The New Age of Nursing

As the School of Nursing marks its 80th anniversary, alumni take a hard look back and a collective leap forward.
Queen's University congratulates alumnus David Card (Artsci'78, LLD'99), Professor of Economics at the University of California, Berkeley, for being a co-recipient of the 2021 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences.

Dr. Card first discovered his passion for the study of economics while earning his bachelor’s degree at Queen's in 1978. This helped set the path for his groundbreaking research that challenged conventional wisdom and improved our understanding of how labour markets work.

The Nobel Prize recognizes Dr. Card’s empirical contributions to labour economics and his influential use of natural experiments to better understand the impact of minimum wages, immigration, and education on employment and the economy.

Dr. Card holds an honorary degree from Queen’s, awarded in 1999 in recognition of his esteemed scholarship, focused on improving lives through research.
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BY DR. HEATHER PATTERSON

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“...I wanted to read a Canadian story of a young person who was able to break the cycle of poverty, because that was what I wanted to do.”
— Curtis Carmichael, P. 38
The fourth strategic goal in Queen’s recently approved Strategic Framework speaks to the importance of strengthening the University’s presence globally: “developing and implementing a comprehensive, equity-focused and integrated program of global engagement that includes active, strategic partnerships, enhanced student and faculty mobility, and teaching and learning reform oriented toward a pluralistic and culturally relevant global environment.

That orientation – not just to the globe but to the pluralistic, diverse and heterogeneous cultures and worlds that comprise it – is essential for any university worthy of the name. It was the inclusion of students and scholars from multiple countries that in 11th-century Europe saw monastic schools evolve into studia generalia and then into the earliest universities. Notwithstanding COVID-19 and the rise of parochialism and nationalism in our own time, the global mission of higher education continues to deepen. Rapid digital communication has superseded easy jet travel as the main driver of this trend, which understands that the community of teachers and scholars comprising the academy cannot be contained in a single campus or country, and that its work will legitimately be done in and through a very diverse array of national and culturally distinct institutional types. Here at Queen’s, our fourth strategic goal is essentially to be a more effective, collaborative, and responsive participant in that global project of learning and discovery.

The proliferation of online learning during the pandemic has caused experts to wonder about the future of internationalization in higher education, in particular the central role of student mobility in that process. It is certainly doubtful that in the immediate future we will see the number of students travelling internationally for their education return to pre-COVID levels – UNESCO put the global figure at 5.3 million in 2017 – but that doesn’t mean the need for universities to be globally engaged will be any less important. It also doesn’t mean universities and the students who might travel to study in them now regard the in-person experience as any less important.

Earlier this year, watching the global academy rally in support of Afghan students and scholars – observing how often bold words have been underwritten by equally bold measures to ensure scholars at risk can continue their work in safety – I have been struck by the importance of shared space in human development. Notwithstanding the benefits to be derived from making Queen’s open to the world virtually, it remains critical that we be open physically to those who will learn from us as much as we will learn from them. At a time of unprecedented migration around the globe, we have an ethical obligation as well as an academic incentive to welcome the world to Queen’s.

WELCOMING THE WORLD

PRINCIPAL PATRICK DEANE
Most covers of the Queen’s Alumni Review feature a photograph or illustration. But the 80th anniversary of the School of Nursing called for something special.

So, when designer Wendy Treverton came across the work of artist Steve Derrick, we knew we had found something that was not only unique, but also relevant to the times.

At the onset of the pandemic, Mr. Derrick decided he would use his spare time to paint frontline health-care workers who were risking their lives to help others. Using photographs he found online, he sent the portraits to the subjects with a personal thank you. Word spread, and soon he was flooded with requests from health-care workers around the world who wanted to be part of his effort to capture their daily reality.

He didn’t hold back – each portrait, many of them featuring nurses, was completed with painstaking attention to detail, showing faces bruised from masks, expressions that betrayed fatigue, and eyes that immediately conveyed the pain of witnessing the horrific loss of life.

Now more than a year into his project, Mr. Derrick has been featured in The Washington Post, The Philadelphia Inquirer, the German newspaper Frankfurter Rundschau, and on CBS News and CNN. He has completed more than 400 portraits – including, now, four faces connected to the Queen’s School of Nursing.

“As always, it is a challenge to capture someone when you cannot see them in person,” he says. “But through photographs and virtual meetings with the Alumni Review team to really understand the story, I was trying to capture the inner strength of these individuals. These nurses, whether they’re on the front lines or working behind the scenes, are true leaders.”

We couldn’t agree more.

Homecoming 2021, a completely virtual affair for the second year in a row, lit up the internet from Oct. 14-17. With a high-energy lineup of entertainment and chances to connect, alumni gathered to chat with Olympian Tessa Virtue, EMBA’22, listen to the music of William Prince, and even dance an Oil Thigh or two. At the centre of it all was Queen’s Day, a chance to reflect on the university’s history — and its future.

**Top Five Events**

- Queen’s Gaels Football Game
- SmithConnect Homecoming Opening on Main Stage
- ViRitual Last Lecture on Earth with Dean Crow

**CLARIFICATION** A brief in the Campus News section of the Queen’s Alumni Review’s summer edition indicated that, of 394 scientists who have received a Gairdner Award since 1959, 92 have gone on to receive the Nobel Prize in medicine. These Nobel laureates were from more than 40 countries.
CONTRIBUTORS

Heather Patterson (Artsci’01, Med’05) is a Calgary emergency physician who, with the approval of Alberta Health Services, has been documenting her experience on the front lines of COVID-19. After losing a patient during a particularly stressful shift in emergency, she trained her camera on those around her, finding solace and hope amidst despair. Her photography project, which has captured the attention of media across Canada, is the basis of her upcoming book, Through My Lens: A Physician’s COVID Experience by Goose Lane Editions. See a selection of Patterson’s photographs on page 20. Follow her on Instagram: @heather.l.patterson

Jana Chytilova (Sc’87) is a Kingston-based photographer and proud Queen’s alumna. She has been a photographer for more than 20 years, shooting for wire services such as the Canadian Press, Reuters, and Agence France-Presse as well as major newspapers and magazines, including the Ottawa Citizen, Globe and Mail, Toronto Star and Maclean’s. Chytilova is also a specialist in sports photography — she has done work for Sports Illustrated and is one of the official photographers of the Ottawa Senators. See Chytilova’s photography in “Threads of History,” on page 32 and “A Beaded Q” on page 52.

Johnny C.Y. Lam is a commercial and editorial photographer based near Kingston. He is a regular contributor to the Globe and Mail and Maclean’s and is best known for his portraiture work. Born in Hong Kong, he moved to Canada with his family at a young age. Lam studied commercial illustration but found his voice as an artist in photography. He is a travel addict and has visited more than 50 countries and counting. When he is not away taking photos, he enjoys cycling, fishing, cooking, and reading photo books at home. See Lam’s photography in “The Big Picture,” on page 12 and “How I Got Here,” on page 42. Follow him on Instagram: @johnnycylam

Peter Robb (Artsci’76) is a veteran journalist with more than 30 years’ experience in newspapers. Based in western Quebec, he has worked at the Ottawa Journal, Medicine Hat News, Windsor Star, was editor of the Southam News wire service based on Parliament Hill and also worked at the Ottawa Citizen, where he was most recently deputy editor overseeing arts and lifestyle coverage. He was the founding editor/writer of ARTSFILe, a digital arts journalism project in the nation’s capital. Robb is an Honours History BA graduate from Queen’s in 1976. Read: “On Campus,” on page 7 and “For the Record,” on page 14.

The Queen’s Alumni Review welcomes comments at review@queensu.ca. All comments may be edited for clarity, civility, and length.

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Queen’s University is situated on traditional Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Territory.

QUEENSU.CA/ALUMNIREVIEW 5
HELLO, CLASS OF 2021!

The past year has been filled with unique challenges, and many traditional milestones at Queen's have changed. Now you are graduating into a new world without some of the typical opportunities to connect with the alumni community.

Over the next months, you and your fellow 2021 graduates can expect a phone call from Queen's alumni volunteers to ensure you feel heard, supported, and welcomed to the Queen's Alumni Community.
When you get dressed tomorrow, Jason Cyrus would like you to consider the complex story of colonialism, environmental degradation, and racism that surrounds the plant that produced your cotton shirt. To that end, Mr. Cyrus, the Agnes’s 2021 Isabel Bader Fellow in Textile Conservation and Research at Queen’s University, has curated an exhibition featuring dresses from Agnes’s collection, alongside contemporary art. 

What: *History is Rarely Black or White* exhibition featuring dresses from Agnes’s collection, alongside contemporary art

Where: Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Queen’s University

When: Nov. 27, 2021, until March 22, 2022

Jamaican-born designer Damian Jöel’s sustainable fashion line, INTRO X DJ, honours Diaspora legacy through pre-loved pieces re-crafted with intention.
exhibition called History Is Rarely Black or White, which opens at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre on Nov. 27 and caps his fellowship, which ended in April.

The show focuses on the enslaved Africans and their descendants without whom cotton production would not have been so valuable to the U.S. South in the years leading up to the American Civil War.

The exhibition displays some 21 garments from the Queen’s University Collection of Canadian Dress, which comprises more than 2,500 articles of fashion from the late 1700s to the 1970s, along with tintype photographs of formerly enslaved people who escaped on the Underground Railroad. This will be the first time some of the Victorian cotton garments in the collection will see daylight in a public exhibition, Mr. Cyrus says.

The garments and photos are only the first page of the story.

The current Isabel Bader Graduate Intern in Textile Conservation and Research, Anne-Marie Guérin, has snipped some threads and is using isotope analysis to scientifically pinpoint where the cotton in a 19th-century garment worn in Canada was grown and harvested. At the very least, the DNA of the thread will weave an image of the global reach of cotton.

Mr. Cyrus says he believes this is the first time an exhibition will bring together fashion academia and race history “through the connecting point of scientific analysis.”

The exhibition also brings a contemporary take through works by three artists – Karin Jones, Gordon Shadrach, and Damian Jöel. Jones and Shadrach challenge misconceptions created by colonialism about Black culture and people. Shadrach’s portraits of Black men “use fashion – contemporary or historical dress – to create narratives that explore the biases in North American culture,” says Burke Paterson, Queen’s alumnus and Shadrach’s art dealer.

Through a video and articles of clothing, Damian Jöel tells the story of the Gullah people, whose journey from Africa through slavery has led to a thriving and unique modern culture.

Mr. Cyrus has a background in the fashion industry with Gucci, Holt Renfrew, and North American brands such as Banana Republic. For him, fashion is more than a model on a runway. Fashion can convey deep social, cultural, economic, and artistic meaning. And he wants to explore that material culture.

“I describe myself as someone who explores intersections between cultural exchange, identity, who we are as a culture, and who we are as people. I answer those questions through a clothing lens, a fashion lens. “For me, it is absolutely fascinating how the clothing that we put on day to day reflects not just highly personal choices. ... It could be tied into historical things like colonialism, slavery, gender politics. All those are wrapped up in a choice that is made in a snap.”

The Legacy
Philanthropic Tradition Benefits the Arts

Continuing a philanthropic tradition that began in 1948, the Bader family’s generosity toward Queen’s continues with a series of gifts from Isabel Bader, LL’07, and Bader Philanthropies, Inc., the family’s charitable foundation.
Isabel celebrated the legacy of her husband, Dr. Alfred Bader, BSc’45, BA’46, MSc’47, LLD’86, by donating 12 paintings to Agnes Etherington Art Centre. The paintings are 17th-century Dutch still lifes, biblical scenes, and scenes from daily life. Two of them are now on view in the exhibition *Studies in Solitude: The Art of Depicting Seclusion*, at Agnes until June 2022.

She honoured Dr. Bader’s conservators, Charles Munch and Jane Furchgott, by donating nine Leica S9i microscopes to help students in Queen’s Art Conservation program examine and treat cultural artifacts.

Isabel also championed a pair of gifts from Bader Philanthropies, Inc. to fund Indigenous initiatives at the university. The Outdoor Gathering Space, modelled after an Ojibway round house, will be a visible home for Indigenous welcoming, pipe, and sunrise ceremonies. The foundation has also funded a new position at Agnes, a full-time curator, Indigenous art and culture, to ensure that Agnes’s activities are Indigenous-led and embedded within the art centre.

**The Community**

**Informed Consent and the Beauty of Diversity**

A new mural now graces the front of Harrison-LeCaine Hall. The four-metre-tall vinyl transfer was commissioned last summer by the Queen’s Consensual Humans Club. It is meant to encourage everyone who sees it to consider consent – across all definitions and spectrums.

“The real aim of the project is to be a community-centred celebration of consent,” says Megan Sieroka, Arts’21, a former Consensual Humans co-chair.

After a call for submissions went out, Queen’s fine arts student Niki Boytchuk, Arts’23, was selected to bring her design to life.

Boytchuk wanted an inclusive perspective to her mural so she sent out an anonymous survey to her peers to find out what they thought about consent. The answers influenced the final piece.

“A Love that Clings” was installed on Aug. 23, along with an artist’s statement explaining the inspiration and symbolism behind the design.

**The Gift**

**Innovation Foundation Funding Supports Nine Queen’s Research Projects**

Nine projects at Queen’s will benefit from more than $1.1 million in funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) John R. Evans Leaders Fund.

The fund supports leading-edge research by giving exceptional researchers the tools and equipment they need to become leaders in their fields. The Queen’s portion was part of $77 million in funding recently announced by the federal government and will help support research in a range of areas, including robotics, architecture and technology, energy conversion and storage, and ocular health.
“For almost 25 years, the CFI has helped create the conditions that allow researchers to accelerate discovery and innovation,” says Nancy Ross, Vice-Principal (Research).

The Book

Queen’s Reads Choice Explores Transgender Perspective

A debut non-fiction book that explores, through personal essays and poems, questions that haunt social movements today has been chosen as Queen’s Reads for 2021–2022.

_I Hope We Choose Love: A Trans Girl’s Notes from the End of the World_ by Kai Cheng Thom combines personal essays and prose poems that blend the confessional, political, and literary, taking cues from contemporary thought leaders in the transformative justice movement.

The annual Queen’s Reads program engages students in meaningful discussion, encourages critical thinking, and promotes connection and community building among students, faculty, and staff. Year-long programming creates opportunities for the Queen’s community to discuss themes of justice, violence, vengeance, forgiveness, family, and the political polarization of social movements today.

The Idea

Changing Perceptions of Parasport Athletes

With the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics just behind us, a leading Queen’s researcher says it’s time to reimagine what we think of as an athlete and create opportunities for athletes of all body types and skill levels.

“We have an image of what an athlete should look like and how they should move,” says Dr. Amy Latimer-Cheung (kinesiology and health studies), who is leading a multi-year research project examining inclusivity in sport that aims to build a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment for Canadian parasport athletes.

Dr. Latimer-Cheung, who is also the Canada Research Chair in Physical Activity Promotion and Disability, believes one of the reasons for the lack of inclusivity is there are fewer opportunities for athletes with a high level of disability to participate.

“Many of the sports showcased in the Paralympics, currently, just aren’t suitable for athletes with certain disabilities,” she says.

The research is funded by Mitacs, a not-for-profit organization that designs and delivers research and training programs, and will engage seven Mitacs research interns from Queen’s University and Western University in multiple projects over the next two years. It involves interviewing individuals living with disability, including Paralympians themselves, to better identify solutions to create opportunity for participation.

The research team is also partnering with the Canadian Paralympic Committee, Ontario ParaSport Collective, PowerHockey Canada, and other stakeholders to close the gaps in community-based
The Support

Dr. Stephen Archer, who is head of Medicine at Queen’s and Kingston Health Sciences Centre, recently marked a significant milestone in his research career.

A key measure of research productivity and career success in biomedical sciences and other STEM fields is known as the h-index. It quantifies the citation impact of the publications of a scientist. An h-index of 10 indicates a researcher has 10 publications that have received at least 10 citations each. After 20 years of research, an h-index of 20 is good, 40 is outstanding, and 60 is exceptional.

Dr. Archer, a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair, recently reached an h-index of more than 100.

"Reaching an h-index of 100 reminds me of the incredible experiences that I have had as a clinician-scientist since I published my first article in 1983," Dr. Archer says. "I am grateful to all the people I have trained over the years, many of whom appear as co-authors on my articles. I am also grateful to my patients, who inspire me to learn, discover, and invent. This milestone is truly a group achievement."

For a decade, the Schulich Foundation has provided innovative and entrepreneurial-minded youth heading into the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) field life-changing financial backing.

The Schulich Leader Scholarships were established in 2012 by Canadian business leader and philanthropist Seymour Schulich with the goal of identifying the next generation of Canadian STEM leaders.

This fall, Queen’s welcomed 10 incoming Schulich Leaders, who joined the School of Computing and the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science in various programs.

As of 2021, Schulich Leader Scholarships have supported 46 Queen’s students by providing scholarships worth up to $100,000, covering tuition, fees, textbooks, living costs, etc., to ensure they can devote their time and attention to their studies without financial burdens weighing on them.

"The Schulich Leader Scholarships impact your life as a recipient in every way possible. The scholarship opens doors for you to excel, explore interesting opportunities, and differentiate yourself in ways you might not have previously had access to. It relieves the financial burden around obtaining a high-quality education, while connecting you with some of the brightest and most interesting students across Canada," says Isabel Hazan, Sc’20, who was a 2016 scholarship recipient. "At the annual Schulich Leaders conference, I stumbled into an interview process with Leaders Fund, a venture capital firm in Toronto, where I am currently employed. Without the scholarship, I likely would never have been exposed to this opportunity or been considered for this role. This is just one of many examples of how the scholarship has directly connected me with unique opportunities and positioned me for success. I attribute much of where I am today to the scholarship and the doors it opened for me."

Learn more about the Schulich Leader Scholarships and their 10-year milestone celebration at schulichleaders10.com.

The Queen’s Phytotron lets biologists simulate any growing environment, controlling temperature, humidity, and daylight for plant research. Dr. Saeid Mobini manages all this. (“Phyto” is a Greek prefix meaning “plant.”)

Along one side are greenhouses, with six large isolated areas that can generally duplicate various environments, with temperatures between 10 C and 45 C and supplemental lighting to lengthen the day.

Dr. Jannice Friedman studies wildflowers to learn how plants adapt to change. Some of her flowers are annuals while others of the very same species are perennials. Why? How? “We’re researching why they might have different strategies in different environments.”

The Phytotron can simulate any climate. Dr. Friedman replicates an environment on Vancouver Island, using long-term data from one Environment Canada weather station.

“And I just have to walk up two flights of stairs to get there.

“We usually begin with seed (or occasionally plants) collected from their natural environment,” she says. “We first do field work to collect the seed from the specific populations we are interested in. We then germinate that seed and grow them in the Phytotron. We will often then make specific crosses between those plants, to examine specific traits we’re interested in.

“The work we’re doing is currently tied to a lot of issues (such as) loss of pollinators and climate change.”

A STUDY IN PLANTS
The conservatory houses more than 150 tropical, subtropical and Mediterranean plant species from a range of taxonomic lineages and biogeographic regions, including orchids, palms, bananas, bromeliads, cacti, birds of paradise, and more.
Far more precise than the greenhouses (and smaller) are 26 growth chambers that range from the size of a large fridge to a small room. These standalone chambers offer fine-tuned environmental conditions, including sophisticated artificial light, temperature, and humidity. Such controls allow scientists to repeat an experiment under exactly the same conditions – something not possible in nature.
Iconic Dutch artist Rembrandt van Rijn was the star of a recent exhibition at the National Gallery of Canada. Lead curator Dr. Stephanie Dickey, Bader Chair in Northern Baroque Art, takes us behind the scenes to explore the extraordinary life of the artist and his time, the Queen’s connections, and the one piece she would have loved to take home.

Please tell us a bit about yourself.
I often teach courses related to Rembrandt and the art of his time – Europe in the 1600s. I’ve been studying Rembrandt since my graduate school days at New York University, so this is a natural extension of my research interests.

When did you start thinking about this exhibition?
Almost a decade ago I began brainstorming with my friend David de Witt (a PhD graduate of Queen’s, formerly Bader Curator at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, now at the Rembrandt House Museum) about an exhibition on art in Amsterdam. As plans developed, the story became more about Rembrandt himself. I pitched the idea to the National Gallery because they are – well – the National Gallery! They had never done a Rembrandt exhibition, so it caught their interest.

What was on view?
The exhibition brings paintings, prints, and drawings by Rembrandt into dialogue with stellar works by friends, followers, and rivals, exploring how this community of talented artists competed for the attention of Amsterdam consumers.

Do you have a particular favourite?
Landscape with Stone Bridge, from the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam, is one of only eight known landscapes by Rembrandt. He uses expressive brushwork and dramatic light to convey the tense atmosphere of an impending storm. That’s the one I would take home if I could!
What has the project told you about the artist?
I have new respect for Rembrandt’s versatility and for his ambition. In an age when many artists specialized, he tried his hand at many subjects. He ran the largest workshop in Amsterdam, creating a “brand” that went far beyond his own work and continues to inspire painters and printmakers today. In contemporary terms, he was an influencer.

What did the National Gallery add to the show?
When Sasha Suda became director of the National Gallery, she charged the curatorial team to align the exhibition with the gallery’s new mission of promoting greater inclusivity. We expanded the narrative to acknowledge the sources of wealth that fuelled the art market in which Rembrandt worked. Amsterdam was the hub of a global trade network that stretched from the Americas to Indonesia; some enterprises resulted in the exploitation and enslavement of African and Indigenous people.

Three experts writing from Black and Indigenous perspectives were invited to contribute new texts. We also added several contemporary works from the National Gallery’s collection in which Black and Indigenous artists reflect on colonialism. Perhaps best known is Kent Monkman. His painting *The Triumph of Mischief* (2007) hangs opposite Rembrandt’s *Landscape with Stone Bridge*. His composition reminds the viewer that landscapes can seem picturesque, but land ownership remains contested.

In contemporary terms, [Rembrandt] was an influencer.

I think this shift was important and necessary, but I hope people understand that Dutch global trade is only one part of a larger story. The art of Rembrandt and his contemporaries still has a lot to offer in its own right. How best to contextualize their achievements is an ongoing discussion for educators and curators alike.

What are the other Queen’s connections to this show?
Three paintings in the Ottawa installation were lent by the Agnes: Rembrandt’s 1658 *Portrait of a Man with Arms Akimbo*; and history paintings by two talented associates, Govert Flinck and Nicolaes Maes. They are all part of The Bader Collection, which includes over 200 European paintings donated to Queen’s by alumnus Dr. Alfred Bader and his wife, Isabel Bader.

There are quite a few people at the National Gallery with Queen’s connections. Ellen Treciokas, who designed our beautiful installation, is a graduate of the art conservation program. Mathieu Sly, the gallery’s new social media officer, has an MA in art history from Queen’s. The exhibition catalogue includes an essay by Jonathan Bikker, whose graduate study at Queen’s and Utrecht University led to a curatorial position at the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam. It is great to see our alums making an impact near and far. – *Interview by Peter Robb*
“A world class-education and the pursuit of athletics at a high level are opportunities we believe enable a student athlete to reach their full potential.

In our gift, we want to provide a legacy that enables future generations of students to have the same opportunities from which we were fortunate enough to benefit.”

Craig Dale, Com’07 and Shannon Dale
Bequest Donors,
The Craig and Shannon Dale Athletic Award
queensu.ca/alumni/giftplanning
Cancer is not a single disease; it is hundreds. Cancers of the lung, breast, prostate, and colon are the most common forms of the disease, and account for about half of all diagnoses. But less common forms of cancer also account for about half of diagnoses, and these are not as well studied. Some of them are extremely rare, with only a few people diagnosed each year. Patients with these rare cancers have not had the same improvements in survival outcomes as those with more common cancers, largely because there has been less focus on research and the development and testing of new treatment options.

But the Canadian Cancer Trials Group (CCTG) is working to change that. Headquartered at the Queen’s Cancer Research Institute, CCTG is a collaborative network of researchers, physicians, scientists, and statisticians who are advancing cancer research through clinical trials. And CCTG’s priority is to address the gap in rare cancer research.

“When people hear the term rare cancers, they rightly assume these cancers are uncommon,” says Dr. Janet Dancey, the Director of CCTG and a Professor in the Department of Oncology.

“But collectively, rare cancers are quite common. About a quarter of people diagnosed with cancer will be diagnosed with a rare cancer.”

Rare-cancer research has some inherent challenges. Pharmaceutical companies are more interested in developing drugs for common cancers. The reason for this is economic: the more patients who suffer from a condition, the greater the potential sales for a treatment. But rare-cancer research also presents practical problems.

“One of the challenges is scientific. It takes time and interest to understand the biology of rare cancers. There are fewer people looking at them in the lab to understand their biology and what drives a cell to become a cancer cell in a rare cancer,” says Dr. Dancey.

But there is an even more basic challenge. Rare cancers are, well, rare. So, it can be difficult to find enough participants to conduct a clinical trial. That is where CCTG’s network comes into play. With more than 2,100 participating researchers at 85 universities and hospitals, CCTG’s reach allows for recruitment across Canada and beyond.

Consider the case of uveal melanoma. Each year, roughly one person in 200,000 is diagnosed with the condition. It is the most common cancer of the eye, but in a city of Kingston’s size, a year could pass without a single suitable candidate for a clinical trial. Yet across Canada, nearly 200 people will be...
diagnosed in that time frame, and CCTG’s network enables more of them to participate in clinical trials. “We have always done rare-cancer trials, but about five years ago, we decided to make a specific effort to grow the portfolio, support those trials, and develop the international collaborations necessary to execute them,” says Dr. Dancey.

“We have almost tripled our portfolio of trials for patients with a rare cancer, and a number of them have already defined new treatments for rare cancers.”

CCTG identifies drugs with the potential to become treatments by conducting umbrella trials. These studies explore the potential of several investigational drugs simultaneously, and look for signals that they might work as a treatment. This allows researchers to identify which drugs could be suitable for a Phase 3 trial to establish their safety and effectiveness as a treatment. “We need to do this very efficiently. Once we have identified those signals, we determine whether we can develop a larger study to confirm whether it might be effective,” says Dr. Dancey.

CCTG was established in 1980, and its clinical trials have contributed to many new treatments – for both common and rare cancers. But much work remains. “If there is a cure for cancer,” says Dr. Dancey, “Queen’s will have a role in it.”

“Cancer is going to be cured one cancer at a time, and patients will be cured of cancer one patient at a time. There is no one hospital, cancer centre, or investigator that can progress research from start to finish on their own. It takes collaboration, and researchers like those at CCTG will generate the evidence that shows that a treatment contributes to a cure.”

KATHRYN EMILY COOK OVARIAN CANCER RESEARCH FUND

Established in memory of Kathryn Cook, Arts’79, the new fund is dedicated to supporting Queen’s researchers as they look for new ways to detect, prevent, and treat ovarian cancer while uncovering new insights into its causes.

Currently, a CCTG trial, OV.25, is testing whether women can take acetylsalicylic acid (ASA, also known Aspirin) to reduce inflammation of ovulation, which is thought to contribute to the development of ovarian cancer. Researchers want to understand if reducing inflammation can help reduce the risk.

Gathering information on the underlying causes of cancer helps design future interventions that may aid patients, and philanthropic funding is a key source of support for medical research and related clinical trials.

To contribute to the Kathryn Emily Cook Ovarian Cancer Research Fund, visit www.givetoqueens.ca/ovarianresearchkathryncook

300K+
Number of tissue samples collected and archived, from over 120 trials, since 1997

600
Number of CCTG trials to date, in more than 40 countries on six continents

165
CCTG’s current number of active trials – the largest number in its history, with more than 2,100 investigators and clinical trial staff participants

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QUEENSU.CA/ALUMNI REVIEW
In November 2020, Dr. Heather Patterson (Artsci’01, Med’05) began photographing the rarely seen experiences of frontline workers, patients, and families during the global COVID-19 pandemic. This is what she captured.
Photography and text by Dr. Heather Patterson
wife, and mother, early in the pandemic I felt an overwhelming sense of uncertainty and apprehension. My husband, also an emergency physician, and I struggled to find the balance between protecting our children, staying safe, and planning for the worst-case scenario at work. It was through my camera lens that I was able to slow down and observe the shared human experience of the pandemic: tragedy and vulnerability; kindness and compassion; laughter and tears; teamwork and resilience. I have captured images that are simultaneously heartbreaking and heartwarming and that show the paradox of caring for people during times of tragedy. Through this project, I have reconnected with the purpose and privilege of being a physician and I moved to a place of optimism and pride for how we are providing care for those in our community.

We are now facing the fourth wave of COVID in Alberta. Our hospitals are overwhelmed and vaccination has become a political and personal issue for many. About 80 per cent of patients admitted to hospital are unvaccinated. Moral injury and injustice are causing an exacerbation of the already significant burnout in health-care workers. During this time, I hope that my images continue to tell the authentic story of our COVID-19 experiences, but also highlight moments of kindness, compassion, resilience, and teamwork.
With family members unable to visit, the role of healthcare providers expanded. Ellen and Paul talked about family, the challenges of being in hospital, and hope for recovery.

When a patient arrives in the ICU, the primary nurse may spend two to three hours in full PPE getting the patient settled. It can be hot and uncomfortable but is a key part of care. An ICU nurse briefly stood in the doorway while an X-ray was taken after intubation and central line placement. She had been in the room for two hours and 45 minutes.
Daniel, a volunteer in the ICU, spends seven days a week supporting patients and staff. One of his roles is helping patients video call family members after extubation. After being intubated for six days, this man waited for his wife and daughters to connect to the call. Squeals of delight soon filled the room and tears of joy ran down his face.

A team of 10 in the ICU moved this unstable patient into the prone position to improve their oxygenation.

Lori, a senior nurse in the emergency department, is often found at her patients’ bedsides holding hands or offering gestures of kindness and compassion. The patient in this image was about to be intubated and she is explaining that the team will take good care of him.
Alberta is under the strain of the fourth wave of COVID-19. With cases per capita over four times the national average, ICUs are full and consideration is being given to flying critical care patients to different provinces. Critical triage implementation training has been done for health-care teams. A common sight, two patients per room in the Intensive Care Unit, is stretching nursing to capacity, once again.
EIGHTY YEARS OF QUEEN’S NURSING

By Blair Crawford
Illustrations by Steve Derrick

As the School of Nursing celebrates its 80th anniversary, alumni reflect on how the profession has changed, and how they have changed with it.
GROWING UP IN A REFUGEE CAMP

in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Daria Adele Juüdi-Hope dreamed of becoming a healer. Poverty and suffering were all around her. A beloved aunt died in her 30s for want of the simple medication that would have treated her chronic illness.

She did not expect to find that same need in Canada.

"As a refugee and an immigrant coming to this part of the planet, I grew up not knowing there are people suffering here," says Ms. Juüdi-Hope (NSc’11).

"I thought of myself as a healer," she says in a phone call from Sioux Lookout, Ont., where she oversees nursing care in several isolated First Nations communities.

"My goal was figuring out how to become that and then go back home where people are suffering. I thought I’d finish up school and go back to DRC or Africa, anywhere there is poverty.

"I didn’t know much about the Indigenous situation here."

Ms. Juüdi-Hope and other graduates of the Queen’s School of Nursing are making a difference in ways that would seem unimaginable to the young women – and they were all women – who entered the school’s first class, 80 years ago this year.

Back then, changing dressings and emptying bedpans made up the bulk of nursing work. Today, a nurse is just as likely to be providing frontline medical care in a remote community supported by video links to a big-city hospital. He may author academic papers at the forefront of medical research. She may develop and implement preventative policies to keep people from becoming ill or teach a new generation of health-care providers in Canada or anywhere in the world.

"Even when I started in nursing in 1986, when a physician walked into the room I had to stand up," says Dr. Erna Snelgrove-Clarke, director of the Queen’s School of Nursing since 2019.

"Now we walk in together. Collaboration and teamwork have changed immensely. Nursing was a task-based profession. When nursing moved to the university, it became a theory-based, evidence-informed profession. It’s a different mindset from what we used to do," she says.

"Nurses aren’t just those who provide patient care anymore. Nurses are educators, they’re researchers. They’re administrators. They work with homeless persons. They work in prisons. They work rurally."

When Sue Williams graduated from Queen’s Nursing in 1971, she wore the nurse’s uniform of apron, bib, collar, and cap. The uniforms would go within a few years (“when we stopped wearing the starched collar, it took a year for the ring around my neck to go away,” she says), but nurses were still regarded as “the physician’s handmaiden.”

"Career planning wasn’t big back in the day," says Ms. Williams, who would go on to become director of the Ryerson School of Nursing and is past president of the Registered Nurses’ Association of Ontario.

"That’s very different now. Nursing students think more broadly about what opportunities are out there for them and what education might be needed to accomplish those goals.

"The vision is wider now. The opportunities are wider."

And, like the job, nurses themselves have changed.

"That’s one of the things that is ever more exciting about nurses," Dr. Snelgrove-Clarke says. "They’re a bit more disruptive. They’re a bit more willing to challenge the status quo. They demand a different form of education. It’s not as didactic as it once was. It’s dynamic and it’s interactive, Gen X is different from those previous generations.”

Male nurses are common in Kenya, where Adan Abdi grew up, but he was one of just a handful of men in his BNSc class of 2007. He remembers his time at Queen’s as the best years of his life.

But Mr. Abdi says it’s impossible for any school to teach all he needed to know when he took his first job in the isolated Cree community of Kashechewan on the Albany River near James Bay in Northern Ontario.

"As a northern nurse, you are a generalist," says Abdi, an Ottawa-based assistant director of nursing for Indigenous Services Canada’s First Nations and Inuit Health Branch.

"You’re really doing the job of a physician. But what you need to have is critical thinking and Queen’s really helped with that. It’s the idea of going up north and not having all the answers, but knowing your resources and who you can reach out to," he says.

"The work there was different than the traditional work in a hospital. In hospital you may provide care to a specific patient population and medical supports are readily available if required. But in the north, you do everything. Sometimes you’ll be asked to do things that you’re not comfortable with.

(below) The School of Nursing was established at Queen’s shortly after 1941, in response to the growing wartime demand for nurses. The first capping ceremony, 1948, marked the transition from probationer to student nurse.
Someone can walk you through it over the phone and then you just have to do it. Literally, the life of that person depends on you."

Now an administrator, Mr. Abdi sees his new role as effecting change.

“You have the ability to influence change and advocate on behalf of nurses. You have the ability to change the profession.”

Change is occurring within the school as well. Dr. Snelgrove-Clarke says the school’s new strategic plan rests on three pillars: the latest trends in care and nursing practices; student mental health and wellness; and, under the direction of Dean of Health Sciences Dr. Jane Philpott, EDIIA – Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Indigeneity, and Accessibility.

To help students cope, the school has a wellness coach and this year added a mental-health counsellor.

No longer are nurses expected to endure violence and trauma, then be expected to bury it deep inside and show up for the next shift as if nothing had happened. That awareness starts in school.

“People need to talk about how they’re feeling,” Dr. Snelgrove-Clarke says. “We live in an era where people are much more comfortable saying, ‘Hey, I have anxiety.’”

Putting the school under an EDIIA lens requires some unflinching honesty, examining the program as closely and objectively as one would a patient. One aspect of that is “decolonizing” the curriculum, Dr. Snelgrove-Clarke says.

“It means looking at the syllabi to see how we can unlearn past practices and learn new and more inclusive ways of supporting other persons, not only in the classroom, but also in the content of the curriculum,” she says.

That means being open to other cultural practices. The importance of smudging for Indigenous Peoples, for example, or the need in some
cultures to include aunts and grandmothers in the birthing ritual.

“It’s being aware of those practices in some cultures and asking what matters. It means finding ways in our communication to make sure we’re meeting other people’s expectations and needs, and not being afraid to ask those questions.”

It was a surprise for Ms. Juüdi-Hope when she took a job as a northern nurse in Fort Albany, Ont., on James Bay, to find the similarities between her own African culture and that of Indigenous Canadians.

“I didn’t know much about the Indigenous situation in this country. Once I learned about it in school and by doing my own learning in the library, I related to some of their struggles – racism, discrimination, and the aftermath of colonization. I felt for the population and their struggles,” she says.

Nor has she forgotten her own roots. After a few years of experience as a northern nurse, she began to consider working overseas. It was hard to balance the needs of those in her old home with needs in her new country.

“I wish I could send myself in many directions,” she says. “I thought, ‘Does it really make sense for me to go to work there [in Africa] when we need help here?’”

She wanted to do more than a short stint of clinical work where “you go into these communities for two weeks and do as much as you can, which is emotionally draining, then you pack and leave after two weeks and those folks won’t see you again until you come back in a year.”

Ms. Juüdi-Hope decided the best way to have a lasting impact would be to become a teacher herself. She joined a global health NGO to teach nursing and pre-med students while providing medical and dental care in rural in Kenya and Uganda.

“I worked for that organization specifically because there was

CELEBRATING 80 YEARS

In celebrating 80 wonderful years of educating and supporting nurses from all capacities and specialties, the School of Nursing is hosting a year-long campaign that continues its legacy of providing an education that empowers nurses and demonstrates the strength and potential of the profession. Guided by the School of Nursing 2021–2022 Strategic Plan and centred on three pillars of focus – nursing care and practice, wellness, and equity, diversity, inclusion, Indigeneity (EDII), and accessibility – the campaign launched during the Homecoming 2021 celebrations. Health policy and research expert Lisa Little (NSc’89) opened the conversation with a talk on latest trends in care and nursing practices, followed by several alumni discussion sessions centred on the three pillars of focus, shaping the future directions of the school, and strengthening our health systems.

Numerous school initiatives focused on these pillars will be held throughout the year. You can keep up to date with events and announcements by following @QueensuSON on Twitter and through the university’s nursing alumni communications.
NO LONGER ARE NURSES EXPECTED TO ENDURE VIOLENCE AND TRAUMA, THEN BE EXPECTED TO BURY IT DEEP INSIDE, AND SHOW UP FOR THE NEXT SHIFT AS IF NOTHING HAD HAPPENED. THAT AWARENESS STARTS IN SCHOOL.

an educational component. As a person who’s been there and gone through all that and wanting to help my people, I felt that what I could do, since I cannot be there, is to teach the others what I know and sharing and exchanging knowledge.

"I think the best thing to do is to support those communities and sponsor students and they stay home and practise there."

It’s a vision that the founders of the School of Nursing 80 years ago would recognize. And one still imbued in the school today.

“Eighty years have brought change in uniform, change in diversity and education, from the kind of person who comes into nursing through to how we provide care and help to other people,” Dr. Snelgrove-Clarke says.

“When you think of the 80-year trajectory, I don’t think we talked about climate change and the impact of the social determinants of health when nursing began in the hospital,” she says. “But the issues have evolved immensely.”

It’s a spirit summed up in how Dr. Snelgrove-Clarke describes how the School of Nursing adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Our last 18 months have been ones of acceptance and commitment,” she says, “and changing it up when we needed to.”
Alfred Bader’s POW shirt is part of an exhibit that tells a story of forced migration – and refuge at Queen’s.

By Patrick Langston        Photography by Jessica Bushey and Jana Chytilova
We dress for success, comfort, style. But when a teenaged Alfred Bader put on his shirt each morning, he was dressing to become a potential target.

Dr. Bader – an illustrious Queen’s graduate and benefactor who was born in 1924 and died in 2018 at age 94 – left his native Austria for England in 1938 when he was just 14, one of thousands of mostly Jewish children escaping Nazi persecution in Germany and German-annexed countries through the Kindertransport program. Two years later, along with many other Jewish refugees as well as Nazi POWs, he was deported from England as an “alien enemy” and sent to an internment camp at Fort Lennox on Quebec’s Île aux Noix. Canadian officials failed to distinguish between the refugees and the POWs, and everyone, including the young Alfred, was issued a grey shirt with a large red dot on the back. Attempt to escape and you would become an easy target for the armed guards.

Dr. Bader’s shirt, which he kept for decades and which was given to Queen’s in 2019, is part of a university satellite exhibit at Kingston’s Pump-House Steam Museum that runs until Nov. 26. The exhibit explores forced migration through the stories of six people, including Dr. Bader, who would go on to forge such a strong connection with Queen’s. It’s part of both Refuge Canada, a travelling exhibit now at the PumpHouse, and Queen’s Refuge: Refugees and the University, an exhibit at the Douglas Library’s W.D. Jordan Rare Books and Special Collections. That exhibit, also on until Nov. 26, features individual artifacts and biographies that tell the story of forced migration in the history of Queen’s University and within the Queen’s community.

The Queen’s Refuge exhibit also tied into a biennial conference of the North American Society for Exile Studies at the university in September.

The shirt embodies and preserves for subsequent generations what everyday life was like in the Quebec camp, according to Swen Steinberg, a post-doctoral researcher in Queen’s Department of History who coordinated both Queen’s exhibits. It also stands for the experience of many other refugees and was so meaningful to Bader that he held on to it for years, says Dr. Steinberg.

“As someone who organizes this kind of exhibition, this is what you wish for.”

In 1941, Alfred Bader left Fort Lennox for Montreal, sponsored by Martin Wolff. Mr. Wolff encouraged Dr. Bader to pursue his education. After being rejected by McGill University because its Jewish “quota” had been filled and by the University of Toronto because it was doing sensitive war work, Alfred Bader was accepted into Queen’s Faculty of Applied Science.

“I was a free man, I had been welcomed into a Canadian family and had been accepted by a prestigious Canadian university,” he wrote in his autobiography. “I was determined to do my best.”

A lifelong devotee of both science and the arts, he rapidly completed a BSc in engineering chemistry, a BA in history, and an MSc in chemistry at Queen’s. A PhD in organic chemistry at Harvard followed in 1950.
Within a year of leaving Harvard, Dr. Bader co-founded the U.S.-based Aldrich Chemical Company. The company began life in a garage and became highly successful, eventually merging with another business and making Dr. Bader’s original stake worth hundreds of millions of dollars by the time he was forced out in a corporate upheaval in the early 1990s.

Through all this time, he hung on to the shirt, a tangible memory of a period in his life that he had, with the support of Mr. Wolff, Queen’s, and others, ultimately used as the launch pad for a new and remarkable life in North America.

That life included extensive philanthropy, much of it directed toward Queen’s. He endowed awards, scholarships, and faculty positions. In 1993, he and his wife, Isabel Bader, funded the purchase of the 15th-century Herstmonceux Castle in England to serve as the International Study Centre (later named for the couple). The Baders also generously supported the Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts, and donated more than 500 paintings, sculptures, and various other works spanning the 14th to mid-19th centuries to the university’s Agnes Etherington Art Centre (the Bader Collection now stands as the most comprehensive Canadian collection of authenticated paintings by Rembrandt).

Dr. Bader had died by the time his shirt, which had been on exhibit at the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre, arrived at Queen’s.

“He would have been pleased that Queen’s has it,” says Isabel Bader, who offered the shirt to the university. “Queen’s meant so much to Alfred, and this is a chance to share something about the experiences of Jewish war refugees.”

It also represents the complex depth of war refugees’ experience, says Brendan Edwards, curator of the W.D. Jordan Rare Books and Special Collections and a team member for the Queen’s Refuge exhibit. When the authorities realized the refugees at Fort Lennox were not POWs, a patch was issued so the refugees could cover the red dot, he says. Some also wore the shirt inside out, further concealing the dot, “but it’s still next to your skin.”

“It creates a complexity that’s so valuable. When you’re studying history, it’s not straightforward.”

For Dr. Steinberg, artifacts and exhibits never tell the whole story. Instead, they offer ways into a larger narrative. He says migration, including forced migration, is part of human history, and Dr. Bader’s story is an opportunity to reflect on how we respond, or don’t respond, to refugees.

“I think of this exhibition is about: it’s about us.”

Refuge Canada explores themes of displacement and life in Canada as newcomers.

I WAS A FREE MAN, I HAD BEEN WELCOMED INTO A CANADIAN FAMILY AND HAD BEEN ACCEPTED BY A PRESTIGIOUS CANADIAN UNIVERSITY. Alfred Bader

25
Internment camps in Ontario, Quebec, Alberta and, New Brunswick

2.3K
German and Austrian Jewish refugees, aged 16-60, sent to Canada in 1940

1943
Fort Lennox internment camp closed

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Queen's University | PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
Faculty of Education
Most first jobs are the menial kind – scooping ice cream, mowing lawns – but Lieutenant-General Christine Whitecross’s first stop to becoming the country’s highest-ranking woman in the military brought a whole lot more first-job responsibilities: military engineer posted to Canadian Forces Base Baden in Hügelsheim, Germany.

I grew up in a very old-fashioned family with clearly defined gender roles and tasks. But my parents noticed early on that I was capable of doing more. They were very supportive when I chose to study engineering – even though traditionally it’s a very male-dominated field.

I joined the military at 19, while I was in second year at Queen’s, and took that role seriously. I was very focused and just didn’t have time for a part-time job, so I didn’t work throughout university, and then I went straight into the military. I guess in some ways I never really had a first job at all.

At 23, I was posted to Germany. I was actually born in Germany, and though I still don’t speak German, I loved living there. I lived in the base quarters, which are basically dorms – small rooms with a sink and a bed. You ate in the dining room, hung out with other junior officers, made fast friends because you’re all in →
the same boat. This is so important in the military, because you’re all so transitory and it could otherwise get pretty lonely.

My official day job was project planning, engaging with construction and maintenance, to develop all the approvals required for funding and implementation. I was responsible for many people and a big budget. There were a lot of meetings, writing proposals and reports, figuring out what people needed, and how those needs could be met using the resources we had.

Remember, this is 1986, so computers weren’t around. There were a lot of typewriters and memos, but also travelling and physically meeting people and discussing things in person. I look fondly back on those days of forced interpersonal skills that we don’t get much in today’s society. I’m glad I built those skills up when I did, because they became the foundation of my communication and leadership style.

Those were my normal work days – but because we were in the Cold War, the Canadian military were regularly practising our readiness. We’d have four-day exercises that happened once a month or so, where they’d knock on your door in the middle of the night and you’d drop everything else to be there instead.

You weren’t really sure what any day would look like, which was kind of the point. You learned to read any situation and react in a second-nature way without hesitating. By the time I finished my three years in Germany, the Berlin Wall was about to fall, I’d gotten married, and we were posted next in Alberta.

Thirty years later, although I wouldn’t have characterized it this way at the time, the hardest part of the job was always proving myself as part of the team, equally competent, there because I belonged.

Women had only recently been allowed to be military engineers, so there were women around, but few officers and almost no engineers. It took many years for me to not be the only woman in the room, but I’m glad I got to see the change.

– As told to Rosemary Counter

Telling the whole story

Curtis Carmichael, Artsci’16, remembers going to the library as a child, looking for inspiration, but coming up empty-handed.

“I wanted to read a Canadian story of a young person who was able to break the cycle of poverty,” he says, “because that was what I wanted to do.” The book didn’t exist, but that didn’t stop Mr. Carmichael from looking for it every time he visited the library. Eventually, without a blueprint to follow, he resorted to hard – and smart – work.

His efforts earned him a scholarship to Queen’s, where he was best known as a star wide receiver and the winner of the 2016 Russ Jackson Award as the U SPORTS “player who best exemplified the attributes of academic achievement, football skill, and citizenship.”

A native of Scarborough’s Block 13 neighbourhood, Mr. Carmichael experienced culture shock when he arrived at Queen’s. “I saw wealth for the first time in my life,” he says. It made him think about what it takes to achieve success. “I thought about the skills and mentalities and abilities that successful people have,” he says, “and I realized that these are things I saw in my own neighbourhood every day. And I knew that, with the right opportunities, we could train kids in any neighbourhood for a successful career.”

Thanks to his on-field heroics, Mr. Carmichael was on track for a successful career in professional football. He signed with an agent and made a big enough impression at the CFL combine that he was invited to join a couple of practice rosters. But matters off the field were vying for his attention, and he had to make a decision. “I had to figure out if I was more passionate about football or about the changes I could make in the world longterm,” he says. He made his choice, hung up his cleats, and returned home to Scarborough.

Today Mr. Carmichael is an award-winning social entrepreneur, STEM educator, keynote speaker, technologist, cross-Canada cyclist, and advocate for racial justice. And although he works in Block 13, he no longer lives there. Yet one thing remained unchanged since his childhood: that book
about a young Canadian breaking the cycle of poverty was still nowhere to be found.

“I figured once I became a teacher, I would be able to find that book somewhere,” he says, “but no such luck.” Mr. Carmichael recalled the words of author Toni Morrison: “If there’s a book you want to read, but it hasn’t been written yet, then you must write it.”

Butterflies in the Trenches is the result of Mr. Carmichael taking Morrison’s advice to heart. It tells the story of his childhood in Block 13 and the lessons he learned there that enabled him to evolve from a child drug dealer to a cross-country cyclist. “There are lots of stories about poverty, systemic racism, and police brutality,” he says, “but we forget about the beautiful things in those neighbourhoods – the community, the raw talent and genius, the love. I wanted to tell the whole story, the negative, the positive, and everything in between.”

But Mr. Carmichael wasn’t content merely to tell his story. He wanted readers to experience it right along with him. “I always wanted to write a book that readers could really immerse themselves in,” he says. And so he created an app that scans the book’s photos, giving readers access to videos and other interactive content. “I didn’t know it was going to be the world’s first augmented reality memoir,” he says, “I just did it, and later I realized that no one else was doing it.”

Whether they simply read the book or take advantage of the multimedia offerings, Mr. Carmichael hopes the experience will leave his readers feeling inspired to follow in his footsteps. “It’s not a feel-good story or a self-help guide,” he says. “It’s a blueprint to break the cycle of poverty so that kids can author their own life stories.”

Butterflies in the Trenches will be available exclusively through Curtis Carmichael’s website following a free virtual book launch through the Queen’s University Alumni Association on Nov. 30 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. www.curtiscarmichael.ca

— By Deborah Melman-Clement
Mice, bats, and a killer staircase

BY TONY ATHERTON

Fall of 2016: Kim Chatterson (BA’92) is skimming her Facebook feed when she comes across a post by the daughter of a friend, a young sometime client of Kim’s Montreal-based fitness business.

Jamie Handfield (PHE’19) is just starting her second year at Queen’s and her post is a picture of her with friends posing in tricolour gear on the porch of Jamie’s new student-quarter digs.

Kim smiles to herself with a certain maternal pride, then looks a little closer. Those steps. That transom above the door. The numbers painted on the transom: Two. Three. Seven.

Kim hurriedly writes a comment, which is all caps in her mind, if not on the page: “JAMIE, WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY HOUSE?”

Jamie remembers reading Kim’s comment. “I was floored,” she says. “What are the odds?” adds Kim.

Actually, the odds are probably pretty good. Queen’s students come and go, but Queen’s student houses are eternal, passed down from alumni to sophomores, from time immemorial.

In this case, the legacy house is 237 Alfred St., a Victorian-era brick semi. In the fall of 1989, it was passed down to Kim Chatterson and another friend from Montreal, along with three guys from Halifax. The boys moved out after second year and 237 hosted five girls
from then until grad.

Twenty-four years passed, mostly in three- and four-year increments for 237, as students came and went. The campus grew, the student-run pub Alfie’s was renamed the Underground, the internet changed everything.

Everything, that is, except how student houses changed hands. In 2016, Jamie and her four Montreal friends were bequeathed 237 by another Montréalaise on her way out.

“It was newly renovated, so that was attractive to us,” says Jamie.

Kim is jealous about the renovated kitchen. In the ‘90s, she says, “the kitchen was very basic, old wooden cupboards.” And 237 didn’t have a coin-operated washer and dryer in the basement as it does now.

Parties were common in Kim’s time. She remembers one party where “a few hours in... we decided it would be really fun to sign our kitchen wall with permanent marker.”

Jamie says 237 Alfred was a party house in her time, too, but often the revellers were rodents. There was the time that her roommate reached into the dryer, grabbed something soft and fuzzy, and pulled out a dead bat. That was preferable to the live bat that spent a week flying between the upstairs bedrooms, Jamie says.

At the beginning of fourth year, she says, the roommates returned from Montreal to find the house covered in mice poop. They disinfected everything with bleach, set traps, and waited for the exterminator, she says.

One feature of 237 Alfred impressed both generations of roommates: a narrow, winding set of back stairs to the kitchen. “It was just a hazard,” says Jamie. “We’ve all fallen down it, every single one of us.”

Kim admits the stairs don’t make a lot of sense in the modest house, but when the landlord sent someone to check on the house following the permanent marker incident, the back stairs allowed for a quick getaway.

The house’s real challenge, both agree, was its single washroom. “A typical afternoon in 237 Alfred was one girl on the toilet, one in the shower, and one brushing her teeth,” says Jamie. “During Homecoming, it would have been one brushing her teeth, one peeing in the shower, and one peeing in the toilet.”

“The four walls are one thing; it’s what went on [inside 237 Alfred] and the memories we share,” says Kim. “I will always look back on [that time] as the greatest years of my life.”

Tell us about the University District house you lived in and the memories you made: review@queensu.ca

FROM THE QUAA

Breaking down barriers

The pandemic has changed everything – including the ways our alumni connect.

With a new academic year underway at Queen’s, the campus community finds itself returning to a slightly more familiar routine than last fall, but with new processes and considerations – reminders of how the pandemic has changed how we work and live, in some ways, for the better.

It has been incredible to see alumni volunteers pivot and adapt in the spirit of remaining connected. The Queen’s Global Branch Network has created numerous opportunities for folks around the world to gather virtually through re-imagined events and initiatives – one example being the Queen’s Toronto Alumni Branch (QTAB) virtual spring Wellness Panel, an event that focused on the highlighted need for self-care during these unprecedented times, connecting alumni with wellness experts and guidance, as well as tools and resources for continued learning. We are thrilled to honour this virtual event at next year’s QUAA Awards Gala as the 2022 Initiative of the Year.

As QUAA President, one of the highlights of the past year and a half has been the presence of so many new faces and voices at virtual alumni gatherings and events. Now, more than ever, we are aware of the barriers to participation faced by a large proportion of the alumni community, including travel-related logistics and cost, physical accessibility, and beyond. With each virtual event, we find ourselves gaining a deeper understanding of what it means to be truly inclusive and how we can continue to do better going forward. Queen’s and the QUAA are committed to maintaining the inclusiveness of its events by continuing to provide virtual and hybrid participation options, even as we gradually resume in-person gatherings. Last year’s Homecoming marked the first of its kind – a large-scale virtual event meant to bring the Queen’s community together during a time of uncertainty. This year’s Homecoming was a showcase of all that we have learned and accomplished over the last 18 months, and a celebration of the new, better normal we are all creating.

Sincerely,

RICO GARCIA, PRESIDENT, QUAA

Tell us about the University District house you lived in and the memories you made: review@queensu.ca

QUEENSU.CA/ALUMNIREVIEW
A perfect little crucible

Inspired by the Fowler Herbarium, celebrated author Helen Humphreys goes back in time on a personal journey to a lost world.

BY TOM SPEARS

Helen Humphreys was exploring the Queen’s collection of tens of thousands of carefully preserved plants, some dating back more than two centuries, when a scent like a Christmas tree hit her. “A 150-year-old pine still smelled like a pine,” she recalls. And as she searched through dried and labelled plants of all kinds, she noticed that “a lot of things still smelled like they smelled when they were alive — things like ginger” and other aromatic plants. “The whole pine cabinet just smells like a pine forest, which is incredible. And pussy willows were still soft 100 years later.”

Even samples of grasses looked as though they had just been picked, she says.

“It taught me a few things about life and death. . . . Even though something is technically dead, what does that even mean?”

Ms. Humphreys, a novelist and poet, is a former writer in residence at Queen’s who now teaches a course in creative writing. She was exploring plant specimens at the Fowler Herbarium, part of the Queen’s University Biological Station on Opinicon Lake. It’s a storehouse of 144,000 plant specimens, which are pressed flat, mounted on backing, and kept in metal cabinets.

Ms. Humphreys calls it “a plant library,” and she recently spent a year there, doing research for her new book, Field Study: Meditations on a Year at the Herbarium.

“I’m not a botanist. I didn’t actually go to university at all,” she says. “I’m very interested in nature, and I write about nature. I was looking for a way to talk about people in nature through time, and the herbarium seemed like a perfect little crucible to examine this.”

It was a personal journey. “Increasingly in my own life, and especially as I get older and have incurred losses as we all do, nature becomes more important to me,” she says. But nature itself suffers losses — through climate change, through extinctions. She was trying to reconcile her growing reliance on nature with the fact that “nature is under attack from humans.”

“So, I thought: would I find any answers if I looked back in time?” And the herbarium, with collections that go back more than 200 years, was her conveyance. She spent a couple of days a week there for about a year in 2018–2019, examining
Some added personal touches, she says: “One collector... would write lengthy, page-and-a-half descriptions of what the day was like and what happened. He sometimes put dialogue in” from his companions in the field, and added photos. “So there are these little essays about the particular day when he went to get a cone off a pitch pine.” This opens a window into the lives of the people who tramped through forests and swamps to preserve a record of what grows (or once grew) in our country.

At least half the collectors were amateurs, often self-taught.

One British visitor to Canada hired an Algonquin translator who helped him record the Algonquin names for what he found. These are on the specimens’ labels.

As with any long project, she says, she had wonderful moments “and other moments where you think: What am I doing? Why am I looking at 144,000 plants?” But she got through it.

The book is illustrated with her own drawings and also scanned images of the plants, made by the herbarium. But Ms. Humphreys says no image can equal the feeling, texture, and smell of an actual plant from the past. As well, modern science can return to old specimens for DNA samples. She believes the early collectors would be thrilled.

Ms. Humphreys is working on her next book, a memoir about dogs.

thousands of specimens.

She made notes: “What were these collectors doing? Who were they? How was nature revered, regarded? What nature were they collecting?”

Starting with ferns (plants that evolved early in Earth’s history, long before the dinosaurs), she kept on through the whole collection, following the order of evolution.

Each specimen’s label tells who found the plant, and when and where. This relationship between collectors and plants drew her in.

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FOWLER HERBARIUM

Includes more than 140,000 plant specimens, some dating back to the mid-1800s.

Contains excellent collections of bryophytes, such as mosses, and vascular plants from the Canadian Arctic and Russia.

Each specimen is identified by species (and often subspecies) and annotated with information about where and when it was obtained and who collected it.

ENTER TO WIN A COPY

Just for our alumni: Read an exclusive excerpt of Helen Humphrey’s book online at queensu.ca/gazette/alumnireview.

Email us at review@queensu.ca and you will be eligible to win a copy of Field Study: Meditations on a Year at the Herbarium — put Field Study in your subject line and tell us in just a few words which plants, flowers, or trees transport you to another place or time. We’ll do a draw and announce the winner in the next issue of the Queen’s Alumni Review.
John Bonn, Bruce Engel, Bob Taite, and Jim Brennan
Meds’67, Law’90; Meds’67; Meds’67; and Meds’67, MSc’72
John Bonn, Bruce Engel, Bob Taite, and Jim Brennan, four of the original members of Meds’67, would like to share that they remain friends after first meeting 60 years ago during Frosh Week in September 1961. They got together last month for a game of golf and are looking forward to their 55th class reunion in the fall of 2022.

Joseph Bradley
Sc’58, MSc’64
Joseph feels older by the day after graduating but would like to announce that every year, week, and day have been more interesting than the last. He’s happy to report that things and events fill his life to the brim, which is why he hardly has time for the internet. By the way, he finds it is getting more invasive of the good life each day.

Nelson McCartney, Harold McCartney, and Harold’s grandson (Harold)
BSc’15 and Meds’60
This photograph of Nelson McCartney, likely in senior high school in the early 1900s, was taken looking northeast across the intersection of University Avenue and Johnson Street with what was Nesbitt’s grocery store on the first floor in the background. The scene is unchanged, with the exception that the grocery store is now a sushi restaurant. Nelson went on to enter mining engineering at Queen’s. His son,
Harold McCartney, also known as Mac to his family and friends, is also a Queen’s graduate. Harold’s grandson (Harold), has just entered his first year at Queen’s.

1970s

Janey Slack and Tim Bates
Arts’71, Ed’72 and Arts’71, Law’74
Heather Bates (Artsc’01, PHE’02) and Trevor, Ian and Anne-Elizabeth, Lilianne, Hadley, Fern, Henry, and Mac wish to congratulate their parents and grandparents Janey Slack and Tim Bates on their 50th wedding anniversary. Tim and Janey met at Queen’s during a Frosh Week dance in September 1967 and were married on Aug. 28, 1971.

Storme Blais
Ed’79
Storme Blais (née Genge, which is her Facebook name) is enjoying her eighth year of retirement from the Calgary Board of Education and winters in Puerto Vallerta, Mexico, with Jim MacNichol, celebrating 21 years together. Facebook contacts are welcome.

Rob Keith
Ed’71
Rob moved to G.P. Vanier School in Calgary as principal in January 2020, and now works as a yacht skipper and cruise and learn instructor with Cooper Boating in Vancouver and Island Cruising in Sidney, B.C., as time allows.

1980s

Peter T. Howe
Com’85
After 16 years in Europe leading three United World Colleges, Peter and his wife, Sally, have moved closer to home, with Peter taking up the headship of Somersfield Academy in Bermuda. They are looking forward to reconnecting with friends and family in Canada.

1990s

Tracy Pitcher and Charles McLeod
Artsci’93, Sci’95, MBA’00 (Laurier) and BASc’95, MASc’97, MBA’05 (York)
Tracy and Charles wish to announce that their son Charles (Hayden) is attending Queen’s this September. The two moved Hayden into Brant Hall on Sept. 2, their 22nd wedding anniversary and exactly 30 years after they met at Queen’s in 1991. Hayden is studying engineering and applied science, and is a Chancellor’s Award recipient. Tracy and Charles live in the U.K. (with their daughter), and can be reached at pitcher_tracy@hotmail.com.

Peter Scott
Artsci’93
Peter Scott, and his wife, Jessica Dolman, are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter, Meredith Rachel Scott Dolman, on April 1, 2021. Delighted family includes Meredith’s uncle, Jim Scott (Sc’90). Peter can be reached at peterevanscott@rogers.com.

2000s

Sean Friday
MBA’03
Sean Friday, retired Canadian Air Force Major General, who led Canada’s Royal Military College and served in many other roles in the Royal Canadian Air Force, has been named senior vice-president for M&A firm STS Capital Partners.
Previously, he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal from both Canada and the United States, as well as the Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal, among others, and is invested in the Order of Military Merit.

Michael Helfield  
MA’04
Michael misses his time at Queen’s (2002–2004). He is now working as a professional financial copy editor at PwC Canada (in Montreal) and as a freelance academic editor on the side; he enjoys keeping one foot in the scholarly world. Michael learns a lot each time he reads a manuscript or an article. He was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of his teacher and supervisor, Professor Caroline Falkner of the Classics Department – brilliant and hard working and a pleasure to be around – and made a modest contribution to the department in her honour. He stays in touch with Professor Kavanagh, who is a scholar and a (good-humoured) gentleman. He wishes everyone at Queen’s, in every unit and department, all the best. He hopes to visit sometime soon.

Sofi Papamarko  
Artsci’03
Sofi Papamarko and partner Lawrence Koch welcomed their daughter, Lena Rose, on April 14.

Christine Wright  
Artsci’05
She was known as Christine Douglas back in her Queen’s days. She goes by Christine Wright now and celebrated her 10th wedding anniversary on Sept. 4. Ten years ago, Christine moved to Houston, Texas. She is an international wedding photographer (Swish & Click Photography), published in People, Cosmopolitan, Redbook, Scary Mommy, PopSugar, and Yahoo. She has no human children but one furry one named Minerva.

2010s

Zoe Clarke  
Artsci’19
Congratulations to Zoe Clarke for her co-ordination of a Canada-wide marathon dubbed 205 Marathons with the aim of connecting Canadians from coast to coast (Victoria, B.C., to St. John’s, N.L.) this past summer. The marathon was a way for runners across Canada to come together while remaining safely distanced. The marathon involved 56 participants and raised over $5,000 in support of five charities: The Wildlife Conservation Society Canada, jack.org, True North Aid, Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness, and the Actors Fund of Canada.

Justin Heenan  
Artsci’15
Justin, a proud Queen’s graduate, would like to share that he is the 2021 recipient of the Educator of the Year Award from Special Olympics Ontario. He was very involved in the Special Olympics while in Kingston, and he attributes much of his success as a special education teacher and Special Olympics volunteer to what he learned at Queen’s.

Kaitlyn Meloche and Brandon Ratz  
Artsci’16, NSc’18, and Artsci’18
Congratulations to Kaitlyn Meloche and Brandon Ratz on their marriage on Sept. 25. The pair met at a wine and cheese party in 2015 at Kaitlyn’s student house on MacDonnell St.

Alexie Tcheuyap  
PhD’01
Congratulations to Alexie, who has recently been appointed University of Toronto’s associate vice-president and vice-provost, international student experience. Alexie was well-travelled during his academic career, having studied in Cameroon, the United Kingdom, and later in Kingston. Along with his other credentials, Alexie applies his direct experience as an international student to his role, offering his insight into the needs of students who are new to studying in Canada.

2020s

Dominic Szwed  
Artsci’20
Dominic recently began working at Toronto Research Chemicals (TRC) as an analytical chemist, where he, alongside others, including fellow Queen’s graduates, helps ensure the quality of compounds produced, including many that are vital to ongoing COVID-19 research.
Jennifer Kennedy
MBA’20
Jennifer has moved with Absorb Software Inc. to Tampa, Fla., to expand her team (to more than triple its size) and has opened up a new office downtown.

Emma Wilson
Arts’19, MSc’21
Emma is very excited to announce the women’s health research project she started during her graduate studies at Queen’s University is being published. Her paper, “Knowledge and Use of Cannabis in Pregnancy: An Ontario Public Health Needs Assessment,” will be available in the Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Canada very soon. She feels she could not have done it without the support of the incredible staff of the MSc program in anatomical science and Dr. Graeme Smith and Jessica Pudwell at KHSC.

Sherin Varghese
MBA’21
Congratulations to Sherin, who married his lovely wife in Dubai, UAE, on July 3, 2021. Due to the pandemic, they could not have a lot of people join them. However, they were grateful to have close family and friends join them on their special day.

A special shout-out to Sherin’s MBA team and cohort, who sent video messages for the special day.

Additionally, Sherin has started his new role at TD as a Graduate Leadership Program (GLP) manager. In Sherin’s own words, “2021 has been an exciting and blessed year so far.”

Wilda Helen Andriesky
BA’59, MA’61
On Sept. 19, 2021, in Kingston, in her 96th year. Wilda was a clinical psychologist who loved using her expertise to help children, working with school boards as well as in private practice. Wilda earned both her bachelor’s degree (honours) and her master’s degree at Queen’s.

It was at the university where she also met the man who became her husband, Mitchell Andriesky. Throughout her career, she received numerous awards and scholarships, including the Queen’s University Alumni Award in 2019 – 60 years after her graduation. In 2013, Wilda, along with her husband, Mitchell, received the Marsha Lampman Branch Volunteer Award by the Queen’s University Alumni Association for their commitment to the Kingston Alumni Branch. The award is presented to the alumnus/alumna who best exemplifies Marsha Lampman’s outstanding dedication and service to a branch of the Queen’s University Alumni Association. The couple also created the Mitchell and Wilda Andriesky Award to provide financial support to graduate students in the Department of Psychology, with a preference to a student in clinical child psychology. Wilda leaves family in England and friends Janice (Hoba) Gilmour, Mark Kallevig, Cecil Leonard, Martha Downey, Steven and Maryanne Silver, and Blaine Rosamund.

James Andrew Bates
BSc’50
James passed away peacefully at Southlake Regional Health Centre on March 10, 2021, at 95. He was predeceased by his wife, Helen Doreen Bates (née Gallaugher). James was the father of Sharon Penty (David), David Bates (Cindy), and the late Wayne Bates (Peggy). He will be missed by grandchildren Rebecca, Daniel, and Michael Penty; Scott, Cameron, Matthew, and Adam Bates; Lori and Michael Bates; Brad and Megan Balske; and great-grandchildren Caiden, Trinity, James, and Madelyn. Brother to Catherine Bullen and the late Ted, Bill, Bob, Dorothy McKee, and Betty Massey. On Feb. 12, he and Helen celebrated their 77th wedding anniversary. Jim was born in Irricana, Alta., in 1925. His family moved to Ontario during the Depression. In the Second World War, he was stationed in London, England, and returned to attend Queen’s University, where he got his degree in mining engineering. His work involved extensive worldwide travel; he will be greatly missed.

William R. Brunt Jr.
BSc’59
William “Bill” Ralph Brunt Jr., 85, passed on Jan. 19, 2021. Bill is survived by his loving wife of more than 60 years, Joan Marie Brunt, sons William III (Renée), John (Teresa), and five grandchildren: Lauren; William IV; Connor; Sarah; and Nicole. Also survived by several nieces and nephews and predeceased by sister Elizabeth “Tib” Carter and parents William and Helen Brunt. He married Joan in October 1960. A graduate of Queen’s University and a professional engineer, Bill began work at Horton CBI in 1960, where he dedicated his career until his retirement. Bill set standards in liquid natural gas storage design to increase...
IN MEMORIAM

Robert (Bob) Charles Donald Climie
BA’66, Meds’70
Bob died April 16, 2021, leaving to mourn his wife of 55 years, Leslie; their children Calvin (Heather), Jock (Virginia), Adam (Yvonne), and Gavin; and grandchildren Leah, Maev, Jaden, Lilly, and Ella. His daughter, Erin, predeceased him. Bob grew up in Red Rock, Ont.; he attended Port Collegiate in Thunder Bay. His football career took him to Lakehead University, Montana State, and Queen’s. He proudly played from 1963 to 1969, was co-captain of Queen’s Golden Gaels’ 1968 Vanier Cup champions, and generously supported the 1968 Golden Gaels Football Team Athletic Award during his life and thoughtfully in his estate. His medical career spanned 30 years in the military, from which he retired as a colonel, and he obtained his fellowship in community medicine in 1989. Donations to the Huntington’s Society of Canada are requested as this terrible disease took his daughter Erin’s life.

David Allan Dodd
BSc’60
David died on Aug. 9, 2021. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Diane Hodgston, Arts’62; his children Mary, Com’84, Michael, Com’86, Brian, and Theresa; and his six granddaughters, including Claire Dederer, Sc’19, and Leigh Dederer, Sc’21. David held roles with CP Railway, Industrial Development Bank of Canada, the City of Lethbridge, and the Canadian government. He retired as Director, Crown Corporations, for the Department of Industry, Trade, and Commerce at age 50. He founded the Kanata Baseball Association in the ’70s and coached many youth teams both then and after retirement. Queen’s remained dear to his heart, and he was immensely proud to see the third generation of Dodd graduates.

Ellen Frei
Arts’55
Ellen Frei, 87, passed away on March 1, 2021. Ellen is survived by her husband of 65 years, Jaroslav (John) Frei; her five children, Andrew (Marianne), Sibyl (Louise), Alex (Melony), Caroline (Mike), and Rosemary (Canty); her five grandchildren; Leah, Jeneen, Willem, Ariana, and Genevieve, her sisters-in-law Paula and Helena; nieces and nephews; cousins in the Netherlands; and many dear friends who have enriched her life. Ellen was a keen conversationalist, loved books and music, had a desire for spiritual community, and enjoyed making friends with people of all ages. She deeply loved her husband and children. Having lived on three continents and through some tough years, Ellen believed in giving to those in need.

Maurice (Mo) Daniel
BSc’66
Maurice (Mo) Daniel died on Aug. 6, 2020 – one day after his 83rd wedding anniversary with his wife, Doranne (Hamilton) Daniel, Arts’67. Mo is survived by his wife; their children, Terri, Ted (wife Mandy and son Will), and Beth (husband David, daughters Maya and Robyn); his brothers Ron and Joe (and their families in the Niagara region); brother-in-law Joe Hamilton (Mary Lou and their family); and sister-in-law Mary Micheal (husband Bob and family). His teaching career included Royal Military College, Frontenac Secondary School, and Loyalist College in Kingston, and schools in Sault Ste. Marie and Lahr, Germany. He became an administrator at Regiopolis-Notre Dame Catholic High School and was the founding principal at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School in Kingston. After retirement, Mo and Doranne opened a Sino-Canadian high school in China.

George Robert Gray
Meds’57
George won the Kingston Scholarship (KCVI) in 1950 at age 17, graduating from Queen’s Medicine in 1957. Classmates remember him for his little green car, which was habitually parked in the lobbies of school buildings. George developed the first Hemoglobinopathy Investigative Lab in B.C. at the Vancouver General Hospital (VGH). He made a lasting impact on the hematology and hemopathology scene throughout Canada, identifying many variant hemoglobins and mentoring many who became leaders in the field. George retired from VGH in 1998 and was division head of Hemopathology, Blood Bank, and Immunology 1981–98. He was on the Royal College Examination Board of Physicians and Surgeons and was a council member of the Canadian Medical Association. George was appointed president of the B.C. Association of Laboratory Physicians and the Pacific Northwest Society of Pathologists, and was also an emeritus associate professor of pathology at UBC.

Bruce Hamilton
BSc’43
Dr. Bruce McCoy Hamilton, 101, passed away Friday, April 2, 2021. Son of Harold Vivian Hamilton and Margaret (née McCoy), Bruce was predeceased by his first wife, Victoria (née Scott), his second wife, June (née Moulton), and his grandson Timothy Robert Hamilton. Bruce is survived by his children, Harold “Scott,” Robert (Julie), Elizabeth (Larry), John (Patricia), Christine (Bill), and Michael (Susan), and his 18 grandchildren, together with his 23 great-grandchildren. Born and raised in Hamilton, Bruce worked during the summers at the Steel Company of Canada while enrolled in the pre-engineering program at McMaster University and then the engineering program at Queen’s.
University. After graduating, Bruce embarked on a successful career in the steel industry, ultimately rising to the position of president and CEO at Slater Steel Company. During his life, Dr. Hamilton thoughtfully established a planned gift to create the Bruce M. Hamilton Endowment Fund for the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science.

Chabbi Lal
BSc'63
Chabbi Lal, 83, passed away Dec. 23, 2020. Chabbi arrived in Canada in 1958 with his best friend, Kyaw Maung Win, to study mining engineering at Queen’s. They came from the same hometown of Taunggyi, Burma (now Myanmar). After graduation, he returned to Myanmar and worked as an engineer for the government and later immigrated to Canada in 1968. He got a job at Inco in Sudbury and worked there continuously for nearly 30 years before he retired as a divisional planning supervisor. He was a true gentleman in every sense of the word and is survived by his wife, Tej, daughter Gita, son Amrit, and extended family.

Robert “Bob” William Rabjohn
BSc'57
Bob, 88, died at home in Mississauga, June 10, 2021. Beloved husband of the Reverend Mary (née Young) Rabjohn, Artsc'56, devoted father of Gordon Rabjohn (Kelley), Janice Jang (Steve), and Jill Heineth (Robert McClellan), grandfather of Cori (Jean-Luc), Robin, and Holly, BNSc'18, and predeceased by his brother Gordon. Born in Toronto, he graduated from Forest Hill Collegiate in 1952, and went on to take mechanical engineering at Queen’s University, graduating with a BSc in 1957. It was here that Bob and Mary met. Bob became the permanent secretary for his engineering year, arranging most of the reunions. After retiring from the Train Company of Canada (1954–1995), he focused on hobbies and travel with his wife. Bob also donated his time to many charitable endeavours, and in 2008, in recognition, he received an Ontario Government 50 Year Volunteer Award.

Albert J. Scholes
BSc’51
Albert J. Scholes passed away at St. Catharines General Hospital, March 2, 2021. He was the longtime friend and companion of Cathryne Horne of St. Catharines and her extended family, who often referred to him as Grampa Al. He is survived by his sister-in-law Rachel Tennant, daughter-in-law Sandra Scholes, granddaughters Victoria and Alexandria, nieces Jackie and Judy, and nephew John. Predeceased by his parents, John Scholes and Ellen Scholes, wife Madeline, brother John, son Brian, grandson Christopher Scholes, and his faithful dog Lucky. Al emigrated from England with his family in 1924. At 17, Al began working with the Misener ship lines, and by 20, he was a quartermaster. In 1942, he joined the Canadian Navy as a radar/radio operator for Canadian and Allied forces. After the war, returning to Canada and marrying Madeline Gaw, he obtained his engineering degree from Queen’s and worked at Ontario Hydro until 1980. During his life, Albert generously established a planned gift to benefit the Science ’51 Entrance Bursary.

William Joseph Edmund Spence
Meds’49
Dr. Bill Spence, husband of 65 years to Margaret (Peg) Spence of Toronto, died on Feb. 22, 2021. Bill is survived by children: Paul Spence (Cathy), Louisville, Ky; Frank Spence (Dinette Alvarez), Calgary, Alta.; Sandra Spence of San Francisco, Calif.; Bill Spence (Shelia), Petersfield, England; Julie Spence (Jeff Engel), Toronto; John Spence (Susan), Toronto; Jane Spence of Kitchener. Grandchildren: William, JP; Lisi; Sean, Christopher, Emma; Clare (Sabry); James, Lian (Engel); Quinn, Hamish, Ewan; Charlotte, Lila (Reid); and one great-grandchild, Penelope. He is predeceased by parents William Spence and Rose (Jordan) Spence, by brother Most Rev. Francis Spence, Seventh Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese, Kingston. Bill was a Queen’s University Meds’49 graduate and further studied at the University of Toronto’s surgical training program and in Bristol, England. He practised surgery at Toronto General Hospital from 1957 to 1994, and continued office practice and surgical rounds until age 96.

Bernard Fisher Trotter
MA’48
If you knew or ever met Geoff Smith, you’d understand why it’s well-nigh impossible to capture the man’s essence in print. He was a larger-than-life presence, an iconoclast with boundless energy, a probing intellect, peerless communication skills, and a wonderfully unbridled sense of humour that was coupled with an awareness of life’s absurdities.

Over the course of his 51-year association with Queen’s – 37 years as a professor in History (1969–2001), four years in Kinesiology (2002–2006), and 15 subsequent years as professor emeritus, Dr. Smith fashioned an enduring tricolour legacy.

His scholarly reputation was international. He was – among many other engagements – a longtime member of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations; he served nine years on the executive of the Peace History Society (including a 1995–97 stint as president); and in 2015 he accepted the group’s Lifetime Achievement Award.

In his writing life, while Dr. Smith’s insights were astute and nuanced, they were accessible to academics and lay audiences alike. As they say, the proof of that was in the proverbial pudding: his PhD thesis, published in 1973 as *To Save a Nation*, garnered a Pulitzer Prize nomination. What’s more, throughout his lengthy career, Smith’s articles, columns, and letters regularly appeared in academic journals as well as in newspapers and general-interest magazines. Then, too, he was a frequent guest commentator on radio and television – as he was on July 16, 2016, when, Cassandra-like, he cautioned listeners of CBC Radio’s *The Current* that those who underestimated newly crowned GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump did so at their own peril.

All that aside, it was in his role as classroom teacher that generations of alumni remember Geoff Smith best, and with such great fondness. Understandably so, for he was endlessly inventive when it came to finding ways to engage his students. For more than three decades, History 273: Conspiracy and Dissent in 20th-century America was one of the most popular undergrad lecture courses taught at Queen’s.

It often seemed as if Dr. Smith’s lectures were torn from that day’s headlines, yet they were never a one-way flow of information; he cared about his students and respected their opinions. That regard was reciprocated. A 2002 *Queen’s Journal* poll hailed History 273 as the “Best Class at Queen’s” while lauding Dr. Smith as “Best Professor.” A perennial nominee for campus teaching awards, in 2004 he received the Frank Knox Award, Queen’s top teaching honour bestowed by students. “Geoff Smith was known and loved for being entertaining at lectures and was generous with his time and energy that students so greedily sponge up,” says Mary O’Riordan, MA’83, Ed’83, one of his former students.

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Dr. Smith's sensitivities were integral to the person he was. After all, he came of age in the 1960s as a student at the University of California’s Santa Barbara and Berkeley campuses – the latter renowned as a hotbed of counterculture and student protest.

In 1969, Dr. Smith’s wife, Bonnie, was dismayed to learn that he had been offered a teaching job at Queen’s and wanted them and their three children to move to Canada “for a couple of years.” As it happened, that planned brief sojourn would last a lifetime. “Being [at Queen’s]... afforded me a degree of autonomy that I might not have had if I’d stayed in the U.S.,” he once explained. “I always felt free to speak, write, and teach what I consider to be critically constructive readings of history – America’s historic strengths as well as its weaknesses.”

Tall and athletic, Dr. Smith played Division One varsity basketball at Santa Barbara as an undergrad. The unfortunate legacy of that was the wonky knees that hobbled him in his later years and necessitated corrective surgeries. Despite this, Dr. Smith carried his “hoops addiction” to Queen’s, serving a stint in the early 1990s as an assistant coach with the men’s varsity squad and fundraising for both the men’s and women’s programs. And his boosterism didn’t end there. As a regular attendee at Gaels home games for half a century, he never hesitated to venture courtside to act as a cheerleader when he felt the home side needed a lift.

Kingstonians were also familiar with Dr. Smith’s unbridled enthusiasm and came to appreciate his commitment to progressive causes and peace activism. In the early 1990s, he had fun (and raised some hackles) as host of Mr. Fix-It, a weekly local cable television show that featured viewer call-ins, consumer advocacy, and ‘60s-style guerilla street theatre à la Michael Moore.

As a retiree, Dr. Smith continued to write, took up knitting (crafting scarves for friends), played guitar, painted, mastered social media, and mounted a spirited one-man campaign to curb student binge drinking, especially during the annual Homecoming Weekend celebrations.

In his sunset years, a series of falls in 2019 resulted in a concussion, and a battle with depression – an old nemesis that resurfaced after many years of dormancy. Both these afflictions took a toll on Dr. Smith’s physical and emotional health. Fortunately for him, he endured with the love and support of his second wife, sociologist and feminist scholar Roberta Hamilton. The two met in 1983, moved in together in 1986, and after 25 years as a couple, they wed in 2011.

Sadly, Dr. Smith’s planned sojourn of “a couple of years” at Queen’s came to an abrupt and unexpected end April 1. Three days after undergoing successful bowel surgery at Kingston General Hospital, his heart suddenly stopped and could not be revived.

"The only downside of knowing Dr. Smith is losing him," says Mary O’Riordan. “In retrospect, the best lesson he taught was to simply embrace life. If we ever prove to be the people that Geoff – athlete, historian, and friend – said we could become, then his spirit has moved on to the next generation.”

Geoffrey S. Smith, professor emeritus, longtime faculty member of the Department of History and the School of Kinesiology and Health Studies, died in Kingston, April 1, aged 80.

Ken Cuthbertson was one of Geoff Smith’s former students and protégés who, for more than 45 years, was lucky enough also to be one of his friends.
A parting gift

Four Directions gives beaded Qs to graduating Indigenous students.

Convocation is always a special time at the Four Directions Indigenous Centre.

The place is a second home for many Indigenous students, and every year Four Directions staff attend new graduates’ convocations. Families are invited back to the centre for a small celebration. Students also add their painted handprint to a publicly displayed mural that features Indigenous graduates from previous years.

Due to the COVID-19 postponement of in-person convocation ceremonies, Four Directions is hoping a gift of Indigenous art – a colourful beaded Q – will help make up for not having a traditional graduation.

About 50 beaded Qs, made by Indigenous artists, are part of a graduation gift basket.

“We weren’t able to do any of our usual convocation celebrations that students really look forward to, so we wanted to make something a little personal and traditional,” says Four Directions Cultural Counsellor Lisa Doxtator.

The idea of giving a beaded Q was inspired by fourth-year Indigenous nursing students who run a mental-health sharing circle. They made Ms. Doxtator a beaded Q brooch as a thank-you gift at the end of their project in 2020.

Beading has been part of Indigenous culture and history for thousands of years, and Four Directions runs a beading workshop led by a professor once a week.

Ms. Doxtator describes the act of beading by students as “Indigenous therapy.”

“There are so many skills involved in beading – each bead is sewn by needle and thread, one at a time. So, you have to have a lot of patience and the ability to focus. There is pride involved in the student’s work that they have made something that their ancestors have been doing forever,” says Ms. Doxtator, who is proud to see several former students now making money by selling beaded jewelry and earrings. — Michael Onesi
Is it time to reset the way you protect your loved ones?

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