



Winter/Spring 2021

GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR

We are happy to be in touch again with the Ban Righ Centre community of friends – that's you! This newsletter captures a few of the highlights of this year - I hope you find it interesting and maybe even inspiring.

Ban Righ Centre staff have been working from home since March 2020. This has brought new challenges for connecting with students, but all in all it's been a successful year. We focused our efforts on student outreach, and are actually reaching more students now than we were pre-pandemic. Students have been taking advantage of remote student advising and joining in our virtual programming.

While we can't wait to see our students in person again, this pandemic has shown us that a hybrid of in-person and virtual programming will be the most inclusive way to maintain a vibrant Ban Righ student community once we are back.

Happy Spring, everyone!

Susan Belyea,
Director of the Ban Righ Centre

SPRING AWARDS: SAVE THE DATE

While we can't gather together for our annual Spring Celebration this year, we are excited to announce a video production of the **Ban Righ Foundation Spring Celebration 2021** premiering on Facebook **April 29 at 7:00 pm.**



2021 Ban Righ Foundation Spring Celebration Co-produced and Directed by Kris Abbott and Janice McLean

You are invited to attend the 2021 **Ban Righ Foundation Spring Celebration**

honouring the determination,
character, and achievements of
mature women students at Queen's.

Awards and bursaries in several categories
will be announced in this virtual ceremony.

Date: Thursday, April 29

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Facebook

Visit facebook.com/TheBanRighCentre
to find out more information and to RSVP.

All are welcome to attend.

If you don't have access to Facebook,
please e-mail us at banrighcentre@queensu.ca
or call 613-533-2976.



BAN RIGH FOUNDATION

2020-2021 EVENTS

Winter Celebration

Every year we invite student mothers to bring their children and gather at the Centre for fun activities and a good meal. This December, Ban Righ Centre board members and staff created gift bags that were delivered to student moms at their homes. Each gift bag included games and activities for the family as well as grocery gift cards and some small gifts for the mom.

On December 11th, Ban Righ Centre staff caravanned through the city, delivering gift bags to the families.

At the end of the day, meals were delivered to the families, and we gathered on Zoom for a virtual Winter Celebration Feast. Ban Righ Staff, board members, student moms and their kids connected to share stories and some laughs, and to exchange hints for surviving the winter. It truly was one of the best things we pulled off in 2020!



Inspiring Women

In October 2020 we hosted a virtual version of our signature Inspiring Women event. Thanks to generous donations from an anonymous benefactor, the Ban Righ Foundation offers two awards to honour women who inspire others. The Mentorship Award recognizes a Queen's faculty member who demonstrates mentorship and knowledge sharing and has been inspirational to a student or students. The Leadership Award recognizes a Kingston community member whose leadership builds capacity and fosters opportunities for others, and who has been an inspiration in the community.

The Inspiring Women Award winners for 2020 were:

Mentorship Awards



Dr. Beverley Mullings



Dr. Burcu Baba

Leadership Award



Dr. Terri Lynn Brennan

Watch
Inspiring Women: Together
in 2020
on our website at
banrighcentre.queensu.ca
You can read more about
the award winners in the
Queen's Gazette story
linked to our website

STUDENT MATTERS/STUDENTS MATTER

Hello Ban Righ Sisters,

I was introduced to your centre for mature women during a very difficult time. After talking things through with Lisa, I found the support and care that I needed despite having never stepped foot on Queen's University Campus.

I live in Rockland, East of Ottawa and for two years, I've been taking online courses in the Health Sciences Program to improve my W GPA. My goal is to get into one of three Physician Assistant Programs available in Canada. I believe that combining a medical degree with my Master of Social Work would enhance my ability to work within many diverse communities. I would be honoured to serve the Métis community and to work with urban Indigenous Peoples with an emphasis on Elder care. My entire life has been about chasing dreams and I've been able to achieve many of those dreams through opportunities both during and after earning five post-secondary degrees. I am who I am because of the people who helped propel me forward and who would not let me give up. Lisa is one of those very special people.

Outside of academia, my passions are in the outdoors, fishing, artwork, wood and metal working, gardening, and composing and playing music. I play acoustic, and electric guitar, mandolin and have recently taken up the fiddle. I still have a lot to learn on the drums. Most of all, I feel so lucky to be able to share this home with my mom whom I've committed to care for no matter what comes tomorrow.

So much life ahead of me....so much left to do and learn. I am super excited for the future. Thank you Ban Righ for helping me get there. I am forever grateful for the hard work, compassion, and empathy. I will no doubt find a way to offer my gratitude in return one day.



Helen Pace, MSW RSW
Part time Student
Health Science Program

FUNDRAISING

The Ban Righ Foundation continued to receive substantial gifts from our donors this year.

In December, Dr. Janet Farooq generously offered to match donations to the Janet and Ghazi Farooq Bursary during our annual appeal. Funds go directly to providing financial assistance to students.

Three new endowed bursaries will help us to assist mature women students who are facing financial challenges.

Ineke and Henk Wevers Bursary
Claude Chapdelaine Bursary for Mature Women
Weidemann & Pitre Memorial Bursary

Our sincere thanks to all of you who have made a priority out of giving to the Ban Righ Foundation this year. Your gifts – large and small – make a difference.

You can help us with our mission to provide mature women students and student mothers with the services and supports that help them thrive at Queen's University.

Donations can be made through our website at
banrighcentre.queensu.ca/donors
or mail a cheque made out to
Queen's University (Ban Righ Centre)
to:

Queen's University
Gift Services
Old Medical Building
99 University Avenue
Kingston, ON K7L 3N6

IN MEMORY

The Ban Righ Foundation community bids farewell to some key friends:



Helen Anderson (1925-2021)
As one of the founders of the Ban Righ Foundation, Helen holds a special place in our hearts. Her legacy endures in the work of the Ban Righ Centre, and through the Helen Bracken Anderson Bursary.



Dorothy Parnell (1919-2020)
was a steadfast supporter of the Ban Righ Foundation. Her legacy endures through the Dorothy Matheson Parnell Bursary, awarded annually at our Spring Celebration.

Shirley Brooks Purkis (1919-2020) was a devoted friend to the Ban Righ Centre, and a loyal attendee of our Spring Celebration.

WHO ARE WE?

Whether the doors to the Ban Righ Centre at 32 Bader Lane are open or closed, our ability to provide supports and services to students relies on knowledgeable and dedicated staff.

Ban Righ Centre staff have been working harder than ever to provide student support via Zoom, email, and telephone. It takes creativity, time, and persistence to stay connected with our students. We provide one-on-one student advising; host online daily drop ins, and offer special online programming including Yoga, Daily Stretching, Discussion Groups, and more.

Ban Righ Centre Staff

- Susan Belyea: Director
- Gamila Abdalla: Student Advisor
- Lisa Webb: Student Advisor and Events Coordinator
- Nikisha Grant Ridley: Administrative Support



Lisa Webb, a Ban Righ Student Advisor, is the 2021 recipient of the Principal’s Michael Condra Outstanding Student Service Award. The annual award is presented to a member of Queen’s faculty or staff who has provided outstanding service to students. We couldn’t be prouder!

Ban Righ Foundation Board of Directors 2020-2021

- Nancy Butler (co-chair)
- Erin Clow
- Mel Cote
- Sylvie Charlebois
- Amber Hastings -Truelove
- Julia Jansen-van Vuuren
- Blake Noyes
- Sara Perosa
- Alka Sood
- Ellie Sadinsky
- Xin Sun (co-chair)
- Connie Taylor
- Asha Varadharajan
- Lisa Webb
- Susan Belyea