treatment recommendations against published guidelines, and how to make sure they are getting high-quality surgery, radiation, or chemotherapy. Dr. Palma is a radiation oncologist and cancer researcher focusing on the treatment of lung, head and neck, and metastatic cancers.

Karina Legzdins, ArtsSci’10, writing as K.M. Langdon, is the author of Unsealed, a novel that sheds a new light on the age-old story of boy-meets-girl. Liam and Kara’s fairy-tale romance becomes tumultuous when Liam struggles with a long-buried secret. Unsealed is a story about love and loss, true friendship, the constant process of self-discovery and, ultimately, acceptance. Inspired by true events, it looks at the value of empathy and reminds readers that there are two sides to every story.

Robert Popple, Sc’63, has a new work of non-fiction: Cold War Warrior: Canadian MI-6 Agent Lawrence Fox. Lawrence Fox enlisted in the RCAF in 1952. Distinguished by his outstanding marksmanship from the beginning of his military career, he was selected immediately as a candidate for dangerous espionage work and formally recruited by MI-6 in 1956. The first of his five Cold War missions as an espionage courier behind the Iron Curtain was carried out in November 1956. He arrived in Budapest amid fierce action just after the Russians had ordered 1,000 tanks into the city. Highly dangerous missions into Czechoslovakia, Poland (twice), and Russia followed. His assignments included bringing important people, microfilm, and information out to the west.
REAL ESTATE

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Let’s all build a safer Homecoming

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ince 1926, Homecoming at Queen’s has been an opportunity for alumni to reconnect on campus, to engage with students, faculty, and friends, and to celebrate what it means to be a part of an incredible community. That said, this great tradition is now being overshadowed by unsanctioned street parties, alcohol misuse, and dangerous behaviour. Thus, we, the members of the Queen’s University Alumni Association board, are putting the call out to all alumni to protect a great Queen’s tradition and help us restore Homecoming as a safe place for students, alumni, faculty, and staff partners to connect.

So what can you do if you’re one of the classes ending in “3” or “8” and planning to celebrate your reunion this year?

- If you are returning to campus for Homecoming, plan your reunion events around official Queen’s events. Faculty, staff, volunteers, and student groups put great efforts into organizing these celebrations. You can find the list of events online: queensu.ca/alumni.
- Learn about the new University District Safety Initiative from the City of Kingston, Kingston Police, and Queen’s, which requires anyone at Homecoming issued a summons to provincial offences court to appear in person before a Justice of the Peace in Kingston to deal with the fine, regardless of where they live.
- If you encounter the need for support services for student safety or for students in distress, please call Campus Security’s Emergency Report Centre (ERC) at 613-533-6111. The “Blue Light” emergency phones around campus will also connect you directly to the ERC.
- Enjoy all of the “ReUnion Street Festival” events happening on Union Street throughout the Saturday night of Homecoming, including performances by a variety of musical acts.
- And finally, inform and inspire fellow alumni to be active participants in a safer Homecoming. Share this information across your networks.

This year, my wife Andrea (Hay) Mosher, Arts’08, and I plan to bring our son Joshua back to campus for our 10-year reunion. We are looking forward to contributing to the fantastic efforts to ensure Homecoming is a safe, inclusive, and respectful tradition. On Oct. 19 to 21, we hope that all alumni will stand together to protect the tradition of Homecoming and the opportunity for alumni to reunite.

Cha gheil!

Jeremy Mosher, Arts’08
Volunteer President
Queen’s University Alumni Association

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