

SJU UPDATE

St. Jerome's University Alumni and Friends



Finding yourself in Residence

It didn't take long for Erika Toffelmire to realize that residence at St. Jerome's would be right for her.

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David B. Perrin, President & Vice-Chancellor

St. Jerome's University – 2015 and Beyond

May is an exciting time to be on campus. New growth is on the trees and the sounds of spring are all around us. New life is everywhere! It's a time when students from St. Jerome's University have a sense of accomplishment – some have successfully completed their degrees and moved on to new challenges, while others have gone on to summer jobs. Some have travelled to countries around the world as part of our Beyond Borders program. This year we have one or more students each going to Ukraine, Argentina, Kenya, India, Uganda, and Peru for three-month sojourns.

As we look back at the academic year that has just ended, we celebrate who we are – a public Catholic university that provides a small residential learning experience that is second to none and enjoys all the benefits that our larger federated partner, the University of Waterloo, offers us.

We are very proud of this federated partnership. Each year, St. Jerome's University offers programs in the liberal arts, including mathematics – the core of a classical liberal arts education – to nearly 900 of our own registered students and another 10,000 or so students from the University of Waterloo.

We are especially pleased at this time to be looking ahead to the future of St. Jerome's University. Over the past few years, we have been consulting with faculty, staff, alumni, and all our community partners to discover what defines



and drives St. Jerome's University now and what their hopes and dreams are for St. Jerome's University into the future. The findings from this extensive consultation were brought together in a document entitled *Visioning SJU 2015 and Beyond*, which was presented to the Board of Governors at its November 2009 meeting.

Visioning SJU 2015 and Beyond is the foundation for developing a Strategic Plan that will be presented to the Board of Governors in September 2010 for approval. A major component of the Strategic Plan is a campus revitalization plan, which may include a proposal to add one or more buildings to the SJU campus. Indeed, it is an exciting time to be at St. Jerome's University as we plan for the future!

Our 150th anniversary is a short five years away, in 2015. Thank you to all who make St. Jerome's University such a wonderful place to be. Stay tuned as the countdown begins for the launch of exciting new building plans, 2015 celebration activities, and so much more that is already part of the vitality of St. Jerome's University.



Mark Greco (MMSc '05, BAsC '04) – Alumni Association Chair

SJU Alumni Association – Join us!

This year marks the 145th anniversary of the founding of St. Jerome's by Father Louis Funcken. This is an impressive milestone in its own right.

In just a few years' time, we will be celebrating another major milestone: our 150th anniversary. Over the next five years, our institution and devoted alumni family will be finding ways to celebrate this achievement – along with the countless achievements of our alumni. To meet this goal and to better serve our graduates through social, educational and volunteer opportunities, the St. Jerome's Alumni Association is expanding. We will need your help to carry out the initiatives we are planning. We encourage all our alumni – whether you stayed in residence or were academically enrolled – who are passionate about St. Jerome's to get involved and share your talents as members of the Association.

We are inviting recent and not-so-recent graduates to join our executive committee for ongoing planning or to donate a few hours of time to individual events.

You don't need to live in the Kitchener-Waterloo area to take part; the Association is also looking to engage

alumni in a number of cities across Ontario in the coming year. Let us know where you are and we can create opportunities together.

The pioneering spirit was an integral trait of Father Louis Funcken and the early graduates of St. Jerome's. This spirit has allowed our beloved institution to grow and to adapt to the needs of the community. We look forward to continuing this pioneering tradition as we meet the needs of our graduates and grow the St. Jerome's Alumni Association.

For more information on getting involved, contact Nadine Collins, University Advancement Officer, at nacollins@uwaterloo.ca or 519-884-8111, ext 28255.

Ways Alumni Can Help St. Jerome's

Not interested in committee work? Here are some easy ways you can help St. Jerome's University every day!

- Proudly share your experience as a student at St. Jerome's and encourage prospective students to look into coming to SJU.
- Spread awareness of St. Jerome's University by wearing St. Jerome's-branded clothing when you travel or on dress-down Fridays at your place of employment. To order items follow the link to "SJU Memorabilia" in the "Graduates and Friends" section at www.sju.ca.
- Attend SJU Events. Upcoming events are listed on the homepage at www.sju.ca in the "Events" section.
- Keep in touch! Let us share your successes! Send your updates to nacollins@uwaterloo.ca.





Finding Yourself in Residence

Photo by Bryn Gladding

It didn't take long for Erika Toffelmire to realize that residence at St. Jerome's would be right for her. The moment came during her first visit when she saw some clothes hanging on the line in the residence's laundry room, which was unlocked. She laughs about it now, but she remembers being impressed that the students were so trusting. Even as a visitor looking in, she could tell that people had a sense of security there.

She had applied to a few universities, but wanted a "different residence experience" – a smaller place where people could really get to know each other and there were fewer distractions. Erika, a second-year Arts student and a Residence Council Social Convenor, felt comfortable at SJU residence the day she moved in. From the start, she didn't feel a need to go home for weekend visits. "Residence felt like home," she says simply.

It's no accident that residence feels like home. The key to real engagement with the residents is a student-centred approach, say Darren Becks and Glen Lombard, who oversee the SJU residences. Darren, the Associate Vice-President, Operations and Human Resources, and Glen, the Residence Manager, spend a lot of time making sure they get it right. They both lived in residence at SJU themselves, not so long ago, and they are passionate about

creating an environment where students feel comfortable and can learn and grow.

Not everyone would be up to the task of supervising nearly 300 students – most of whom are 18 or 19 years old – 24/7 except during break weeks. Most of those students are in first year, and have never lived away from home before. Thoughts of what could go wrong might overwhelm some people. Not Glen and Darren, though. They believe residence life is a vital element of the university experience. It's not about running great programs or events, they say, although they do that, too. The key is to provide student leaders with training and lots of support, and to make them accountable.

This shift in approach came when they realized that they didn't have to choose between the two major outcomes of running a residence – a balanced budget and an excellent student experience. It's possible to do both. The challenge, they say, is to keep both sides of the equation working.

Glen and Darren's working relationship models the approach they want the residence dons to have with students. To start with, they invest a lot of time and energy in the dons. "Dons are the backbone of our residence," Glen emphasizes. The focus is on care of the community,

on finding a bridge they can build with any student who is less engaged.

Student leaders learn skills so they can handle issues that arise. Glen interacts with the dons every day, and meets with them as a group at least once a week. The dons meet on their own once a week as well. They take part in professional development activities and receive evaluations on their efforts. As the year progresses, their confidence builds and they begin to solve problems on their own or together, rather than having to call Glen or Darren when an issue comes up. "We're selective about our residence staff," Darren says. "Often this is the first time they've had to be responsible and accountable. The majority of the time they're doing their work, we're not here."

Upper-year students are expected to step up and take on leadership roles as well. In the fall, these students will take part in a two-day leadership program. Even first-year students are given the chance to learn some leadership skills.

In the meantime, parents are kept in the loop as the year unfolds. "We can't care for students without being in touch with parents, who have entrusted us with their children," Glen says. One way that parents stay in touch is through Grapevine, a student newsletter about the latest events at SJU. Parents are pleased with what they see.

Yasir Samad, a first-year student who lives in residence, had no trouble fitting in. He had planned to study law at York University, but changed his mind when he came to the open house at St. Jerome's. He hardly knew a soul there, but his don told him that by the second house dinner in the fall, he would have found his group of friends. He found that hard to believe, but his don was right.

"Keep your door open," Yasir says. "That's the key to getting to know people. It starts with the people who live around you." In a few short weeks, residence was home. Which, in Yasir's case, was lucky, as his parents are now living abroad and his only sibling has gotten married. Yasir didn't get involved in stuff in high school, but at St. Jerome's he's a member of the Residence Life Team and in on a lot of activities. Living here has changed him. "You learn about yourself and build new skills," he explains. "I never used to be comfortable with new people or talking about myself, but now I am."

Gary Abbott, a fourth-year student and Yasir's don, has watched him thrive at SJU. "St. Jerome's brings out the best in you," Gary says. "The residence is a safe

environment where you can get to know everyone. It completely morphed who I am." Gary loves being a don – interacting with other students, helping them, giving back. It's an incredible experience, he says.

Community life in residence can also include the spiritual side of things. "It's here if you want to participate," says Erika, even though this aspect was not a deciding factor when she was choosing a university. "It's nice to go to mass on campus. Lots of students walk over to mass together, and eat together before or afterwards. It opens the door to talk to other people about how spirituality shapes our experience." The emphasis is on service, through local and international activities, events and trips. "Everyone is welcome here, whatever your faith or if you don't belong to a particular faith," Gary adds.

When Erika's high school friends first came to visit her in Waterloo for the weekend, they would tell her she was different from the person they knew in high school. She is different, she admits. "This is a place where you can be honest, be yourself. I hadn't been in that kind of place before." Next year, when Erika is a don, she will have the chance to help new students discover all that residence has to offer.

When Gary looks back at the last few years and everything he has done, he admits that it's greater than he ever imagined. "University is so much more than studies," he says. "What I will remember is the residence experience – intramurals, clubs, and much more. A lot of what you learn involves your own growth. There are so many opportunities to develop here."

He grins. "I want my kids to come here someday."



Yasir Samad, first-year SJU resident.

Above photo, and cover photo by Carl Paulowski

Giving Back

— Retiring mathematics professor invests in St. Jerome's future

After 35 years as a professor of mathematics at St. Jerome's, Scott A. Vanstone retired on October 1, 2009.

St. Jerome's was fortunate enough to meet Dr. Vanstone as an undergraduate in the 1960s. He obtained all three of his degrees at St. Jerome's and the University of Waterloo, culminating in his Ph.D. in 1974. During his career at St. Jerome's, Professor Vanstone published more than 250 research papers and a number of books on cryptography and related topics. For ten years he held the NSERC/Pitney Bowes Senior Chair of Cryptography. His research has been the cornerstone of the University of Waterloo's Centre of Applied Cryptographic Research, where he remains as executive director.

Professor Vanstone also founded Certicom Corp., a multinational provider of electronic information security products and services that was recently acquired by Research In Motion Ltd. He holds 40 existing patents, with two dozen more that are pending.

Professor Vanstone's achievements have been widely recognized. He has been a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada since 1998 and received the University of Waterloo's Award for Excellence in Research. In 2001, he received international validation of the impact of his research with the Award for Mathematics from RSA Security Inc. In May 2009, Professor Vanstone was given the Catalyst Award for Lifetime Achievement in Innovation from the Premier of Ontario. He and his spouse, Sherry Shannon-Vanstone, designated \$100,000 of the Catalyst Award to entrance scholarships for first-year students at St. Jerome's University.

A reception was held on November 24, 2009, to thank Dr. Vanstone and Sherry Shannon-Vanstone for their dedication and commitment to St. Jerome's University over the years and for their \$100,000 gift. They surprised the guests at the reception by announcing that they were donating an additional \$200,000 to St. Jerome's.

Dr. Vanstone told the guests that this gift was "to show our gratitude and support for St. Jerome's University and to help lead the way into the 21st century." He added, "I have seen this institution flourish and grow... There are plans to expand and build a



David B. Perrin, President and Vice Chancellor (middle) celebrates with Sherry Shannon-Vanstone (left) and Scott Vanstone (right)

modernized complex here at St. Jerome's. I know this gift will be used wisely to advance those plans."

Dr. Vanstone remarked, "This is a place where I have been allowed to teach, do research and become an entrepreneur. I thank St. Jerome's for giving me the latitude to advance my career."

David B. Perrin, President and Vice-Chancellor of St. Jerome's University, recognized Dr. Vanstone's long and distinguished career and, on behalf of the University's faculty, staff and students, expressed heartfelt thanks to Dr. Vanstone and Sherry Shannon-Vanstone for their continued support of St. Jerome's University: "Thanks to your support, St. Jerome's will be able to celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2015 by making some necessary capital improvements on campus."

In recognition of Professor Vanstone's illustrious career, he will be formally recognized as Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the Faculty of Mathematics convocation on June 18, 2010.

Facility Update: High-tech Heating System

January 1998: the roof-mounted heating system for the Library and nearby offices fails midday on a Saturday. The temperature of the supply air drops. Unheated outside air continues to be introduced. At 8:30 a.m. on Monday, as staff begin their workday, the Facility Manager receives calls that some offices are "freezing". The temperature has dropped to between 5 and 10 degrees Celsius. At this temperature, even the fluorescent lights refuse to work. Service is called, but it is late Monday afternoon before heat is restored and a further 12 hours before the whole of the space returns to a comfortable temperature.

That was the "old days"; fast forward to January 2008. In the middle of the night, the hot water plant that provides the heat for Finn Residence and St. Jerome's Administration Building fails to ignite. Sensors monitor the rapidly dropping water temperature. As the programmed low threshold is breached, a text message is automatically sent to the Facility Manager's cellphone. The Facility Manager accesses the building automation on his home computer, confirms the urgency, places an emergency service call and is able to meet service personnel onsite within the hour. The boiler is reset. Operation resumes. Defective parts are identified and replaced. Best of all, no one even noticed!

This automated system was first introduced to St. Jerome's University in 1996, during the modifications to Sweeney Hall Residence heating and the construction of the Community Centre. Renovations over the years



Jim Robson, Facility Manager (left) in discussion with Glen Lombard, Residence Manager (right)

have provided numerous opportunities to integrate our facilities. Program upgrades and preventive maintenance have also provided windows to bring more of the facility into the automated fold. Ongoing engineering is provided by The Walter Fedy Partnership and the system is a product of Siemens International.

In addition to dramatically shortening critical response time to systems failure, the automation has introduced optional responses such as prioritizing, load accommodation and scheduling consideration. The Facility Manager is able to change operational parameters based on abrupt weather changes or special occupancies. The system also allows the benchmarking of run cycles, which means we can forecast consumption based on historical trends.

Better communication with our buildings ensures increased comfort and safety for occupants. Better communication also allows for more effective management of energy and maintenance costs, which in turn extend the life of our buildings and our equipment.

St. Jerome's University a tradition since 1865.

Show your school spirit.

**Purchase St. Jerome's
apparel and gifts online.**

Follow the link to "SJU merchandise" on the "Graduates and Friends" page at www.sju.ca.



NEWS



SJU Celebrates our Prolific Faculty

On April 6, 2010, St. Jerome's celebrated the many faculty who had books, chapters, essays, articles and reviews published in the past year.

Special recognition went to Dr. Tristanne Connolly, Dr. Maureen Drysdale and Dr. BJ Rye, who were celebrating the publication of books. Bravo to all!



SJU Professor Flexes "Intellectual Muscle"

History Professor Whitney Lackenbauer took part in the Vancouver 2010 Winter Games – via a podcast about "Canada and the Changing Circumpolar World."

Intellectual Muscle is an education program created by Vancouver 2010, the *Globe and Mail*, and the University of British Columbia as one of a wide range of cultural and educational activities related to the Olympic celebrations. As part of the program, academics from across Canada were invited to record short lectures about topics related to winter and the Olympics.

To hear the podcasts, visit www.theglobeandmail.com/intellectual-muscle/the-talks/article1312702.



Dr. Niccoli becomes Honorary Vice-Consul of Italy to Canada

Dr. Gabriel Niccoli, Chair of SJU's Department of Italian & French Studies, accepted an appointment as Honorary Vice-

Consul of Italy to Canada, serving the counties of Wellington and Waterloo. Congratulazioni, Dr. Niccoli!



Welcome, Carm De Santis!

On February 2, 2010, SJU's Department of Sexuality, Marriage and Family Studies (SMF) welcomed Carm De Santis as an adjunct member. Carm, who has been teaching for SMF since 2005, has a master's degree in

Family Studies with an emphasis in Couples and Family Therapy. She has a private therapy practice and is a Clinical Member of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy, the Ontario Association of Marriage and

Family Therapy, and the Canadian Registry of Marriage and Family Therapists. SMF is the only program of its kind in Canada, offering both sexuality and family studies streams combined into one degree.



Dr. McGee on the Festival Circuit

SJU English Professor Ted McGee will begin his year-long sabbatical by giving a "Table Talk" at the Stratford Festival on the play *Kiss Me Kate* on Friday, July 2, at 11:30 a.m. Please see the Stratford Festival Visitors' Guide or go to www.stratfordfestival.com for more information.

In September, you can catch up with Professor McGee at the Winnipeg International Writers Festival. He will be enjoying the works of many Canadian writers along with former SJU English Professor Charlene Diehl, Director of the Festival. Visit www.thinairwinnipeg.ca for details.



Professor Ledohowski's memorable first year at SJU

SJU Assistant Professor Dr. Lindy Ledohowski has had a very full first year at St. Jerome's. She had three articles published,

presented at a conference and spoke about her research at the Jurisprudence Centre at Carleton University – on top of teaching four new courses, supervising an Honours thesis and helping to set and administer a Ph.D. Canadian Literature area exam.

Dr. Ledohowski is a wonderful example of the high-quality faculty SJU attracts!



SJU English Professor Wins the 2010 Distinguished Teacher Award

Photo Courtesy Jonathon Menon

Tristanne Connolly, Associate Professor, English, at St. Jerome's, was one of four winners awarded the University of Waterloo's most prestigious teaching accolade this year. This award is presented by the University Senate "in recognition of a continued record of excellence in teaching at the University of Waterloo." The winners are chosen by a committee of students, faculty, staff and alumni, based on nominations from the university community. Congratulations, Dr. Connolly!

NEWS CONT'D

Correction to Last Update Edition!

In the last edition of Update (Fall/Winter 2009-10), some of Dr. Tracy Penny Light's accomplishments were attributed to Dr. Toni Serafini. Dr. Tracy Penny Light has been recognized internationally for her work in educational technology and the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL). Dr. Toni Serafini's area of expertise is Family Studies. She is a practising couples and family therapist.

Good Global Citizenship Think Tank

In January 2010, participants from across Canada met at SJU to discuss international experience in higher education in Canada. Thanks to funding from the Wabash Centre for Teaching and Learning in Religion and Theology, Dr. Joanne Benham Rennick (Director of SJU's Beyond Borders program) and Dr. Michel Desjardins (Chair, Global Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University) invited participants to discuss the challenges of providing international learning experiences for students, including concerns about sustainability, risk management, reciprocity, environmental impact, program delivery, and accessibility. Presenters included several Beyond Borders alumni and current student participants - Cathleen DiFruscio, Olivia Neal, Krista Richards and Lara Vlach. Look for the resulting publication "Good Global Citizenship and International Learning in Canadian Universities" in 2011.

A 1950-60s Graduate? Reconnect!

Reunion at St. Jerome's University - July 13-16, 2010

St. Jerome's University is hosting a reunion on July 13-16th for anyone who attended St. Jerome's and/or Resurrection College in the 1950-60s. If you want more information, or are interested in attending, please contact the Reunion Committee:

Tom Sexton (267) 847-0410,
tom_sexton@hotmail.com

John Mudd (202) 997-0211,
jmudd@archbishopcarroll.org

John Devine (519) 744-6472
devinej@sympatico.ca

Do you have a photo of your days at St. Jerome's? Email a high-resolution image to nacollins@uwaterloo.ca and it could appear in *Update*.



Send in your photos!

Join us at The Feast!

Support Catholic higher education.
Attend the 10th anniversary of
The Feast at St. Jerome's!

Proceeds from this event support first-year entrance scholarships at SJU.

When: 6:30 pm on Friday, October 1, 2010

Where: D.R. Letson Community Centre

St. Jerome's University,
290 Westmount Rd N.,
Waterloo, ON N2L 3G3

To reserve your seat or for more information, visit www.sju.ca or contact Nadine Collins at nacollins@uwaterloo.ca or 519-884-8111 ext 28255.

This year's honoured guest and recipient of the Chancellor John B. Sweeney Award for Leadership in Catholic University Education is the Speaker of the Senate, The Honourable Noël A. Kinsella.



Senator Kinsella, who helped launch our Centre for Responsible Citizenship in 2008, is well known nationally and internationally as a human rights advocate and academic. We are very pleased to welcome him back to St. Jerome's University.

Senator Kinsella spent 41 years as a faculty member at St. Thomas University in Fredericton, New Brunswick, where he taught

psychology, philosophy and human rights; he is currently a member of the Board of Governors there. His University education includes University College, Dublin (B.A.); St. Thomas Aquinas University, Rome (L.Ph., and Ph.D.), and Pontifical Lateran University, Rome (S.T.L., S.T.D.). He is a licensed member of the College of Psychologists of New Brunswick; a Knight of the Sovereign Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, Rhodes and Malta; a Commander of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem; and an Honorary Captain (Navy) in the Canadian Forces. Senator Kinsella has an honorary Doctor of Philosophy degree from the Dominican University College, Ottawa, and an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from St. Thomas University.

We look forward to celebrating with you *The Feast of St. Jerome's* and honouring Dr. Kinsella together in support of Catholic higher education.

Student Life

SJU Students Go Beyond Borders

SJU bid farewell to the 2009–10 Beyond Borders students who left for their three-month experience abroad volunteering in development organizations in India, Argentina, Peru, Ukraine, Kenya and Uganda. These students rely on fundraising efforts to cover the cost of their trips. Their efforts were supported by a dinner and silent auction event, organized by two students from the 2008–09 cohort, that raised \$3,000 for this year's group. To ensure the continued growth of

the program, Director Joanne

Benham Rennick and Outreach Programs Coordinator Elyse Redden visited more than 45 new potential student placement sites in Peru, Argentina, India and Africa this year.

To read about our current students' activities, visit the Beyond Borders News page:

http://sju.ca/courses/beyond_borders/news.html. You can hear more about their experiences through their blogs, available at:

http://sju.ca/courses/beyond_borders/BBstudents2009-10.html.

You can support the program through donations or by purchasing an ethically sourced t-shirt, designed by one of the students, for only \$20. Beyond Borders helps students take leadership roles on social justice issues around the world. To learn more, please email Elyse Redden (ekredde@uwaterloo.ca) to sign up for the email list.

Farewell to Matt and Miri!

Matt Pankhurst and Miri Romero-Alvarez, SJU Library student assistants since September 2007, graduated at the end of the Fall term. When asked to reflect on their experiences at the Library, Matt declared, "I am even

happier and more relaxed among the Library staff than I am at my rented Waterloo home."

One of his favourite memories includes discovering a book on the shelves with a cover so outrageous that despite his best efforts, he was laughing out loud for 20 minutes. He agreed with Miri's sentiments that "St. Jerome's is a very welcoming community and it is a joy to work among such valuable and welcoming people." Miri's favourite memory was being recognized while on a trip in Poland by a fellow SJU student who knew her from the library! We thank Matt and Miri for their dedication to St. Jerome's and all their hard work in the Library. We look forward to keeping in touch with them as they move on to the next phase of their lives, which for Matt includes working in Manchuria to practise teaching and learning languages and for Miri involves rediscovering some of her hobbies and participating in some Catholic young adult groups.



SJU Math Student Interning at Facebook

Dale Lemieux is spending his co-op term working at Facebook in California. He describes it as "the most AMAZING experience I have ever had!" While he is enjoying the social and cultural opportunities that California offers, Dale loves his job just as much. He does exciting work on the Facebook website, which he can see clearly on the 30-inch monitor the company supplies. When not munching on the company-provided snacks, he captures sightings of famous people on the BlackBerry and laptop Facebook gave him. To date, Dale has met the Craig responsible for starting Craigslist and spotted supermodel Tyra Banks in the office building. We are delighted Dale is having such a fantastic time and can't wait to hear more of his stories.



Bake Sale Fundraiser

SJU Provides Aid to Haitians

The earthquake in Haiti in January rocked the SJU community. Alice Soeder, a Religious Studies and Computer Science student, was in Haiti to get a taste of mission work when the earthquake struck. She was the only non-medical member on the seven-person mission team there to set up clinics in rural villages in the northern part of the country. One of the mission members died in the earthquake. Despite living through the devastation, Alice is undeterred in her desire to try her hand at mission work again.

The SJU community back home supported Haitian relief through fundraising efforts. Mat Brown coordinated a bottle drive that raised \$102 for the Red Cross and Save the Children. A loose change drive coordinated through the Residence, the Student Catholic Community and the SJU Student Life Office for Development and Peace raised an additional \$567. Over 200 kilograms of goods were also donated by our very generous community. The Haitian relief kit items were delivered to the Mennonite Central Committee.



Haitian Relief Kits

Passing the Torch

SJU students Sarah Van Allen, Kaila Orr and Jess VandenBussche demonstrated their gold medal spirit when they each carried the torch for their section of the Olympic Torch Relay for the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Games. The three women commented on what a memorable, moving experience it was to participate in such a community-building event. For Kaila, "The Olympic flame represents hope, courage and all the Olympic ideals, and the Torch Relay aims to bring this spirit to communities with the goal to unify not only Canadians but all global citizens." For Sarah, participating in the relay was "my way of showing Canada the difference one person can make for a better country." The application process took almost a year to complete and required each student to commit to sharing the experience with the community. While 12,000 people across Canada had the opportunity to carry the torch, the competition was immense. That three current SJU students were chosen is a testament to the high calibre of students we have here at St. Jerome's.



Carrying the Torch!

St. Jerome's Alumni Golf Classic

Saturday, September 25, 2010
Merry Hill Golf Club

Last year's event was so fun, we're doing it again! Whether you stayed in residence, graduated from St. Jerome's or just love the SJU Community, join us for this fun-filled day on the course. Save the date now and watch your email for details.



For more information and to register visit www.sju.ca
 or contact Nadine Collins at nacollins@uwaterloo.ca or 519-884-8111 ext 28255.

Alumni Update



SJU Alumni-Student Career Mixer

St. Jerome's University students braved a last blast of winter weather to be inspired by and learn from the experience of five outstanding SJU alumni on February 24, 2010. The alumni came to talk about the paths they followed from SJU to their current careers and to share tips on how to find happiness, fulfillment and success after graduation.

Following a warm welcome from David B. Perrin, SJU President & Vice-Chancellor, and from Nadine Collins, SJU Advancement Officer, representatives from the SJU Registrar's Office and University of Waterloo's Career Services offered career tips, suggestions and direction for both current and graduating students. Then the stage was given over to the alumni.

Bruce Rodrigues (BMATH '83), Superintendent of Education, Waterloo District Catholic School Board, credited SJU as the place where he "grew up." His academic and residence experience here laid the groundwork for the person he is today. His message for the students was simple: Follow your heart. He encouraged them to be open to what they are passionate about. For Bruce, giving back to the community and promoting justice have remained central to finding meaning in life.

Allison Donohue (BA '03), Program Coordinator, Global Village, Habitat for Humanity, lived in residence and graduated with a Spanish major and French minor. It took her just over five years to find her dream job working for Habitat for Humanity. "I did my research, listened to the experts and took the opportunities that presented themselves." She encouraged the students to seek out volunteer opportunities that will help them to explore whether particular jobs are a good fit and to get inside information on jobs with the organization as they become available.

Searching for direction and meaning has been a lifelong pursuit for **Lisa Hodgkinson (BA '92)**,

a teacher at Resurrection High School in Kitchener. Lisa has travelled the world and followed her passion to learn and better understand religion in all its forms. She, too, faced several crossroads in her career where she felt "the hand of God" present and guiding her. Her advice to the students was to listen and stay true to yourself and your passion.

"I love my job." These were the first words spoken by **Doug Jack (BA '80)**, a lawyer specializing in legal services to the veterinary profession throughout Canada. Doug lived in residence and studied English at SJU. He said, "Most students won't recognize the impact SJU has on their lives until they graduate." SJU instilled in him a passion for learning and the knowledge that relationship-building is the key to career and life success. His advice to students was to commit to lifelong learning and read every day.

An evening filled with stories of bonding, growing up, love, a passion for one's work and ultimate career success was summed up by SJU Alumni Association Secretary **Carolyn Eckert (BA '94)**. "Opportunities exist for you to find success and fulfillment in your chosen careers, but it may be the volunteer experiences that keep you true to yourself." Many companies offer education and training support, as well as volunteer opportunities, to support employees' chosen initiatives. Carolyn's advice to students was to always look for those opportunities to be you.

For information on how you can get involved or be an alumni presenter, please contact Nadine Collins at nacollins@uwaterloo.ca or 519-884-8111 ext 28255.



SJU Alumni "Sweetheart" Family Skate

Jerome, SJU's mascot, spent February 14, 2010, entertaining onlookers at the SJU Alumni "Sweetheart" Skate. Family and friends of alumni, students, staff and Campus Ministry enjoyed an afternoon of skating at the Waterloo Public Square. This family-oriented event was a great opportunity for members of the SJU community to connect.

Catching up with Alumni

Willibrord (Will) Bachmeier (BA '56)

was named "Counselor of the Year" by the North Dakota Addiction Counselor Association and the North Dakota Addiction Treatment Coalition during the Substance Abuse Summit in September 2009. The award recognizes Will's outstanding contributions to the addictions field and his dedication to helping people in North Dakota.

Daniel Kroetsch (BA '71) retired from 35 years of teaching high school to join his son, David, and wife, Judy, at Aeryon Labs Inc. building aerial robots.

Kevin Droughan (BA '75) lives in Thornhill with his wife, Linda, who works for Fibrenetics in Kitchener. He is entering his 5th year as warehouse manager and quality control coordinator at True North Nutrition, a natural health and wellness and sport nutrition distributor. He is also a member of the band the Cobra Kings (www.cobrakings.com), which released its first CD in 2009 and hopes to release its second this spring. Their music can be purchased at www.cdbaby.com. Kevin can be reached at kevindroughan@rogers.com.

Robert (Weng) Lye fondly recalls his days at St. Jerome's and would be happy to hear from all SJU residents of 1980–81. Robert credits Fr. Norm Choate with inspiring him to finish his education. He remembers being designated the local guardian of some Vietnamese immigrants and being the singles badminton champion.

Elvira Sentes (BA '87) was recognized for her volunteer work by the Zonta Club of Kitchener-Waterloo at its Women of Achievement Awards. Sentes, a retired teacher-librarian with the Waterloo County Separate School Board, has devoted her retirement to volunteering after the sudden death of her husband. She spent six months at an Elder Leprosy Village in Thailand and another six months working at L'Arche in New Zealand. She now volunteers with Sunnyside Home. Elvira celebrated the birth of her first grandchild with her son and daughter-in-law in New Zealand this April.

Michael H. Clifton (BA '92) received his M.A. in Philosophy from the University of Waterloo and an LL.B. from the University of Toronto. After articling and working in intellectual property, immigration and commercial law in Toronto, he settled on condominium law at a KW firm. In 2007, Michael opened Clifton Kok LLP with law partner Mark Kok, practising exclusively in condominium development and management law. The firm is now hiring its

fourth lawyer. Michael was recently elected vice president of the Golden Horseshoe Chapter of the Canadian Condominium Institute. He also serves as a high councillor and director of public affairs for the Kitchener Ontario Stake (like a diocese) of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS), representing the church at Interfaith Grand River and in other settings. Michael is planning a book with a Catholic co-author comparing the Catholic Catechism and LDS doctrine. His wife is a music teacher in Cambridge and his son and daughter are now teenagers.

Jeremy Moyer (BA '97) is a Shanghai-based composer and multi-instrumentalist who released his latest CD, *MANGOES: Musical Shorts Volume 1*, in November 2009. This CD is an eclectic collection of short original instrumental pieces. Moyer's previously recorded music was included in the 2004 documentary film, *Naruwan, Welcome to Taiwan* broadcast on PBS. In 2003, he was awarded a research and creation grant from the Quebec Arts Council. In 2005, the CD *George: from Athens to Beijing*, co-produced by Moyer, was nominated for Best World Music at the Canadian Folk Music Awards, and Moyer's original songs and erhu improvisations were featured in the award-winning W5/CTV/BBC international television documentary *Chairman George*. In 2007, Moyer's "Special Song," co-written by Na Lei, was selected as one of three official theme songs for the Summer Special Olympics in Shanghai. For more information, visit www.jeremymoyer.com

Anne Broadbent (BMath '02) was recently awarded the prestigious NSERC Doctoral Prize for her thesis, *Quantum Nonlocality, Cryptography and Complexity*, which she completed after six years of graduate school at the Université de Montréal. She has returned to Waterloo as a post-doctoral researcher at the Institute for Quantum Computing. Anne and husband, Didier Guignard, welcomed their first child, Danny, on July 27, 2009. Anne was profiled in the April 16, 2010, edition of *The Kitchener-Waterloo Record*.

Allison Bevan (BA '03) was the winner of the 2003 Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies Program (SMF) Award. She worked as a teacher in Scotland and is now employed with The Boys and Girls Club in British Columbia, working with children, families, and parenting groups. Allison is proud of her diverse degree, which has led to many employment opportunities. With a baby on the way, Allison looks forward to applying her education to her own family.

Continued on next page

Catching up with Alumni, Continued

Stacey Jacobs (DSMF '05) is the Education Coordinator at Planned Parenthood Waterloo Region, an organization she learned about while completing her Diploma from the Sexuality, Marriage, and Family Studies (SMF) program. Stacey provides outreach in the community setting through sexual health education at schools, community centres, shelters, and hospitals. For Stacey, SMF "was one of the few programs that [she] could find that focused specifically on sexuality." The "professors are superb" in their ability to "bring different perspectives" to each course. They go "above and beyond."

Danielle Bom (BA '07) obtained her Bachelor of Education at the University of Western Ontario in April 2010.

Shannon Teahen (BA '07) celebrated the launch of her book *Robbert Hartog: A Lifetime of Changing Lives* in January at the Midland YMCA. Shannon was completing her master's degree in History at the University of Waterloo in 2008 when Prof. Kenneth McLaughlin approached the circulation desk of St. Jerome's University Library, where Shannon worked part-time, to offer her the opportunity to write this book. Since then she has travelled across Ontario, to Europe and Thailand, discovering the role Hartog played as a businessman, philanthropist, community leader, initiator, supporter, booster, and mentor.

Alumni Profile

SJU presents inaugural Honorary Doctorate to Deborah Pecoskie

June 2010 will see the graduation of St. Jerome's University's first Master of Catholic Thought students. In honour of the program and its inaugural graduation, St. Jerome's University will bestow a Doctor of Theology, *honoris causa*, degree upon Deborah Pecoskie (BA '73) in recognition of her contributions to theological learning and education, to Catholic education in general, and to St. Jerome's University in particular. Ms Pecoskie played a pivotal part in establishing the Master of Catholic Thought program. She was Chair of the Board of Governors at the time of the degree's creation and, along with her husband, Ray, was a primary donor in support of the program. The degree presentation will be held during the Convocation Mass in Siegfried Hall on the morning of June 17, 2010.



Keeping in touch

Share your job, travel, study or personal milestone news. Send your news and high-resolution photos to *SJU Update*.

Send your news to:

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What makes a St. Jerome's University education unique? Our commitment to the gospel values of love, truth and justice. These values inform all aspects of SJU including the physical design of our classrooms, the financial support available to our students and the unique experiential learning programs we offer. While firmly steeped in the Catholic intellectual tradition, St. Jerome's is looking forward to celebrating its 150th anniversary with a bold new vision. Show your support for St. Jerome's by making a donation online right now by visiting www.sju.ca. Or fill in the form below with credit card information or enclose a cheque. Donate appreciated stock and avoid the capital gains tax. Leave a lasting legacy by making a bequest to St. Jerome's in your will. However you give, your gift will help shape the leaders of tomorrow.

For more information about how to make a donation to St. Jerome's University, contact Nadine Collins, University Advancement Officer, 290 Westmount Rd. N., Waterloo, ON N2L 3G3, nacollins@uwaterloo.ca or 519-884-8111 ext 28255. Visit www.sju.ca to make a donation online.



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