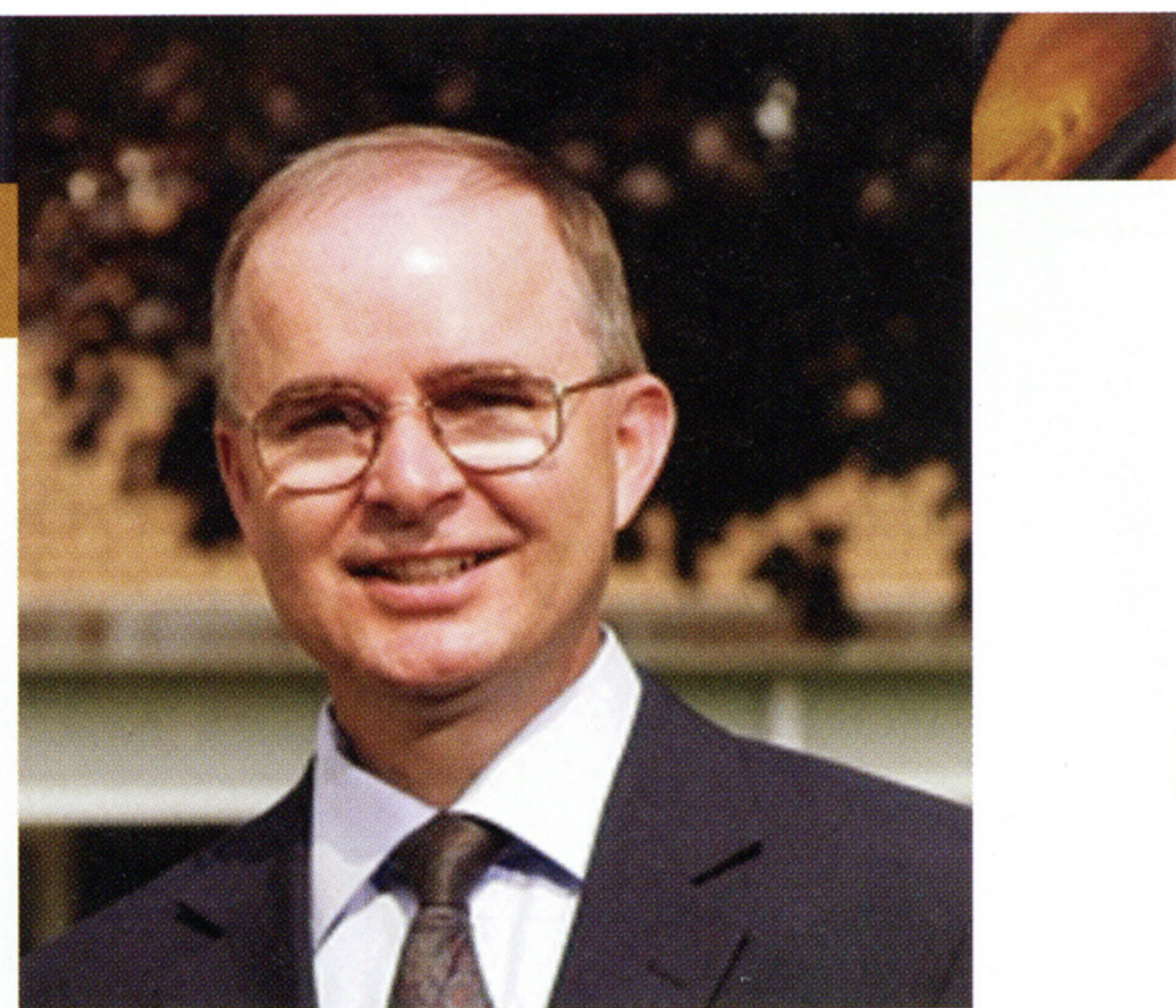


David B. Perrin, President & Vice-Chancellor



Proud of the past, the present, and building a strong future.

St. Jerome's University is proud of its past, is equally proud of its present, and is building a strong community for its future. It continues to be an attractive destination for students. Once again, this year St. Jerome's University has exceeded its target for first-year student registrations: significantly, over 40% of the Arts students selected us as their FIRST choice on their university application form. This is the highest first-choice selection we have on record.

We are pleased to welcome more students to our classrooms, but at the same time we want to stay "small." I am happy to report that last year, 39% of our classes had under 30 students (essentially the same percentage as in 2001). Although 83% of our classes had under 75 students (compared with 74% in 2001), we are committed to providing a "small class" undergraduate experience as much as possible.

Our faculty is second to none! This summer, three new faculty joined our tenure-track professoriate: Dr. Frances Chapman in *Legal Studies*; Dr. Toni Serafini in *Sexuality, Marriage and Family Studies*; and Dr. Lindy Ledohowski in *English*. All three are exemplary teachers and solid researchers. The more established members of faculty continue their stellar records of success: superb teaching scores, significant external grants for research, and invitations to advise NGOs and government on policy development. With the support of generous donors, we are able not only to give our faculty verbal encouragement, but also to regularly increase the seed money we offer them to develop the early stages of their research.

As you know, last year we created the *Centre for Responsible Citizenship* as an umbrella organization for our various outreach programs, the first and foremost of which is the Beyond Borders program. With the help of many of our graduates, we have broadened our network of contacts and placements for our globally engaged students. In addition to Beyond Borders, we are developing service learning components for our courses and a network of local volunteer opportunities for our students. After all, the Catholic mission of St. Jerome's is not limited to the campus.

Finally, after a realistic look at our current facilities, a review of our activities, and a projection of our future needs, the Board of Governors last spring approved in principle our working towards a bold and optimistic project to mark our 150th anniversary in 2015: a new multi-storey building that will allow us to remain small, but plan big. St. Jerome's University is moving into the future! Its tradition of excellence continues. I am grateful that so many of our graduates are mentoring and supporting our students in a huge range of ways. Thank you so very much for your ongoing involvement!

