

More news

Spring/Summer 2021



Inspiring Excellence

USSU Teaching Excellence Award Recipient
Dr. Allison Smith (PhD)



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Spring/Summer 2021

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Cover photo - Jacquie Berg

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Recently I had the privilege of addressing the graduates of the Saskatoon Theological Union and reflecting on the challenges of the pandemic for members of faith communities like theirs and ours. At that point we were just into the Easter season and the third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. It seemed inescapable to ponder what this central event of our faith might have to say about the predicament we find ourselves in – now over a year into the global pandemic. When the pandemic “ends” and restrictions are lifted, will we go *back* to the way life was before the first cases appeared? Or will we go *forward* into a future that we will need to remake from all the wreckage of the pandemic?

In one of the defining Gospel readings associated with Easter, Luke describes two disciples on the way to Emmaus who find themselves in just such a liminal moment. They are trying to make sense of the death of Jesus and at the same time reports that the tomb where Jesus' body was laid is now empty. Into their intense conversation, teetering between despair and hope, Jesus makes himself present – but he does not reveal his identity. Is that because Jesus deliberately hides himself from them, or because they just could not recognize the risen and transformed Christ? As they near their destination, Jesus seems to be leaving them until they beg him to stay with them. Finally, and only in the sharing of a meal, do they recognize Jesus; but as soon as they do, he vanishes from their sight.

As mysterious as this Gospel is, it is not hard to see parallels between that existential crisis and ours. For those early disciples, the alternatives were stark: death or resurrection. Like them we also teeter at times between despair and hope, but the alternatives before us are more nuanced. Maybe the pandemic has destroyed so much that we will carry on but never fully recover. Maybe the pandemic will subside to the point that we will rebuild what remains of the world we've lost. Or maybe we will build anew the world that we *want* to live in. I suspect we are all intensely discussing these options as we ponder our responsibilities as citizens of Canada and our local communities. What if we consider these options as members of St. Thomas More College (STM), where we say that we are “called to share in Christ's service to the people of God”? If Christ continues to be present with us in our journey through the pandemic, how

do we recognize Christ? And how do we make Christ present to others who are hungry for truth and meaning in a world that is so clearly out of our control?

For, as we all know, we face more than a public health crisis: there is also the economic crisis it has spawned; the climate crisis that continues to grow; and the social crisis rooted in the calls for racial justice. All of us have a role to play in addressing each of these crises; but as members of the STM community, I believe we have a special responsibility to show leadership in another crisis that is woven through all of them: some call it the “crisis of truth”. It predates the pandemic but has been intensified by it – and it shows no signs of going away.

The crisis of truth runs through all the others because without agreement on facts about the world, the other crises can be denied, and action deferred. We are so awash in information today that we frequently do not know what is true, and what we *wish* were true. It is now entirely possible to get all of our news and opinions about the world from a single media source that reinforces our beliefs and omits any editorial content that would offer a different view. We already know how pervasive this is, and how dangerous it is, for a democratic society such as ours. As optimistic as we might be that the lessons we learn from the pandemic will lead us to build a better society, there is plenty of reason to fear that the pandemic may actually deepen the divides between us.

We could point fingers in many directions – at politicians, at the media (including social media), at all the “others” whose views frustrate and perplex us. Instead, let's consider what we will do in this liminal moment – as faculty, staff, students, alumni, and supporters of STM.

If higher education is truly a social good, all of us who have received its benefits have an obligation to address the crisis of truth. Not to be simply satisfied with first reports or interpretations of any event, we must be prepared to *search* for the truth, piecing it together from different sources and sifting through details critically. In this process we must use our moral compass at every turn, especially when faced with views in conflict with our own. If we are to educate others, we must lead the way in practicing the art of seeking and verifying truth before we communicate it to others.

All of us carry this mission into a world hungry for truth and meaning. In a society that cannot agree on factual truth, the truth of faith will be that much harder to convey and accept. But factual truth will not satisfy our hunger for meaning. We need to dig much deeper to find and maintain meaning that will sustain us. As a community rooted in a tradition that sees faith and reason as ultimately compatible, we have the momentous task of inviting others to see the Gospel as speaking truth to us today.

Now, if Jesus models for us the new life of the Gospel, it is worth noticing again what he does on the road to Emmaus. He journeys together with two believers who are crushed by the tragedy of his death. He humbly listens to them, allowing them to lay out their spiritual dilemma. Having heard them out, he calls out their lack of faith, but he also feeds them intellectually, “opening the Scriptures” to them, explaining what they already believe but have not understood. Only after that preparation, are they able to see the risen Jesus for who he is. No wonder they cannot wait to share what they have seen.

In our long period of waiting, we have ample time for spiritual preparation. In this fruitful waiting, this intense searching for what to believe and how to act on it, we are rehearsing for the future. Ministers of truth and hope have never been needed so much as they are now. As citizens of STM, let us lead in the search for truth, and follow it back to its source. When our minds are renewed in that way, we will be able to share the hope that is within us. This can be our gift to one another, and to all who are seeking to make a better world.

Dr. Carl N. Still, PhD
President
St. Thomas More College

DEAN'S MESSAGE



This has been a memorable year (if I can characterize it as such: phrases like “hard slog of a year” and “a year from hell” come to mind!). What an experience!

The academic year 2020-21 will be a turning point in our professional lives. We did switch to remote delivery in the final couple of weeks last year, but this is the first full year we went wholly remote, changing the way we see ourselves and do the things we do for work. A full-bore use of technology, no physical interaction with our fellow faculty and staff or students, no standing in front of the class and speaking to eager students, making our pedagogy almost fully written-word-based and foregoing the pleasures of the spoken word directed to a live audience.

I don't know how many of you enjoyed it. To be sure, we liked some things: the fact that we stayed home, didn't have to follow a strict schedule of classes, and generally had more time with our family; but the absence of direct contact with our students, to see them, feel their reactions, and respond to their questions in a classroom setting... I am sure we missed all of that. Is teaching as we know at an end? Will we all become machines, speaking to machines through machines? Is this the first real step toward The Matrix?!

I do hope not. In Britain and the United States, where they have vaccinated a good portion of their populations, the infection rates are declining and I am hoping something similar would happen here in Canada within the next two or three months, and that by September, we are back in classes. Of course, there will be some remote classes in the future, no question. But it is the total absence of in-person classes that was tough to live through.

So, friends, give yourself a pat on your back for what you have accomplished this year. That is the big story over the last eight months: how we adapted to a rapidly changing world, how we reimagined our profession and self-perception as teachers, and how we, despite the digital distance, maintained contact with our students and shaped their budding selfhoods. As I said, this has been a memorable feat! As your Dean, I congratulate you all, both faculty and staff, for the great work you've done this year, and thank you for the grace you showed under such tremendous pressure.

Personally, I was glad this year not to have been in the faculty ranks and do all that remote teaching; am even more glad that I will be on leave next year and trying to get my teaching mojo back; and happiest that I will be returning to faculty ranks the year after. I've missed it.

It's been a great privilege to serve as the Dean of STM over the last five years. I look back fondly over my tenure as the Dean and feel proud of things we have accomplished: College Plan 2025, the creation of the Centre for Faith Reason, Peace, and Justice, the various certificate programs, the new CBA, Academic and Financial Partnership Agreement with the University, and so on. I am grateful for the support I have received from you all, especially faculty and staff. It's been a wonderful experience.

And I would like to thank especially Tammy Marche, our Associate Dean, who's been a pillar of support over the last four years, and, of course, Gail Morrison, my Executive Assistant, and Laura Mitchell, our Academic Administrative Assistant, for their invaluable support.

I wish you all a great spring and a relaxing and healthy and a Covid-free summer. We all deserve it. Thank you!

Dr. Arul Kumaran, PhD
Dean, St. Thomas More College

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ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Dr. Saeed Moshiri (PhD) 2021 St. Thomas More College (STM) Teaching Excellence Award

by Dr. Zachary Yuzwa (PhD)

STM Teaching Excellence Award Nominees: Henri Biahé, Shakti Brazier-Tompkins, Jennifer Briere, Amanda Devitt, Tina Greenfield, Fachrizal Halim, Meera Kachroo, David Lane, Saeed Moshiri, Banjo Olaleye, Allison Smith, Zachary Yuzwa

STM Teaching Excellence Award Honourable Mention: Shakti Brazier-Tompkins

We know all the ways in which this past year has presented real challenges for teaching and for learning here at the college. But instead of repeating what made this year difficult or unprecedented, I would prefer to draw your attention once more to something we have long known to be true: faculty at STM are deeply committed to our students and their learning. I would prefer to remind you about all the incredible ways in which our faculty responded to the demands of remote learning, implemented new pedagogies, shared their knowledge, shared their support, shared their deep care for students even though we could not gather together in classrooms, in offices, over coffee in the cafeteria. Our faculty had to create new spaces of encounter and in a kind of virtual reality. As the chair of the teaching committee this year, I had the opportunity to hear from many of my colleagues about how they solved the problems of distance to give our students opportunities to learn just as deeply, even if a bit differently.

The college has its own annual teaching award which recognizes faculty who make outstanding contributions to teaching and learning at STM. Any member of the college community can nominate an instructor for this recognition. This year, the teaching committee was inundated with nominations for the college's teaching excellence award. We received twelve nominations in total - as identified above. Of those nominees, seven chose to submit an application, and every single submission was deserving. For members of the teaching committee, this was a lot of reading, but it was joyful reading. In every application, you could see the care that our colleagues pour into their teaching. And I think it is further evidence that STM faculty, in a difficult year for so many, made a real effort to support students and ensure their



success. The teaching committee would like to congratulate everyone nominated for the Teaching Excellence Award and thank those students and other members of the college community who submitted nominations.

When we met as a committee to adjudicate the awards, we were deeply impressed by all the submissions. Two nominees stood out in particular, and the committee decided that it needed to award an honourable mention this year. That recognition was given to Shakti Brazier-Tompkins. As a committee, we were impressed by her thoughtful teaching philosophy and her innovative pedagogies. We all remarked on the care that she took to reimagine her courses for a remote context. In the nomination letters, some themes stood out: passion for teaching, care for students, adjectives like kind, thoughtful, genuine. But one student wrote: “Professor Brazier-Tompkins is by far one of the best teachers I have had throughout my entire learning experience.” Many of her nominators articulated the same innovative pedagogies and care for students that the committee noticed, but statements like this make something absolutely clear: Shakti's teaching has made a lasting impact in someone's life. As a teacher, what higher goal could there be? Congratulations, Shakti on this Honourable Mention.

Finally, the teaching committee is pleased to name Saeed Moshiri the winner of this year's Teaching Excellence Award. The sheer breadth

of Saeed's contributions to teaching at the college and in his discipline was incredible. What quickly became clear in reading his submission is that Saeed is a true teacher-scholar, a model for how we as faculty might integrate our research into the work of our classrooms, and not only use research to enrich the learning experience of students but also use the experience and the contributions of students to compel further research.

Saeed's teaching moves seamlessly from the classroom fundamentals of economics to cutting edge research to its application in real-world scenarios. And he encourages his students not only to see but experience the consequences of economic decision-making in their own lives. On the committee we remarked on his innovative use of MobLab, a virtual learning environment that allows students and researchers to understand and test the behavioural principles that underlie the economic theories Saeed teaches in his classroom. You might have read about this work in a previous issue of More News. His students clearly appreciate this approach. One nominator described his teaching this way: “Correct, passionate, up to date with technology.” But what struck us was that student's recognition that this is in service of real learning. They continue:

“Above all, Professor Moshiri has encouraged us to become better students.”

This is evident throughout Saeed's teaching practice: he regularly leads his beginning students through a first-year research experience; in second-year classes he encourages students studying environmental and energy economics to identify local issues, analyze them and propose solutions based on their learning in the course. But Saeed's contributions to teaching and learning move beyond the undergraduate classroom. He has helped develop new courses at USask; he has published on the scholarship of teaching and learning; he has supervised graduate students; he has contributed to learning in the broader community. In short, Saeed has demonstrated consistently and over a distinguished career a commitment to teaching excellence.

Congratulations, Saeed.

FIRST CCSA ON-LINE CONFERENCE GREAT SUCCESS

by Michael MacLean

St. Thomas More College (STM) Campus Ministry hosted the first-ever On-line Canadian Catholic Students' Association (CCSA) conference on January 21-24 this year. Due to COVID students couldn't gather in person, but connected virtually over four time zones to reflect on the theme "Heart Speaks to Heart".

The conference began on January 21st with an opening mass presided by Bishop Mark Hagemoen. This was special for the local host team, since STM's chapel has been closed to the public since last March. This was an exceptional moment as the Newman Executive from St. Thomas More College safely gathered in person at the STM chapel, while students tuned in from across the country. The conference was certainly a prayerful one, as Friday's activities opened with a Vespers service presided by STM Campus Minister Fr. Andre Lalach.

Fr. Raymond Lafontaine was the keynote speaker Friday, and offered a talk entitled, "Heart speaks to Heart: The message of St. John Henry Newman for Catholic students ... and everybody!" Fr. Raymond gave an historical account of Newman's life, including prayers, pictures, and song lyrics Newman wrote. He talked about Newman's "The Idea of a University", how his writings influenced Vatican II, and how he was a champion of conscience. Newman emphasized the importance of solid relationships: with God, self, family, friends, and the community. Lafontaine went on to talk about what Newman would say to university students today. He felt Newman would advocate for students to attend to their inner and outer experiences, to form and obey their conscience and nourish their imaginations. He talked about how Newman encouraged people to engage the culture, by reading poetry, and was sure that he would tell today's students to see movies, experience art, and listen to great music.

Fr. Raymond's lecture was followed by the dedication of the St. Thomas More College's Student Lounge to St. John Henry Newman. The evening's last activity was an enjoyable Choose your own Adventure game, entitled "Pilgrimage to STM!".

Saturday was a jam-packed day filled with many different activities, including an opening prayer by Deacon Harry Lafond. Harry led us in prayer while burning sage, letting our prayers and the smoke rise to the heavens, knowing that God, our Creator hears them.

Ava MacLean, Metis educator and Saskatoon Catholic School teacher led the talks that day



Pictured, a collage of conference participants and speakers, some in vestments, some in masks, and some sporting their Cross Country Olympic toques, mittens and shades.

by sharing her experience of heart speaks to heart: building community on the University of Saskatchewan campus, getting involved with the CCSA in national leadership, and representing Canada at international International Movement of Catholic Students (IMCS) events in Italy and Mexico. She quoted Dr. Frederick Buechner, saying "Vocation is the place where our deep gladness meets the world's great need." She talked about how God speaks to us, and how we need to respond to that call. Conference participants responded positively to Ava's talk, saying, "I learned a lot about making the most of University and discernment of your vocation(s) from Ava."

Dr. Kevin Ahern of Manhattan College addressed the conference with a talk entitled "(Re)Discovering a Spirituality of Action". Kevin spoke of his university years with the National Catholic Students' Coalition, (the American version of the CCSA), and his leadership with the IMCS (International Movement of Catholic Students). He asked key questions to conference participants, like: "What does it mean to be a Catholic student leader in the world today?" and "What does it mean to witness to the Gospel (to evangelize) as a student leader?" Kevin talked about how a missionary spirituality calls students to be active agents in transforming the world. He used Pope Francis' words to encourage conference attendees to "make a mess." Pope Francis said, "Dear young people, make the most of these years of your youth... Whatever you do, do not become the sorry sight of an abandoned vehicle... dream freely and make good decisions. Take risks, even if it means making mistakes."

Saturday afternoon was the CCSA's AGM, followed by a fun evening activity entitled, the Cross Canada Olympics. One of the results of the AGM was a newly elected CCSA Executive Board. Students from Campion College, Newman at the University of Toronto, King's University College, St. FX and Mount Allison will comprise the new Executive. Many thanks to outgoing Exec members Adam, Molly, and Hannah!

Sunday morning for CCSA-ers meant tuning in to SaskatoonMass.com to join St. Augustine's Parish community for mass with Fr. Kevin McGee. STM Campus Minister Celeste Woloschuk led the music ministry. Students from all around Canada were able to join virtually in prayer.

The final wrap up session was led by Sr. Michelle Garlinski SNJM from Winnipeg. Sr. Michelle checked in with the group to see where their hearts were at, challenged them to prioritize all the choices in their lives, and encouraged participants to make good ones. Sr. Michelle sits on the board of the National Association of Formation and Vocation Directors, who made a generous financial donation to help this virtual conference to be realized. The CCSA also thanks the generosity of STM for their financial support. The theme "Heart speaks to Heart" rang true and demonstrated the fact that even if the national conference isn't held in person, participants from across the country can still be connected. One of the students parting comment was, "I loved everything, but I especially loved the sense of community!" Heart really DOES speak to heart. Thanks St. John Henry Newman!



A Liturgy for New Times: Launching the College Plan 2025 in Prayer

by Celeste Woloschuk

This year, St. Thomas More College launched its new College Plan 2025. As part of this launch, in January, we came together in prayer, in ceremony, and in liturgy to ask for God's blessing on the Plan and on all of us as we work to bring it from word to action. In pre-pandemic times, this kind of event would have been an occasion to pull out all the stops - decorate the Chapel to the nines, invite absolutely everyone to gather, get all dressed up, and have a grand celebration. This was not feasible in our current reality. However, this limitation proved to be a wonderful challenge and opened us up to possibilities we had not previously considered.

What resulted was a celebration which brought our College together in prayer in a new way, while also digging our spiritual roots deeper into good soil. The liturgy was held virtually, with participants all joining together on a video call, as keeping each other safe in these

times calls us to stay apart, stay home. We in Campus Ministry had tested and practiced virtual liturgies throughout the Fall, with our weekly live streamed Liturgy of the Word and Divine Liturgy, as well as September's Academic Mass. The STM College Plan launch liturgy would be a combination of our experiences during the Fall. Streaming over a video call allowed participants to be present in prayer and worship together in real time, which helped to thin the space between us. And though the gathering was virtual, the call itself was anchored through our Chapel, connecting all of us to our sacred ground on campus.

The celebration was also rooted in the College Plan itself, to bring the Plan into action even as we participated in its launch. Focusing on the priorities of Hospitable Catholicism and Authentic Indigenization, the liturgy was created collaboratively to weave together Indigenous ceremony and Catholic tradition to make one cohesive liturgy and allow for full participation in a virtual setting. Combined with the gifts, talents, and participation of so many, it came together as a wonderful, prayerful experience.



STM Scholar on Indigenous Education, Deacon Harry Lafond leading online Liturgical College Plan launch

A recording of the liturgy is available on the STM Campus Ministry YouTube channel. Special thanks go to Elders AJ & Patricia Felix (Sturgeon Lake First Nation) and Deacon Harry Lafond (Muskeg Lake First Nation) for their leadership and for their powerful witness of faith, knowledge, and love in the liturgy and in our community. And many thanks to those who gave their time in service behind the scenes and in front of the camera to bring the liturgy to life. May God, Creator of all things, continue to bless us as we journey with our STM College Plan 2025.

The STM Campus Ministry Team

are still available to journey with you during this time of stress and anxiety. Send the team a note on Facebook or email us to set a time when we can meet electronically:

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Fr. Andre - alalach@stmcollege.ca Gertrude - grompre@stmcollege.ca

Faith
Reason
Peace
Justice



Dr. Chris Hrynkow

ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE UNVEILS NEW ACADEMIC CENTRE

Dr. Chris Hrynkow (PhD) appointed to lead **Centre for Faith, Reason, Peace, and Justice**

January 29, 2021 St. Thomas More College (STM) held a virtual launch of their new Centre.

The first director of STM's Centre for Faith, Reason, Peace, and Justice (CFRPJ) is Dr. Chris Hrynkow, who is also the head of the Department of Religion and Culture. Three founding community partners are part of the advisory committee for the new centre - the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools and the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan.

For Dr. Hrynkow, the launch of the centre was a culmination of many years of effort. "The Centre has been in the works for at least a decade, in various forms, and a lot of visioning work was done since the creation of the Catholic Studies and Critical Perspectives on Social Justice and Common Good Minors," Hrynkow said. "We are now trying to bring alive that vision, including by strengthening it through dialogue with community partners."

Hrynkow said the CFRPJ has a three-fold purpose: To act as a home for STM distinctive area programs in the areas of Catholic Studies, Critical Perspectives on Social Justice and the Common Good, and Peace Studies; To promote these programs with students, community partners, and faculty, including in the last case passion for teaching and research in these areas; and through outreach, to bring the insights and values associated with these programs alive through mutually-enhancing work with community partners.

Dr. Carl Still, president of STM spoke to upcoming Centre initiatives. "You can expect the Centre to discuss the ongoing dialogue between the Catholic Church and the wider society, but also to welcome into that discussion many perspectives from other Christian communities, from other communities of faith, and from any and all people of goodwill who are engaged in making our society a more peaceful and equitable place for all its members."

For the full article and link to view the Centre launch, check out stmcollege.ca/news



Dr. Allison Smith's course offerings through STM:

- Introductory Spanish 1 114;
- Introductory Spanish 2 117;
- Spanish 250 (Historical Trends of the Spanish language);
- Spanish 251(Spanish of Latin Americans – Panama – STM study abroad)

Inspiring Excellence

by Jacquie Berg

St. Thomas More College (STM) is proud to once again have our faculty recognized for teaching excellence by the students of USask. STM is very pleased to announce Dr. Allison Smith (PhD), selected as one of USask's ten USSU Teaching Excellence Award recipients for 2021. This well-deserved recognition was the result of the nomination evaluation ratings by students from Allison's SPAN 117 (Term 1) class.

The USSU web portal recently announced the awards process as follows, "the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union (USSU) celebrates excellence at USask through awards for teaching, volunteerism, staff spirit, and contribution to campus culture. Selected by students, the USSU Teaching Excellence Award recognizes those who have demonstrated enthusiasm, organization, and fairness in evaluation, providing exceptional commitment and support to their classrooms."

Originally from Toronto, Smith's Bachelor of Arts Honours is in specialized Spanish from York University, which she followed up with a masters and PhD from the University of Ottawa. Joining her husband Charles Smith (STM Department of Political Studies), in a move to Saskatchewan for faculty positions with STM, Allison has now taught at the college for 11 years.

One of select faculty on campus specializing in the Spanish language, Allison has seen continued growth in interest for the subject which she believes is motivated by the prevalence of Spanish in popular travel locales, the modern languages major, a language requirement in some degrees, and a second language often serving as a valuable career asset.

"Language classes are so that you can speak it – you can't achieve this on paper alone," says Smith. "My classes always include opportunities to have the students speak in Spanish as much as possible. I also include cultural impact aspects – snippets of Spanish movies, videos, tours of Mexico City,

and even Spanish commercials – so that I make the connections obvious with what we are learning."

As STM entered into this pandemic year requiring 'remote learning', Smith was forced to make several changes to her presentations recognizing that language courses have their own unique demands. "Everything had to change," she said. The first step involved learning the Canvas online system to record lectures. "I wanted to make my courses easy to navigate and clearly understood, while ensuring the balance of the oral component and interaction, so necessary for success. Taking into account some students' challenge with IT access, I had to reduce the amount of synchronous time, while still providing opportunities to discuss concepts, practice the language and expand skills. Every student still had to be assessed with individual oral exams – held virtually via computer."

While anxious to return to in-person course delivery, Allison notes there were some new positive practices adopted in this unique year that she may incorporate into the future, including keeping practice exercises available on Canvas to support students, along with an interactive syllabus.

Allison Smith's own journey into academia – in particular Spanish – was the result of an inspiring teacher. Her own passion for the subject and enthusiastic engagement with her students at STM will most certainly result in more young people in similar scholarly pursuits.

Unfortunately due to COVID19 restrictions, the USSU is unable to host the celebratory awards ceremony this year. The winners will instead be showcased via video on the USSU website and social media channels.

Congratulations, Allison!

STM FACULTY nominated for the 2021 USSU Teaching Excellence Award:

David Lane, Sarah Powrie, Celene Sidloski, Allison Smith, Zachary Yuzwa.

STM FACULTY PUBLISHED ARTICLES:

TINA GREENFIELD

Jane Gaastra, Tina L. Greenfield, and Haskel J. Greenfield. "Constraint, complexity, and consumption: zooarchaeological meta-analysis shows regional patterns of resilience across the metal ages in the Near East." *Quaternary International* 545 (2020): 45-62.

Jane S. Gaastra, Tina L. Greenfield, and Haskel J. Greenfield. "There and back again: a zooarchaeological perspective on Early and Middle Bronze Age urbanism in the Levant and upper Mesopotamia." *PlosOne Journal* 15 (2020): e0227255.

Haskel J. Greenfield, Tina L. Greenfield, Elizabeth Arnold, Shira Albaz, Itzick Shai, and Aren Maeir. "Evidence for movement of goods and animals from Egypt to Canaan." *Ägypten und Levante (Egypt and the Levant)* 30 (2020): 377-397.

SARAH KNUDSON

Sarah Knudson, Kelley Bird-Naytowhow, and Tamara Baldhead Pearl. "Finding our 'good way': critical reflections on researching disability, connection, and community from an Indigenous perspective." *Reflective Practice* (2021).

SAEED MOSHIRI

F. Abdolshah, S. Moshiri, and A. Worthington. "Macroeconomic Shocks and Credit Risk Stress Testing the Iranian Banking Sector." *Journal of Economic Studies* 48, no. 2 (September 2020): 275-295.

S. Moshiri. "Consumer Responses to Price and Non-Price Gasoline Price Policies." *Energy Policy* 137 (February 2020): Article 111078.

S. Moshiri, and A. Daneshmand. "How Effective is Government Spending on Environmental Protection in a Developing Country?" *Journal of Economic Studies* 47, no. 4 (February 2020): 789-803.

STM Faculty Book Launch

Kylee-Anne Hingston *Articulating Bodies: The Narrative Form of Disability and Illness in Victorian Fiction.*

Sarah Knudson and Denise Fuchs. *Committing Sociology: Critical Perspectives on our Social World.*

Bohdan S. Kordan and Mitchell C.G. Dowie. *Canada and the Ukrainian Crisis.*

David McGrane. *The New NDP: Moderation, Modernization, and Political Marketing*

David McGrane, John Whyte, Roy Romanow, and Russell Isinger. *Back to Blakeney: The Revitalization of the Democratic State.*

Craig Heron with Charles Smith. *The Canadian Labour Movement: A Short History.*

Sharon Wright and Frank Klaassen. *The Magic of Rogues: Necromancers and Authority in Early Tudor England and Everyday Magicians in Tudor England.*



Grace Rath



Veronica Lucas

STM graduates facing the future with care for the common good

by Jacquie Berg

Grace Rath

This spring Grace Rath will receive a Bachelor of Arts (honours) degree in sociology, with a minor in Critical Perspectives on Social Justice and the Common Good.

The minor is described as “an interdisciplinary course of study designed to prepare students to be responsible critics of contemporary societies and effective agents for positive social transformation.” This program is co-ordinated by St. Thomas More College (STM) at the University of Saskatchewan (USask) and may be completed in conjunction with any degree in the College of Arts and Science.

Grace received STM’s Dubé Service and Justice scholarship for her first year. “I was attracted to the smaller class sizes at STM and the chance to continue involvement with STM’s Just Youth student club, which I had also been involved with at my high school,” she said. Just Youth offers students a chance to learn about global social justice and solidarity through public education, fundraising, and social action campaigns.

“I appreciated the Just Youth affiliation with Development and Peace and Catholic social teachings, while being with like-minded individuals and supporting advocacy around youth on campus,” said Rath. “Some of my highlights over these past four years has included working to mobilize youth and get them interested in initiatives, along with opportunities for travel, representing Saskatchewan at national justice conferences, planning Thinkfast, and solidarity walks – like that for forced migrants and refugees.”

Rath chose to pursue a Liberal arts degree highlighting its benefits to support a good base for critical thinking. “It also enabled an appreciation of the social phenomena relating to my life as related to studies in my discipline,” said Rath.

While completing her degree, Grace worked as research assistant with Dr. Colleen Dell, Professor and Research Chair in One Health and Wellness at the University of Saskatchewan in the Department of Sociology and School of Public Health. The research was focused on the impacts of Service Dogs on veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Rath often served as liaison between researchers and veterans.

“Completing the final year of my degree during a pandemic was challenging – with only online instruction and lack of student and faculty interaction. But, as for positives, I had fewer distractions and more time to reflect on myself,” said Rath.

Future plans for Grace include acquiring her masters in Sociology, hoping to focus on animal-assisted interventions. “Tying back into my social justice background along with the study of relationships, my focus would include therapy dog projects in prison settings, studying how animals impact prisoner socialization.” She additionally hopes to work in qualitative research in terms of developing effective organizational programming.

Veronica Lucas

Coming from a family of teachers, Veronica Lucas was always aware of the value of education.

“Educating yourself is always a good thing. Period,” said Lucas. “You never stop learning. I found the opportunity to advance human connection skills in my degree most valuable, with many of my liberal arts courses additionally serving as important training for critical thinking—helping me to understand and connect with people on another level.”

This June, Lucas will graduate with her Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology, with a minor in Critical Perspectives on Social Justice and the Common Good.

“I was attracted to the overlap between the two programs, with a focus on the common good. With my grandmother as inspiration, I saw much that I could learn from her, but also the areas of vulnerability for seniors and elderly. I would like to be the voice of those that cannot advocate for themselves - whether in areas of care, finances, or their health,” Lucas said.

There is a lot of Lucas family history with STM and USask. Veronica’s great grandfather was the Dean of Education, her parents and grandparents attended STM, and her great grandmother served as the curator at the College. So, although from Lloydminster, there was no questioning whether Veronica would follow her sister to Saskatoon upon graduation.

cont’d from page 10

While Lucas started out enrolled in studies to become a nutritionist, a Newman Centre (the Catholic student club on campus) retreat ended up changing her direction.

“I realized more than anything, I wanted to help people. I felt connection more with the sociology courses, and since my existing electives applied, I forged ahead.”

Awarded a high school scholarship for social justice, and as STM’s Basilian Scholar award recipient in 2019, recognizing application of the student’s gifts in meeting community needs, Lucas joined STM’s Service and Justice Project—volunteering to serve marginalized community groups—in her first year at USask. Some of these projects included services support at Luther Care, weekly visits and card playing with Sherbrooke Community Centre residents and serving as a peer mentor at the College for the Service and Justice Project in her third year.

Lucas’s college extracurricular activities extended to Newman Centre, STM Just Youth, Peer Health, STM Strategic Planning Committee, reading at College liturgies, and as student representative for the STM corporation meeting.

Social life and human interaction—a key focus of study in sociology—became collateral damage of required COVID-19 restrictions.

“Completing a degree in a pandemic year was challenging, and a little disappointing in the student experience lost,” said Lucas. “Living in a basement suite, isolated from friends, and making the best of online learning, I was thankful for the chance to go in person to STM to study and escape. Although there was only limited access, I needed that campus experience to feel more like a typical student.”

“Maintaining connections with student clubs during COVID was also a challenge, but an opportunity to get creative,” Lucas shared. “While some events had to be cancelled, others survived by converting to virtual initiatives and through social media. It was exciting that we were still able to host from STM a national conference virtually—making connections with Catholic students from across Canada.”

“My work at Sherbrooke Community Centre continued last summer amidst COVID-19 restrictions,” Lucas added. “In these challenging times, you become family for many of the residents. I took them to appointments, was there to listen, and shared unique learning experiences.”

“Looking to the future, I hope to spend some time gathering real work and life experience and then perhaps go back to university for a social work degree. I would like to be a social worker in long-term care to help elderly patients transition.”

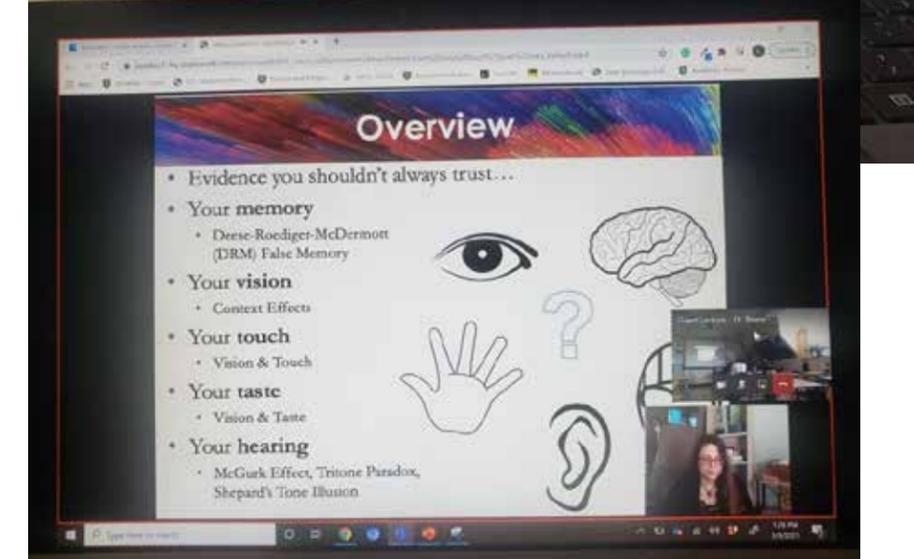
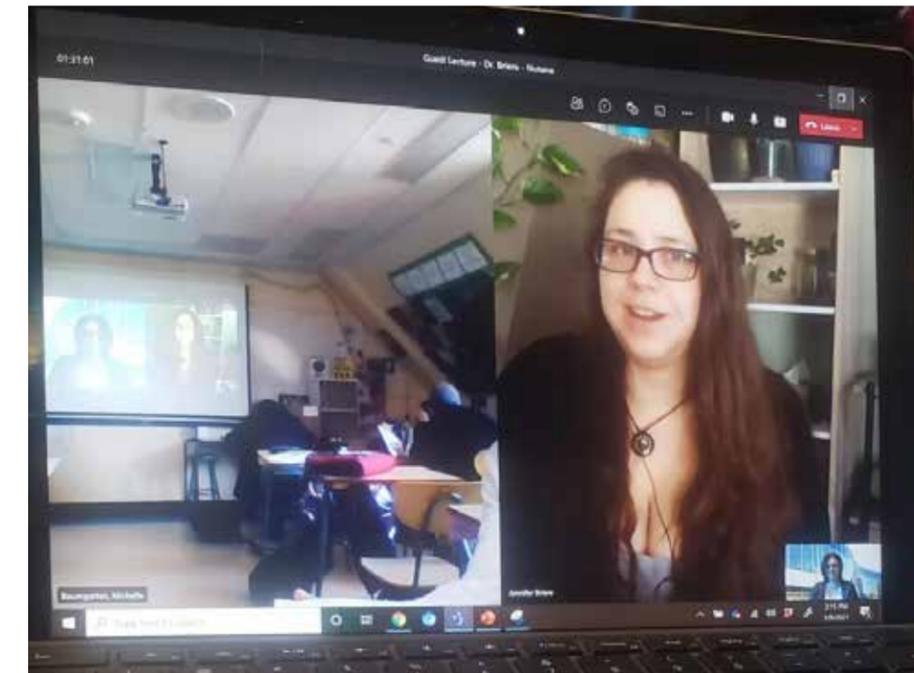
STM faculty present to future students

Every spring, STM Recruitment collaborates with local high schools offering STM professor guest lectures in their classrooms. A popular initiative, faculty representing STM departments French, English, Political Studies, and Religious Studies have generously volunteered their time to present on subject related to their department. They have included Dr. Henri Biahé, Dr. Jennifer Briere, Dr. Michael Cichon, Dr. Kylee-Anne Hingston, Dr. Chris Hrynkow and Dr. Charles Smith.

Grade twelve students have an opportunity to receive a scholarly presentation by STM university faculty and build an initial relationship with our college as they look ahead to course selection when enrolled at USask.

The presentations include a brief introduction to STM and our programs, a mini-lecture and a live questions and answers with the professor. Pre-COVID presentations were in person. This year, faculty prerecorded the talk but were available virtually for questions.

Dr. Jennifer Briere (PhD) presented virtually to Nutana collegiate students this spring. Her presentation was on cognitive psychology, titled “You’re Constructing Your Reality: How Much Do You Trust Your Perception?”



Our wonderful volunteer committee!

We wish to express our deep gratitude to the dedicated volunteers who serve on the St. Thomas More Newman Alumni Association (STMNAA) committee. We are proud to celebrate the caring commitment of the following members of the STMNAA committee:

- Art Battiste - President
- Angeline Battiste
- Madeleine Blais-Dahlem
- Corinne Baumann
- Mary Donlevy-Konkin
- Sylvia Regnier
- Dean Schmidt



Clockwise from top-left: Art Battiste (President), Angeline Battiste, Madeleine Blais-Dahlem, Corinne Baumann, Mary Donlevy-Konkin, Sylvia Regnier, Dean Schmidt, Kari Sinkewicz (staff representative)

You are invited join the STMNAA committee today!

The STMNAA committee welcomes other alumni to join this active group of volunteers who work to support and develop creative initiatives that benefit alumni and the College. This dedicated group of alumni is committed to building a strong social, intellectual, and spiritual community of STM and Newman Alumni by encouraging their lifelong involvement with the College and with each other. Join today and reconnect with fellow alumni, make new friends and help make a real difference in the lives of STM alumni and students.

For more information on how you can become involved with your alma mater, contact:

Kari Sinkewicz,
 Manager of Development and Alumni Relations
 ksinkewicz@stmcollege.ca
 306.262.6818

A Message From Your STMNAA President

I am writing this note to you on the first anniversary of the declaration of COVID-19 to be a pandemic. And, what a year it has been!

Institutionally, politically, socially, nothing is the same as it was a year ago. And yet, there is an aura of hope in the air: Spring is on the way, skies are a brighter shade of blue, snow and ice are melting, birds are returning, temperatures are rising...and vaccines are being administered. A "new day" is in sight when the pandemic will be behind us and we will once again become a social world where we can see and touch other people and mingle with family and friends and even with people whom we do not know.

How have you spent the past year? For me, the last 12 months have been doubly frustrating. Ever since our first child was born, some 50+ years ago, we have had Sunday family dinners with every one of our children and spouses and grandchildren who are in town...50 years-plus, that's more than 2,550 family dinners. Since the pandemic restrictions began, we haven't had the family at our home for dinner.

So, that's what we didn't do that we miss most.

But there have been compensations...in part. Much of our "free time" has been spent improving our online communications capabilities. My wife, Angeline, has been teaching as a volunteer three times a week with a Global Gathering English as an Additional Language class. She had done this for several years in classroom settings but has been teaching totally online for the past year. I'm really proud of this woman who shares my pandemic-curtailed life.

I, too, have learned the ways and wonders of online education. Over the past year, I have recruited more than 20 instructors to deliver online non-credit courses for seniors and produced a 19-speaker President's Lecture Series last Fall. I have been amazed with the huge response from Saskatoon seniors to online learning: more than 400 signed in for the Lecture Series, and individual courses have attracted between 140 and 300 students.

At home, we used some of the time to re-organize and do some renovations. Mostly, though, there has been alone time...never lonely, since we have each other, but alone to recall and contemplate our past lives, sometimes with regret, sometimes with deep longing for brighter times. Always, though, there is the opportunity to confront oneself, to explain the whys and wherefores of past transgressions and accomplishments, and, hopefully, to come out of this season of discontent with a better understanding of self and determination to live and love life better.

Art Battiste

Stay Connected with STM

Keeping your contact info current has never been easier! Simply follow this link or use your smart phone camera to hover over the QR code and re-connect with your STM community today.

stmcollege.ca/alumni/register.php



Nominate the next STM Distinguished Alumni

Help us celebrate your fellow alumni.

The STM Distinguished Alumni Awards are awarded annually each November.

They recognize both a female and a male graduate of St. Thomas More College whose lifetime accomplishments and achievements have been outstanding, who have made a significant contribution to their



community, and who have continued to celebrate their relationship with St. Thomas More College since their graduation.

We proudly recognize the truly outstanding achievements of an STM graduate whose endeavours have distinguished them in their chosen profession or community.

We encourage you to nominate a fellow-STM alumni today.

Nomination information and form available at the back of the magazine.

Long time volunteer Regnier completes second term on STM Corporation

The staff, faculty, alumni and students of St. Thomas More College owe a debt of gratitude to a passionate supporter of the College.

Sylvia Regnier ('70) has served as the St. Thomas More College Newman Alumni Association Committee representative on STM Corporation for six years, with her second term ending on Dec. 31, 2020.

"We hope that it brings Sylvia great joy to know that she has had a tremendous impact in the STM community, particularly in the lives of students," said Kari Sinkewicz, Manager of Development and Alumni Relations.

"Sylvia continues to serve on the STMNAA committee, and we are pleased to celebrate her faithful generosity through her volunteer-

ism, advocacy, and caring donations to support the College."

Regnier, who is also a past president of the STMNAA, said that serving the STM College community as a volunteer has been very enjoyable and intellectually stimulating over the years.

"Through the STMNAA committee, and serving on STM Corporation, I have learned so much about the history of the College and I'm pleased to continue to be an active, engaged member of the STMNAA committee," said Regnier.

"I would encourage anyone else considering this opportunity to get involved. I genuinely feel I've gained more from serving on the STMNAA and from the students than I have given."



Thank You!

Please join all members of the St. Thomas More College scholarly community in celebrating the outstanding generosity of every donor who chose to give in response to the STM Christmas letter from Richard Medernach, Manager of Student Experience and Enrolment. **More than \$16,000 was given in support of STM Scholarships and Bursaries to help unlock student potential.**

STM students are challenged to grow intellectually and personally, thinking creatively and critically as they prepare to take their place in the world. Through the faithful support of our caring donors, our students are well equipped to accomplish their personal and professional goals, engage in their communities, contribute to a more just society, and grow to reach the full measure of their humanity.

On behalf of all grateful students who benefit from your heartfelt support of STM Scholarships and Bursaries, thank you for "choosing to put your own hard work, sacrifice and, most importantly, faith in someone you deem fit for the award."

If you would like to make a gift to help ensure the success of a student's educational journey, please contact:

Kari Sinkewicz,
 Manager of Development and Alumni Relations
 ksinkewicz@stmcollege.ca
 306.262.6818

St. Thomas More College Christmas Scholarships and Bursaries

Education key to navigating future, says legacy donor Wrobel

STM alumna Rosemarie Wrobel has included her beloved alma mater in her estate planning. She has graciously agreed to share her perspective on why she is intent to 'pay forward' her good fortune of receiving a liberal arts education at STM College:

The question I am addressing: Why do I financially contribute to STM and is this important?

I feel so blessed that I had the opportunity to receive my education at STM, a very special and unique college. And I am grateful that I received a scholarship for my first year at STM.

My Polish parents were passionate about education and so were their ancestors. My grandparents immigrated to Canada in 1902 to homestead in Saskatchewan. They donated land from their home quarter to build the first school and church in their area.

Fast forward to 2021 -- an era where knowledge is increasing at an ever accelerating rate and creating a "knowledge explosion."

Our collective knowledge is doubling every 13



months, and it is predicted that the digital age will increase this speed to a doubling of knowledge every 12 hours. This massive amount of information, as well as the turbulent social and political change we are experiencing today, is putting us into "information overload."

This is why I feel education is one of our most empowering tools. Education helps to build confidence and education helps to sharpen our reasoning and problem solving skills. Education gives us a creative edge by building

our critical thinking skills which enables us to plough through this massive amount of information with grace and ease. Education equips us with discerning tools which help us to evaluate this massive amount of information and then enables us to make better choices.

This is why I am passionate about education, and by contributing financially to STM I am part of the solution rather than the problem. I would like to create my legacy by contributing financially to STM. I feel my support helps the college to create opportunities and an environment for students to learn.

"Knowledge is power," but the ability to act on knowledge and make informed choices is really the power. And this is why I am passionate about supporting our college. And I am confident that our STM College can use this assistance to create opportunities for many students to receive an education.

Together, we can make a difference.

Many blessings, peace, love and joy,
Rosemarie Wrobel, BA, MSW

Re-Connecting

by Linda Huard

For those who have spent any time at St. Thomas More College (STM), they will know that we are a community that values connection. With the separation and challenges of the pandemic, we have also gained a unique perspective of the home lives of our community members, chatting from our living rooms and kitchen tables rather than in the hallways of STM. And, of course, glimpses of pets and children to liven up our meetings. It's a wonderful reminder that STM is but one part of our rich lives.

With that in mind, I felt it was a good time to check in with some of our alumni, to see where their lives outside of STM have lead.

I reached out to former STM Indigenous student award winners with a few questions. With their permission, I am sharing two stories: one from Veronica Stewart (award-winner 2010, 2012), an educator and mother, and one from Wyatt Bernier (award-winner 2018), now a USask law student. Here is what they shared with me:

Why and what, did you choose to study at USask?

Veronica: I chose to study at university because I always loved learning and all the potential careers I saw myself in, required a university education. I graduated from USask with a BA (Hon) in Philosophy.

Wyatt: I always intended to get into law school, and since there are no specific class requirements to apply, my undergraduate years were a variety of classes that I found interesting and/or thought would help in Law school. I switched from a Philosophy degree, to an Education program (Physics/Astronomy Major), to an English degree, and ended up completing a Certificate in Ethics, Justice, and Law.

What was your experience like at STM?

Veronica: My experience at STM was incredibly positive. The smaller class sizes and unique learning opportunities made a world of difference when it came to building community and deepening my learning. I was fortunate to be a part of the Intercordia Program, Service and Justice Project, and served on the editorial team for In Medias Res, STM's Liberal Arts journal. I also took a lot of classes through STM as a philosophy major and was financially supported by various bursaries and scholarships. I felt seen at STM and still nurture lifelong friendships that started there.

Wyatt: Very friendly. The community connections of the SJP program, the friendly students in small class sizes, and the spiritual support from people like Michael Maclean always made me feel welcome. Not only did it help me connect with the university community, it brought me closer to the Saskatoon community as well.

After graduation, where has your path taken you?

Veronica: After I graduated from USask, I went to OISE (University of Toronto) to continue my studies in their Social Justice MA program. I fell in love with teaching and saw it as a means to always be learning and involved in education conversations so I then completed my BEd at SUNTEP in Prince Albert. I moved back to Saskatchewan to start a family closer to my and my partner's family. I now teach with the Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division and have been a Sessional Lecturer for the U of S. I hope with the Prince Albert campus opening there will be more opportunities to teach and learn in my community.

Wyatt: Immediately after graduating in spring 2019, I was accepted into the U of S Law College where I am on track to graduate in 2022.

How did your plans change as you progressed through university and then into the job market?

Veronica: Life has a tendency of throwing you curve balls so naturally plans change along the way. Priorities change too as you learn and grow. I often thought I'd end up in Law or would jump right in to a doctoral program after my masters but grad school made me realize that I needed to spend more time in the real world before being able to confidently pursue that level. I still think I'll go back to university at some point but right now I'm enjoying my two daughters and my career as a teacher.

Wyatt: The switching between programs was mainly an effort to find a degree that could be composed of the varied classes I was taking. However some changes were the result of colleges changing their program requirements while I was mid-year, (particularly the Education College).

We're glad to have played a part in Wyatt and Veronica's journeys, and it is our hope that through Indigenous Scholarships and Bursaries we can continue to support Indigenous students in their academic pursuits. This year, \$30,000 was earmarked specifically for Indigenous STM students.

We would love to hear more stories from our alumni! If you're an alumni, please consider joining our St. Thomas More College- Newman Alumni Association page on Facebook and reaching out to Kari Sinkewicz, our Manager of Development and Alumni Relations: ksinkewicz@stmcollege.ca.



Wyatt Bernier



Veronica Stewart and family

YOUR LEGACY

Reflecting our past
Renewing our commitment
Building our future

Through Planned Giving

Through STM's Planned Giving program you have the opportunity to make a special gift - a lifetime gift. For STM, a Planned Gift offers long-term stability which in turn allows us to plan into the future, ensuring the Catholic intellectual tradition will carry on in our hallways through future generations. Making a Planned Gift to STM allows you the possibility to establish your legacy or create a legacy for your loved ones, while also maximizing taxation benefits. And you can feel confident knowing that you are contributing to the vitality and growth of the College.

There are many opportunities to establish a Planned Gift including:

A Gift Today: such as publicly traded securities that include stocks, bonds, GIC's or royalties, can be donated providing immediate benefit to STM with direct tax relief to you.



*"Don't judge each day
by the harvest
you reap,
but by the seeds that
you plant."*

Robert
Louis Stevenson

A Gift for the Future: through a bequest in your will, a life insurance policy, a gift of annuity or charitable remainder trust, you can help secure STM's financial health for the future, while benefiting from substantial tax incentives.

St. Thomas More College is profoundly grateful for the foresight and generosity of Robert and Mariette Vanderham in remembering the College in their estate plans. The Vanderham's vision and caring support through their legacy gift helps to ensure the Catholic intellectual life, social justice, and the pastoral care of students remain a tradition at St. Thomas More College, which we trust was important to them both.

Thank you Robert and Mariette!

Please give serious consideration to making a **Planned Gift to STM**. If you would like any further information or would like to discuss the various ways you can make a donation to STM part of your legacy, please feel free to contact:

Kari Sinkewicz,
Manager of Development & Alumni Relations
306.262.6818 or
ksinkewicz@stmcollege.ca

2020/2021 STM SCHOLARSHIPS

ENTERING STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Wolfe Family General Achievement Entrance Scholarship

Camryn Ells

Kramer Scholarship

Alayna Jones, Griffin Lehnert

Reverend Edwin Kline CSB Entrance Scholarship

Michael Turner

STM Indigenous Entering Student Scholarships

Marentin Fehr

STM First Year Scholarships

Ana-Sofia Moran

Sisters of Our Lady of the Cross First Year Scholarships

Bridgitte Campbell, Zachary Digout, Francis Glenn Feliciano, Michael Fyfe, Emma Pierrard, Shriya Tauh, Vien Vu, Marc Jason White

Knights of Columbus First Year Scholarships

Azwa Alam, Felicia Joosten, Nathan Shea Ouedraogo

Bev Hanson First Year Student Scholarship

Nick Meckelborg

Ashley Smith First Year Student Scholarship

Madison Prytula

CONTINUING STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Wolfe Family General Scholarship (2nd renewal)

Liam Kerr

Hinz/Teunissen Memorial Scholarship

Alyson Cook

Henry and Agnes Brockman Scholarship

Temi Akinola

Rose Semko Hrynchuk Scholarship

Marta Krueger

Doug and Irene Schmeiser Scholarship

Emily Sinkewicz

Jeannette Tetreault Scholarship

Eric Chateigner

Evelyn Burkitt Scholarships

Abbi Cross, Rachel Kay

Council 1517 George Mackey Foundation Scholarship

Maria Gursky

Batten Scholarship

Jenna Roesch

Christopher Dawson Scholarship

Arielle McKay, Grace Rath

Thomas Deis '38 Pioneers of Saskatchewan Scholarship

Alicja Rutkowski



Thanks to our generous supporters, each year STM College offers more than **\$220,000** in scholarships and bursaries to our self-declared students!

Dielschneider Aboriginal Scholarship

Jensen Trainberg

Terrence & Margaret Downey Scholarship

Licia Correa Jomar

Founding Fathers Scholarship

Terryn Bateman

Wilfrid and Sylvia Hinz Family Award

Jeniffer Camacho

STM Creative Writing Scholarship

Jenna Miller

STM Leadership Award

Jenna Daly, Allison Jansen, Chelaine Kirsch, Veronica Lucas, Daryl Malana, Kiera Nakoneshny, Grace Rath, Taylor Spock

STM Faculty Union Scholarship

Madison DeCorby

Cornelius and Rosallie Woloschuk Scholarship

Sarah Blom

Maureen Haynes Catholic Studies Scholarships

Danielle Corriveau, Alayna Nye, Kaili Flanagan

Roy E. Lloyd Scholarship

Ebelechukwu Afamefune

Ukrainian Self-Reliance Association/TYC – Steppe Branch Ukrainian Language Awards

Hayley Abrey - 114, Madison Halewich - 114, Rebecca Spilchak - 114, Sharleen Rayner - 117, Elliot Dillabough - 214, Natalya Shevchuk -217

ENGAGED LEARNING SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Les and Irene Dubé Service & Justice Scholarships

Bridgitte Campbell, Camryn Ells, Francis Feliciano, Angel Jacob, Ana-Sofia Moran, Victoria Spurr, Vien Vu

St. Thomas More College Service & Justice Awards

Marian De Los Reyes, Madison DeCorby, Yehia El Karsh, Joi Nicole Ines, Maria Nunez Valdivieso, Nicole lianne Reyes, Nicole Rocheleau, Nathan Shea Ouedraogo

St. Thomas More College Award for Excellence in CSL Writing

Jenna Matheson, Alicja Rutkowski

ENTERING STUDENT BURSARIES

Margaret C. Dutli Award

Donor: Margaret C. Dutli – 1@\$500

Matt and Beth Hertz Bursary

Donor: Matthew and Elizabeth Hertz – 1@\$3,000

Nasser Family Award

Donor: Dr. Kay and Mrs. Dora Nasser – 1@\$1,000

CONTINUING STUDENT BURSARIES

Aulea Arsenault Bursary

Donor: Estate of Auléa Arseneault – 2@\$1,000

Robert and Florence Cowan Bursary

Donor: Florence Cowan – 1@\$2,500

Anne Phelan Decoteau Bursary

Donor: Dr. Earl DeCoteau and family, in memory of Anne Phelan DeCoteau – 1@\$1,000

Elizabeth Doktor Engaged Learning Award

Donor: Elizabeth Doktor – 1@\$1,250

STM Bursary

Donor: Friends of St. Thomas More College – 19 of varying amounts (\$17,500 total)

GSU (Grain & General Services Union) Bursary

Donor: Grain & General Services Union – 1@\$2,000

Wilfrid and Sylvia Hinz Family Bursary

Donor: Sylvia Hinz – 1@\$1,000

McNeill Hunt Bursary

Donor: Leonore Hunt – 1@\$1,200

Paul-Emile Leray Bursary

Donor: Paul-Emile Leray – 1@\$4,000

2020/2021 BURSARY AWARDS

Mary and Nicholas Lucyshyn Bursary

Donor: The Lucyshyn family, in memory and honour of Nick and Mary Lucyshyn – 1@\$1,000

Nasser Family Award

Donor: Dr. Kay and Mrs. Dora Nasser – 1@\$1,000

Lorne and Elizabeth Parker Bursary

Donor: Mr. Lorne and Mrs. Elizabeth Parker – 1@\$1,000

Peter Harold Richlark Bursary

Donor: Mr. Wally Richlark – 2@\$1,000

Herman and Myrna Rolfes Bursary

Donor: Herman and Myrna Rolfes – 1@\$1,000

Saskatchewan K of C Charitable Foundation Adrienne & Mervyn Welter Endowment Bursary

Donor: Saskatchewan Knights of Columbus Charitable Foundation – 1@\$1,000

Knights of Columbus Bursary

Donor: Saskatoon Chapter Knights of Columbus – 1@\$500

STM Faculty Union Bursary

Donor: STM Faculty Union – 1@\$1,000

INDIGENOUS STUDENT BURSARIES

Dielschneider Aboriginal Bursary

Donor: Peter Dielschneider – 2@\$1,500

STM Indigenous Entering Student Bursary

Donor: Friends of St. Thomas More College – 2@\$1,500

STM Indigenous Continuing Student Bursary

Donor: Friends of St. Thomas More College – 7@ \$1,500

Henry Remai Aboriginal Student Bursary

Donor: Henry Remai - 4 of varying amounts (\$4,000 total)

Northern Indigenous Student Access Bursary

Donor: STM Community – 1@\$1,000

For information on establishing a scholarship or bursary, please contact Kari Sinkewicz at 306.262.6818 or ksinkewicz@stmcollege.ca

STUDENTS - Scholarships and bursary applications available online at stmcollege.ca/awards

Awards applications due Oct. 1, 2021



STM Facilities team on frontline battling COVID-19

By Paul Sinkewicz

Greg Clemence had the loneliest job on campus last year.

When the COVID-19 pandemic shut down the St. Thomas More College (STM) building in March 2020, he was often the lone occupant for extended periods of time.

As Facilities Manager, it was his responsibility to make sure the building was operating properly and was secure. If there was a ghost at STM, Clemence would know it by now. (Spoiler alert: There is not!)

Students were forced to finish their winter semester from home, and even staff and faculty were not allowed in the building without special permission.

"It was just me, really, when we shut down completely," said Clemence. "And the only reason I had to be here was the boilers. We can't shut them down, so they have to be attended to every day. So, I just checked the building, made it secure, and bounced around my office quite a lot."

"After we opened up part of the building and people started coming back, it's been good. It's nice to see the building getting used - at least in part."

Clemence is charged with implementing the protocols that are keeping the faculty, staff and students at STM College safe when they visit. The pandemic has challenged the STM facilities team to take its game to the microscopic world.

The experienced crew of Don Wiebe, Tony

Wurtz and Anteneh Seyoum used to clean things like muddy footprints in the hallways and fingerprints on doors and windows. Now, it's the unseen things they have to worry about. But they have more than risen to the challenge.

"We don't empty as many garbage bins and we don't clean certain areas in a regular basis. Ninety per cent of what the guys do now is repetitive cleaning of all the public areas and all of the areas that we know people have been," said Clemence.

"Everything gets extra attention. The guys have to pay a lot more attention to their detail and I feel for them, because it is probably the least glamorous job they could be doing right now, but their efforts have clearly shown that it's working, and that it's important."

Students can now use the student lounge, Choices cafeteria, Shannon Library and the atrium, up to a maximum of 50 people. And all visitors must enter through the North Entrance.

"We intentionally limited it that way so that people don't walk through the whole property because that just makes it impossible to clean," said Clemence.

The faculty and staff have to report if they've been to a certain area so the facilities team can go in behind and sanitizes the area afterward. Safety is everything when a tiny virus can send someone to the hospital.

"We bought a lot more hand sanitizer stations," said Clemence. "We basically plastered them

everywhere, and we have a ridiculous amount hand sanitizer on hand."

"We have a few professors that are using designated classrooms to stream their lessons, but the vast majority are doing it from home now. I think we have three regular professors that come in and do their classes here. The rooms have a camera and multi cameras for the white boards and they can do it on there. They book the room and the facilities staff comes in afterward to sanitize again."

"So far it's all been working out pretty smoothly." With summer approaching, there are some renovation projects planned to take advantage of the empty hallways.

The floor in the Chelsea Lounge has been re-surfaced and new windows were installed in the older part of the building. Crews replaced the 60-year-old single-pane windows with modern, triple-paned windows, which will help with heating costs.

A large section of roof will be revamped over the summer, and the seating in the Fr. O'Donnell Auditorium will be replaced.

"The seats in there are 20-plus years old and they're tired," said Clemence. "Nowadays, of course, everybody comes in with a laptop, so we're getting modern, slightly bigger seats with slightly bigger desktops."

"We've got a few capital projects on the go, and it's really a good time to do it because even in a typical summer there are not many people here. This year there's going to be even less."

STUDENT NEWMAN LOUNGE DEDICATION HIGHLIGHT IN 2021

by Michael Maclean

The year the Newman Executive had in 2020-2021, was both bizarre and exciting. Like most students, we were bummed out to hear that September 2020 meant more long distance learning. But, we were excited about hosting the CCSA national conference in January 2021. The conference would be on-line, and would host speakers from Winnipeg, Montreal, New York and Saskatoon. But the most special moment of the conference for us was the dedication of our student lounge to Newman. Veronica Lucas, a member of the Newman Council at the University of Saskatchewan housed at St. Thomas More College was able to address CCSA conference participants from Calgary to Charlottetown after Fr. Raymond Lafontaine's keynote address on Friday, January 22, that focussed on the life of St. John Henry Newman.

Veronica told conference attendees that we as a Newman Council Executive wrote to the St. Thomas More College Admin Committee in Oct. 2019. It was actually a miracle in itself to compose the letter with the six of us. Writing by committee is hard! But we powered through. Here is an excerpt from that correspondence:

"Dear St. Thomas More Administrative Committee,

This October, John Henry Cardinal Newman is being canonized a saint. Newman was a considerable influence for university students during his lifetime and continues to have an impact on students' lives through university groups like ours today."

We went on as a Newman Centre Executive to humbly request that the student lounge be dedicated to St. John Henry Cardinal Newman. We asserted that this would allow Newman's name and legacy to provide a place for students to learn and grow through our academic community and through building relationships.

All members of STM's Newman Exec gathered at the College (a rare event in this pandemic year) for the exciting moment that we had been looking forward to since Newman's canonization. It was a momentous occasion, and may be seen on STM Campus Ministry's YouTube channel for any of you that may have missed it! <https://youtu.be/y124kfgTfm8>

All in all, it was a great moment for our Executive in a very strange year. But we were so happy to share this moment celebrating Newman with Catholic students across Canada. When we (hopefully) gather back together in person in September 2021, we will see you in the Newman Student Lounge!

STMSU



St. Thomas More College
Students Union



Taylor Spock,
President

The St. Thomas More College Students Union (STMSU) represents St. Thomas More College (STM) students to the College administration and governance bodies. We advocate for student wellness and we provide events and services to improve the experience of STM students. We are a volunteer-run organization. Although this year events could not be in person, the STMSU worked towards finding ways to virtually connect with the STM student body.

2021-22 STMSU Executive:

Taylor Spock, President

Abbi Cross, VP Operations and Finance

Grady King, VP Communications

Emily Roberts, Director of Events

Elisabeth Bauman: Member of USSU Student Council for St. Thomas More College



Ali Jansen and Kiera Nakoneshny at the unveiling of the new Newman Centre plaque

The **STM Just Youth Group** spent their year together online, meeting virtually, and planning and shaping a campaign that would be a totally on-line experience, something new for the group.

Working with and inspired by Development and Peace's 'Recovering Together' and 'Share Lent, Share Love' campaigns, as well as Pope Francis' newest encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*, their work centered around spreading a spirit of solidarity and peace in this time of pandemic, as well as promoting justice as we move toward a post-pandemic world. Their posts and events promoted self-care, interpersonal comradery and compassion, women's empowerment, and the social impact of the pandemic as well as ways to support pandemic recovery in both local and international contexts. They even organized a social media giveaway, promoting the good work of Development and Peace, while featuring and supporting local businesses and highlighting some Fair Trade and environmentally conscious products that are available right here in Saskatoon!

Peace,
Celeste Woloschuk

Shannon Library supportive solutions

by Corinne Mathews

As a liberal arts college, we provide students the ability to become critical thinkers with the confidence to adapt and succeed in the face of the unknown. These competencies have never been more important than during this past year, and thankfully the employees at STM not only impart these skills but also have the chops to back it up. Shannon Library has worked hard to implement original solutions to ensure our students, faculty and staff received all the supports they required for academic success in 2020-2021.

In June 2020, Shannon Library partnered up with Murray Library to provide a contactless pick-up service. We ensured students and faculty had safe access to physical items and the ability to request scans from our items, such as a book chapter, or print article. More than 300 items from our shelves have been delivered to our patrons via contactless pickup. Determined to provide a safe space and a sense of normality for our students, Shannon Library opened its doors to a capacity of 20 people in September 2020. Encouraged and supported by our administration, STM library was open weeks earlier than our counterpart at USask. After perfecting the safety policies and procedures, Shannon Library was able to expand its usable space to a capacity of 25, with opening hours six days per week. This effort was rewarded with the continued influx of students studying in the library. We are pleased to report that not a single COVID case has been linked to or connected with the safe space we



have provided.

Fortunately, Shannon Library has been able to provide support to our faculty as well as our students. We provided copyright expertise when instructors needed to restructure their courses for distance learning and the ability to connect e-resources for course reserves, a service so valuable I imagine it will be requested long into the future.

It has been quite a year, and while we all look forward to a return towards "normal" I am pleased to report that STM library has discovered that we truly do have the necessary creativity flexibility and support to provide valuable services to our stakeholders, in any situation, when the need arises.



Engaged Learning in a pandemic year

by Caitlin Ward

Offering experiential learning opportunities during a pandemic presented a unique challenge to STM's Engaged Learning Office (ELO) and the community organizations that work with it. Many organizations shut down temporarily, others were forced to restrict access to outside community members, and some simply had too much on their plate to be able to take on the responsibility of training new volunteers.

In spite of these challenges, the ELO was able to work with certain key community partners in order to offer service-learning to a select number of STM classes. Each of the placements was remote this past year, which presented both opportunities and challenges for students and community members alike. Some STM students worked with newcomer organizations such as Saskatoon Open Door Society and Global Gathering Place as tutors for high school and elementary school students. Other students worked with Samaritan

Place, a long-term care home. Each of these placements was offered remotely, which means that our community partners invested a lot of extra effort in making these programs available.

In the case of the newcomer organizations, STM students plugged into existing programming, but in the case of Samaritan Place, staff very much went above and beyond for our students and their residents. SP staff matched our students with older adults who were experiencing the negative effects of isolation most acutely. Students talked with the residents via video chat one or two times a week throughout both terms. In some cases, the students developed quite deep relationships with the residents, and in one case, our student became a resident's official designate for in-person visits when social distancing guidelines were relaxed enough to allow limited outside engagement. Although our numbers were smaller this year relative to non-pandemic years, it was as apparent as ever that community outreach is an incredible benefit to both students and community.

The Service & Justice Project, our co-curricular service-learning program, underwent a temporary transformation this year. With volunteering essentially out of the question for our 25 students, STM provided the novels *Son of a Trickster* and *Trickster Drift* by Eden Robinson in order to do a book study. Throughout the year, students heard interviews with First Nations writers and members of Str8-Up, as well as participating in online activities with Mennonite Central Committee. This year, the project's aim was to encourage students to think intentionally about First Nations culture, and the particular challenges that Indigenous communities face, using these novels as a jumping off point. Working in small groups throughout both terms, students worked through notions of racism, oppression, the challenges of poverty, among other things, and also interrogated their own prejudices and philosophical blind spots. With this intellectual groundwork laid, we are hopeful that students will be able to serve the community more fully and intentionally when we are once again allowed to do so.



St. Thomas More College is grateful to the **Stephen and Micheline Worobetz Foundation** for their generous gift of \$2500 to STM Campus Ministry's efforts to support the mental health & wellness of our students. These funds have been designated to the professional development of campus minister Fr. Andre Lalach, who is completing a Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology at Yorkville University.

Creative Community-building during Covid

by Jacquie Berg

STM's college president shared studying tips. The Student Experience team produced 'Sweet Skills' videos to advance basic baking skills. A virtual first year student community was created. Campus ministry developed self-care videos, and Christmas dinner deliveries were made to studying students.

These are just some of the many creative initiatives at St. Thomas More College (STM) at the University of Saskatchewan this past year to help keep connected with their students, extend hospitality and build community.

STM has long been recognized for its supportive environment. Richard Medernach, manager of student experience and enrolment, reminds us that relationships take time even under ideal conditions. "The pandemic is slowing that process further," he says. "But we still want to meet and know our students, to help them feel welcomed, respected, and cared about."

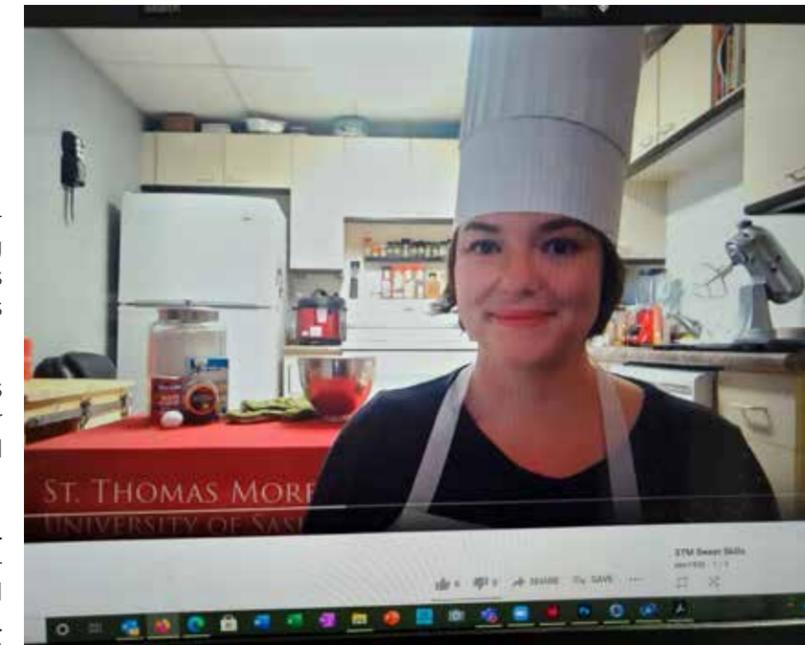
In March 2020, mandated restrictions to address the COVID-19 pandemic brought in-class instruction, special guest lectures, student social events, the Glee club, theatre group, Study Abroad, and so forth, to a halt at STM. Faculty had to quickly reimagine engaging course delivery in a remote format while staff and administration determined how to work and meet while maintaining a college community in the new virtual environment.

Reminiscing about what student life is all about, graduating STM student Veronica Lucas is saddened by what was lost with the lockdown on campus, noting that being in college in person plays a critical role for relationships and student identity. "Meeting new people in those courses where you can encounter literally anyone and developing connections with mentors, faculty, or other students can grow into new and exciting opportunities," says Lucas.

STM staff and faculty took these sentiments to heart, and while recognizing that nothing can replace the in-person experience, almost 12 months later and near a full academic year completed, the college is proud to see how everyone rallied to ensure students' needs were best served, with the addition of many creative initiatives amidst the pandemic crisis.

Being new on campus is often intimidating. Add to that remote delivery and making new friends may seem an immense challenge. STM's recruitment officer and academic advisor, Linda Huard, introduced a summer initiative to combat this.

"I reached out to several grade 12 students starting their first year at USask, who wanted to join the STM community. Through group chats, virtual meetings, and social media, we kept in touch, discussing academic questions and concerns, as well as personal hobbies, pets, and the unique stressors brought on during the pandemic. Many new friendships were forged, and confidence built, while sharing their experiences." Huard added, "With recruitment travel also halted, virtual career fairs were offered provincially and another new section on the STM website was developed for prospective students. Here students will find an STM introductory video, and all College specific materials that would be otherwise physically available."



Linda Huard, STM Recruitment Officer and Academic Advisor, in 'Sweet Skills' video

"We've come to see each other as community in a new way—we've developed new skills to connect, strengthened our resiliency and been witness to numerous examples of compassionate service to others." Dr. Gertrude Rompré

STM Student Services support remained a constant throughout this challenging year. STM academic advising remained available whether by phone, online meetings, or email. Student awards and convocation celebrations were held virtually, with dedicated web pages to recognize student achievements and social media contests to engage new alumni.

To assist first-year students and welcome them to the College, a new transition guide on the STM website includes articles and links to resources that students need when starting out. Several orientation and welcome week activities were available to participate in virtually, and email contact ensured information was relayed on support services, academic success tips, while also addressing isolation, stress and mental health management.

Remaining true to the college focus on pastoral care of students, in mid-September, STM opened their doors to support USask students in need of internet access and a quiet place to study amid COVID restrictions. Meeting provincial health guidelines, limited access is available on weekdays and Saturdays. Details for entry restrictions and a real-time tally for available space can be found on the stmcollege.ca homepage.

Caring for the whole person is a hallmark of STM. Campus ministry takes this to heart by attending to a wide array of student needs including attention to student mental health and wellness. They offer a full array of weekly programming online, while also staying connected to the student groups. In January, STM hosted the Canadian Catholic Students Association Conference (CCSA) connecting students virtually nation-wide.

Dr. Gertrude Rompré (EdD), director of Mission and Ministry for STM, finds hope and positivity have risen from these challenging times. "We've come to see each other as community in a new way—we've developed new skills to connect, strengthened our resiliency and been witness to numerous examples of compassionate service to others. We have achieved a sense of still being connected to the STM community although we're not in the same space."



STM researcher assesses Bystander Intervention Training effectiveness

by Jacquie Berg

Dr. Carie Buchanan (PhD), assistant professor in psychology at STM, received a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Insight Development Grant for her project, *Evaluating Prosocial Bystander Intervention Training with Undergraduate Students in Preventing Sexual Assaults*. She is working with co-principal investigator Dr. Karen Lawson (PhD) of USask, collaborator Dr. Donald McCreary (PhD) of Brock University, and supported by several graduate students.

"Bystander intervention training (BIT) provides skills to enable people to safely and confidently intervene in situations that may be violent or have potential to end in violence," said Buchanan.

"Through our research we want to determine if this training results in a measurable difference in students' ability to properly assess their situation and the risk factors, to in turn prevent sexual violence and/or intervene to impact the situation positively. Equipping students with knowledge and skills in recognizing and safely intervening in situations wherein sexual violence is occurring or may occur, will help make campus safer."

As a developmental researcher, Buchanan has always been interested in ways to foster healthy relationships. So, while providing the tools is important, she felt the need for evidence-based research to address and assess the effectiveness of this campus program. Lawson, an applied social psychologist, serves as an expert in program evaluation on the team. Through metrics, including workshop participant pre-testing and post-testing, they will evaluate the short and long-term impact of BIT training.

"Research results will be then used to inform changes made to the bystander intervention training offered to students, to improve efficacy and promote positive change in students' social norms that may support sexual violence," Buchanan said.

"Athletes hold social capital on campuses in North America," Buchanan added. "If they agree to participate in these preventative workshops, others might agree. USask coaches and students expressed interest in this initiative and we are excited to be in discussion to begin testing the effectiveness of the sexual violence prevention modules with the Huskies athletes."

If proven effective through evidence-based research, BIT training may become a common prerequisite on campuses across the country, before students integrate into campus life.

"The goal of this research is to ensure prevention on campus versus only intervention," Buchanan said. "I am confident that we can create a safer environment for all through education."

Dr. Bohdan Kordan, PhD Retirement

Dr. Bohdan Kordan arrived at St. Thomas More College (STM) in 1993 after holding a number of research and teaching positions at the University of Alberta, the University of Toronto, and MacEwan University. He taught in the Political Studies department, where he also previously served as department head. Dr. Kordan's recent research focused on nationalism and ethnic conflict, the politics of state/minority relations, and Canadian foreign policy. He has written an impressive number of articles and books during his tenure at STM, including *Strategic Friends: Canada-Ukraine Relations from Independence to the Euromaidan* in 2018, and *Canada and the Ukrainian Crisis* with Mitchell Dowie in 2020.



One of Dr. Kordan's most longstanding projects has been the Prairie Centre for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage (PCUH). He was its founding director in 1995 and has served as director multiple times in the years following. His work with PCUH has included creating a partner institute for Canadian Studies in Ukraine, the Mohyla Lecture Series, Heritage Press, and countless other conferences and lectures. For his contributions, Dr. Kordan has the Shevchenko Medal from the UCC, the Nation Builders' Award from the UCC-Sask Provincial Council, and the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal and the Margaret Dutli Professional and Community Service Award from STM in 2020.

Dr. Kordan's work shows a lifetime dedicated to advancing the interests of the Ukrainian community in Canada and addressing issues around internment. He played a key role in the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) National Redress Committee that negotiated a \$10-million settlement with the Government of Canada for ethno-cultural communities impacted by WWI internment.

Dr. Kordan's work has left an indelible mark on STM, the Ukrainian community in Saskatchewan and Canada.

Just the beginning.

Congratulations.

As you continue on your journey, embrace new challenges with intelligence and creativity, attention to justice, and respect for the inherent dignity of each and every person.

Never underestimate your ability to make the world a better place.



2021
Spring
Convocation
STM graduates

ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
stmcollege.ca

[View the complete list of spring STM graduates at stmcollege.ca](http://stmcollege.ca)

Ezekiel-Marche Scholarship created to aid students in need

In honor of the hard work and dedication of her parents, Margaret Marche has set up a new scholarship at St. Thomas More College in their memory.

The Ezekiel-Marche Scholarship will provide one STM student each year with \$1,000 to help further their education. The selection will be based on academic achievement as well as financial need, as determined by the College's Scholarship and Awards Committee.

Margaret Marche said she is extremely proud of her parents, Frederick and Veronica Ezekiel, for their hard work, dedication, and courage in the face of hardship.

"They worked tirelessly raising a family of 11 children and through all the difficult and uncertain times, the family was always loved and cared for," said Marche.

The Ezekiel family is originally from the mining community of Bell Island, Newfoundland. Frederick Ezekiel went to work at a very young age at the iron ore mines and continued working there until they closed, which was a devastating loss.

At the age of 49, he made the courageous decision to move to Ontario to find employment since he still had to provide for a large family. He

found gainful employment shortly after arriving and was then able to bring the rest of his family to Ontario, leaving behind their beloved homeland of Bell Island. The Ezekiels lived and worked in Ontario until Frederick retired at the age of 65, only returning to Bell Island for an occasional visit.

Veronica always made sure that homework was completed and that the children were always ready to attend school each morning. Margaret said she remembers her mother, after working hard all day, sitting for hours around the kitchen table late into the evening helping her children with their lessons.

"She also always made sure that school uniforms were washed, pressed, and ready to be worn to school the next day."

Dr. Tammy Marche, Acting Dean of STM, is the granddaughter of Frederick and Veronica Ezekiel, and Brittany Marche-Shears, who is a student at STM, is their great granddaughter.

These connections to STM, and a heartfelt commitment to ensuring that students are able to pursue their education, inspired Margaret to establish the Ezekiel-Marche Scholarship Fund at St. Thomas More College in loving memory of her beloved parents.



STM at a Glance

Spring/Summer 2021

250+ ARTS & SCIENCE COURSE OPTIONS
(open to all USask students)

19 AREAS OF STUDY

70+ FACULTY
(Tenure, tenure-stream, term, sessional)

5300+ distinct STUDENTS
(registered in courses through STM)

1500+ STM STUDENTS
(self-declared STM status)

\$220,000 in STM Scholarships
& Bursaries available

10,000+ STM Alumni
(approx. since 1936)

41,040 STMCOLLEGE.CA
Website users
May 2020 - April 2021



ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Long Service Awards 2021

<p>10-Year Award Chris Hrynkow Paulette Hunter Jim Mariano</p>	<p>20-Year Award Michael Cichon Michael Poellet</p>
<p>15-Year Award Kathie Jeffrey Anna Klimina Fr. Andre Lalach Gail Morrison Derrin Raffey Dean Schmidt Stacy Stillwell Sharon Wright</p>	<p>30-Year Award Bryan Wiebe</p>



Lorna Stack

It was with great sadness that the family of Lorna Stack (Kerr) announced her peaceful passing on Dec. 20, 2020.

Lorna was born on Aug. 12, 1939 in Saskatoon. She grew up in the Nutana area and attended St. Joseph elementary school, Nutana Collegiate, St. Thomas More College and the University of Saskatchewan.

During her time at St. Thomas More College, a young man bet his friends that he could get Lorna to go on a date with him. John Stack asked, and she accepted. They married at St. Joseph Church on Aug. 5, 1961 and raised six children together.

Lorna was a loving daughter, sister, wife, mom and friend. She gave her family so much and many wonderful places, memories and traditions. From spending summers holidays at Jeannette Lake, hiking in Rogers Pass, playing in the Pacific Ocean in Hawaii, to the magic she brought to our Christmas Eve celebration. She made sure we experienced the joys of life together.

She was a wonderful baker and while she did not love it, she was an amazing cook. She loved gardening, and her yard was truly beautiful. She loved to buy local art and her home was filled with it. She contributed to her community in many ways, including taking Parkridge Care Home residents to weekly mass.

Lorna had great affection for all her friends including Mildred Kerr, Inga Kramer, Pat Keenan, Patty Thompson, and Anne DeCoteau, as well as her cousins, Lynda Moffat and Elaine Murray.

Lorna was preceded in death by her father, Cameron Kerr; mother, Kitty Kerr; brother, Don Kerr; father- and mother-in-law, Ambrose and Bertha Stack; husband, John Stack; daughter, Jennifer Stack; and her cat, Pancake. She is survived by her children, Caroline (husband Don, children Katherine, Anne, Tom and Elizabeth), Janice (husband Gerard, son William), Robert (wife Marion, son Nicolas), David (wife Andrea, children Jennifer, Andrew and Rebecca), and Marie (husband Darin, girls Rose and Juliet).



Siblings and STM alums Don Kerr and Lorna Stack

Donald Kerr, SOM

Submitted by Mildred Kerr

Don Kerr registered at STM in 1953 at the old white house on College Drive. His future achievements all started when Father O'Donnell taught him English 2.

Don loved STM's support of students, the Basilian Fathers, and the access to all classes afforded by its affiliation with the University of Saskatchewan. He graduated from STM in 1957 and went on to complete his MA from St. Michael's at University of Toronto.

Friendships formed at STM last a lifetime. Don's included Leonard LeGault, Neil Ross, Ray Kutz, Jerome Atrens, Marcel de la Gorgendiere and Joe Dierker, to name but a few.

Don married Mildred McNamee (STM 1959 and 2001 STM Distinguished Alumna) on August 13, 1960, officiated by

Father Finn at St. Joseph's parish on, the Saturday Don got his first paycheque teaching English 2 at summer school.

Many former students said Don was their favorite teacher at USask. Besides teaching well researched English classes for 42 years, English 2, British and Canadian Drama and Film Classes, he was prodigious writer, authoring nine books of poetry, and had five plays produced.

Don co-wrote *Saskatoon: The First Half Century* with Stan Hanson. Later he wrote *A Book in Every Hand: Public Libraries in Saskatchewan* for the Provincial Library Board. He also convinced then Mayor Cliff Wright to buy the Marr Residence, the oldest house still on its original location, and now a museum. He was first chair of Saskatoon City Council's Heritage committee, and first chair of Saskatoon Heritage Society and served six years on National Heritage Advisory Board.

He edited Saskatoon History Review for 16 years until 2019 and edited writers for Grain, Coteau Books and NeWest Press and NeWest Review for many years.

Don and Mildred celebrated their 60th anniversary on Aug. 13, 2020, renewing their vows as lifelong friends looked on.

Don passed away December 8, 2020.

Anne T. Moran

Submitted by Jane Heaslip

Anne, who passed away Feb. 10, 2021, first became acquainted with STM in the mid-fifties when she took up her position in the Science Library at the University of Saskatchewan. From that time onward she forged unforgettable memories in the hearts and minds of many of the administration, faculty, staff, students and worshipping community who call STM home.



Anne, in her early days at STM, particularly appreciated the relationships she had with the Basilian priests who shared a common Irish heritage with her. Over the years, as Anne became familiar with all those in the STM community, fostered particularly close relationships with the custodians, cooks, chefs and groundskeepers whom she constantly encouraged to keep things up. Always curious, always caring, always believing that those who served must be appreciated as the individuals they were, came to know not only these individuals but also their families whose birthdays and special occasions she always acknowledged.

And Anne herself loved celebrations! She loved STM for its Red Mass, its Academic Mass, its Easter and Christmas liturgies while in part because of the tradition and solemnity of these events, but also, and importantly, for the feast and fellowship associated with them. Anne believed with her whole heart and her whole soul that Jesus showed us how to bring peace to earth: pray always and provide food with accompaniment to all around you. She spent decades as a participant in all STM had to offer because she felt her prayer ministry was facilitated and accepted by most and because she never really needed a ticket for any function given there. She would always be fed, no questions asked and her prayers for others would always be appreciated.

Anne enjoyed meeting young people, listening to them, counseling them, encouraging them, praying with them. Many were the library fines she paid on their behalf and many was the meal she would share with someone she thought needed it.

Anne was many things to many people at STM. To all of us she was someone always here, praying with us, celebrating with us, studying with us, leading us, following us, laughing and crying with us. Like the mortar in the bricks of our walls her presence helped hold us together. May her memory continue to support us and may we, from time to time, consider the quote which so often she gave to those she met in her prayer ministry:

Christ has no body now but yours

No hands, no feet on earth but yours.

Yours are the eyes through which he looks with compassion on this world.

Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.

Yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world.

Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body.

Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

Teresa of Avila

Dr. Michael Krochak

Dr. Michael Krochak passed away March 11, 2021.

A kind soul, a wise committed leader, faithful, respected, and much-loved. Just some of the many adjectives used to describe Dr. Michael Krochak.

Michael first attended St. Thomas More College in 1950, receiving his bachelor of Arts in 1953. During his time at STM he was very involved with the life of the college, including the Newman Club, Ulcers lunches, and Sunday evening socials.

After completing his BA, Michael entered the College of Medicine, receiving his medical degree in 1957. He served as a family physician in Saskatoon for nearly 60 years.

An active member of Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, Michael was also involved in many professional and community projects and organizations over the years including the Saskatoon Obnova Club; the Ukrainian Catholic Business and Professional Men's Club; the Saskatchewan College of Family Physicians; Saskatoon and district Medical Society and the Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood of Saskatchewan.

Michael's community engagement included serving on Boards with the Knights of Columbus, the Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Board, the College of Family Physicians of Canada and the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, along with many Ukrainian Catholic community projects such as St. Joseph's Home and St. Volodymyr's Eparchial camp.

Dr. Krochak received many commendations over his lifetime. Some highlights include being named the 2001 Family Physician of the Year by the Saskatchewan College of Family Physicians. He was also recognized by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress Saskatchewan Provincial Branch and named one of the top 10 family physicians of the year by the College of Family Physicians of Canada.

Michael and Marie Krochak remained good friends and generous supporters of student awards at the College, and the Prairie Centre for the study of Ukrainian Heritage (PCUH), an academic unit of STM.

In 2002, STM recognized Dr. Krochak as a Distinguished Alumnus for his outstanding lifetime achievements, having made a significant contribution to the community, and continuing to celebrate his relationship with the College.

At that event, Sr. Theodosa, administrator of St. Joseph's Home, called Dr. Krochak "a man of service, and impeccable stature and standards, and noted that his colleagues were always inspired by his commitment to his medical practice and the care of his patients."

A true inspiration and beloved alumnus.

REMEMBERED WARMLY

Arthur Dumont, 1945-2019

Ralph Ecker, 1940-2019

Elizabeth Theresia Lottie Sacco, 1935-2019

Betty Sells, 1936-2019

Fr. Martin Dimnik, CSB, 1941-2020

Elizabeth Elder, 1934-2020

Donald Kerr, 1936-2020

Robert Joseph Koster, 1936-2020

Sylvester Kulyk, 1938-2020

Rosemary Gerwing Lalonde 1929-2020

Terrence Leier, 1942-2020

William Edward Sinnett, 1939-2020

Lorna Stack, 1939-2020

Robert Theodoor Vanderham, 1927-2020

Michael Krochak, 1931-2021

Anne Moran, 1923-2021

Juliette Poulin, 1926-2021

Susan Robertson, 1955-2021

Comfort Food

We hear you. It's been a tough year. STM and Choices have stepped up to make things a bit easier during this challenging time. Enjoy lower pricing and new menu additions. Order ahead for easy pickup!




ORDER ONLINE for convenient takeout: stmcollege.ca/eat-here/take-out.php
DINE IN OPTION for faculty/staff/students subject to room capacity restrictions



Jarrid Phillips
Executive Chef and Food Services Manager for Choices at STM effective April 1, 2021.

Jarrid has been with STM since 2018 in his role as Chef and has been instrumental in the development of new popular menu items for Choices.



Mitch Spence
Lead Cook in our Food Services department.

Mitch will be assisting Executive Chef Phillips and will be providing catering services to the College as we come out of the pandemic. Mitch has several years of experience and a broad set of skills that make his culinary style a great fit for Choices at STM.

 Follow on Instagram @ [choicess.at.stmcollege](https://www.instagram.com/choicess.at.stmcollege)



Student Study Access - Now also open Saturdays 11-6

9 of 50 spots used
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College Events

De Margwies Ecumenical Lecture
WED, JUN 16
[Events Calendar](#)

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New sections now added with prospective student resources; Indigenous initiatives at STM; Research Centres; Alumni news and graduating student information.

STM Distinguished Alumni Award Nomination Form

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS June 30, 2021.

Required Nomination Documentation and Information:

1. A completed nomination form signed by the nominator
2. A curriculum vitae, resume or summary of the nominee's achievements that may include the following: career path, titles, awards, publications, honours, accomplishments and contributions. Feel free to include newspaper/magazine articles
3. Supporting letter(s) of reference and other relevant supporting documentation
4. Your reasons for nominating this alumna/us

Personal Information of Nominee:

Name of nominee: _____
Year of graduation: _____ Degree: _____
Nominee's current position / occupation: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
Province: _____ Postal Code: _____
Phone number (Daytime): _____ (Evening): _____
Email: _____

Does the nominee know that he or she has been nominated for this award?

Nominator Information:

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
Province: _____ Postal Code: _____
Phone number (Daytime): _____
Phone Number (Evening): _____ Email: _____
Nominator Signature: _____ Date: _____

Selection Criteria:

The Distinguished Alumni Award honours graduates of St. Thomas More College who have distinguished themselves in either their chosen profession or in their community and who have continued to celebrate their relationship with STM College since graduation. Note: Sitting politicians, current STM faculty, staff, and current members of the Board of Governors and the Alumni Association Council are ineligible for this award.

1. Provide a brief biography of nominee
2. Provide a summary of nominee's professional and /or community achievements
3. Provide your reason for nominating this alumna/us

References:

Please provide a letter of reference, no longer than one page. The letter may be provided by the nominator. Additional letters of reference are both welcomed and encouraged.

Anyone may nominate alumni for the awards and there is no limit to the number of times a candidate may be nominated. Candidates must be STM Alumni. You may not nominate someone for a posthumous award.

The selection Committee of Distinguished Alumni of the STM-Newman Alumni Association in consultation with the college president review all the nominations and select the award winner(s) who are then notified of the decision. The nominator(s) of the successful recipient will be advised of the decision. The recipients will be announced during the annual STM Corporation Banquet in October/November.

Forward completed nomination to:

Kari Sinkewicz, Manager of Development & Alumni Relations
St. Thomas More College
1437 College Drive Saskatoon, SK. S7N 0W6
For more information email ksinkewicz@stmcollege.ca or call 306.262.6818



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Kari Sinkewicz 306.262.6818 or ksinkewicz@stmcollege.ca

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 Visa MasterCard American Express

Card Expiry Date: ____ / ____ (month/year)

Name as Shown on card: _____

Signature: _____

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Thank you for your support!

Mail to : Kari Sinkewicz, Manager of Development & Alumni Relations
STM College -1437 College Drive,
Saskatoon, SK S7N 0W6

St. Thomas More College

"Courageously exploring the riches of Revelation and of nature so that the united endeavour of intelligence and faith will enable people to come to the full measure of their humanity"

Ex corde ecclesiae, 5



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