



The BLAZER

CONNECTING ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF CMU, SPRING 2013



CANADIAN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY

The BLAZER

CONNECTING ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF CMU

This issue of The Blazer is “out there” — a reality that I appreciate as this periodical’s new editor. The hard work is over and the magazine is in your hands.

But “out there” refers to CMU’s alumni, scattered across Canada and beyond. It also tells of the experiences Outtatown students have in faraway lands.

Moreover, “out there” is about venturing into a new experience, trusting in God, and stretching beyond your comfort zone. The following pages tell stories of CMU, MSC, and Outtatown students, as well as alumni, who have stretched themselves and changed their world in exciting and inspiring ways.

Spring convocation marks a high note on the university’s academic calendar as CMU, MSC, and Outtatown graduates embark on the next phase in their lives. Spring also marks the end of CMU’s fiscal year, a time for reflection and gratitude for all the students, alumni, and friends who support CMU. In this issue, we feature a snapshot of our annual report, another story that speaks to CMU’s challenges and successes.

One success to note is CMU’s CONNECT Campaign, which includes the construction of an exciting new library, learning commons, and pedestrian bridge. This project speaks to the vitality and vision of CMU, a vision that enhances our students’ experiences and places us “out there” in our community.

I know that you will enjoy reading about our students and alumni, and how they are “out there” making a difference. Drawing on the Communications & Marketing team’s two new writers, CMU alumni Aaron Epp (2007) and Amanda Thorsteinson (2010), we will be adding compelling student stories and alumni profiles to CMU’s media website.

Check out the link below on a regular basis to catch up on all the ways our students and alumni are reaching out to our community, our city, and our world.

It is my hope that these pages will give you an appreciation for the story of CMU.

www.media.cmu.ca

Kevin Kilbrei

Director, Communications & Marketing

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“Out There”

A. Bartlett Giamatti, president of Yale University (1978-1986) once remarked:

“Being president of a university is no way for an adult to make a living. Which is why so few adults actually attempt to do it. It is to hold a mid-nineteenth-century ecclesiastical position on top of a late-twentieth-century corporation.”

This quote surfaces often enough amongst university presidents to convince me that it strikes a chord—rings true—in some way for individuals who find their job descriptions rather complex. The gist of Giamatti’s comment seems to be this: the expectations of university presidents have fallen out of step with the types of organizations universities have grown up to become. He also infers that while ecclesial (church-related) dimensions may once have been coherent within the mission of the university, they no longer fit well within the corporate entities that universities are today.

I’ve encountered Giamatti’s comments only in settings followed by trickles of laughter, and never by deep engagement. I suspect most people find the quote’s merit to lie in naming certain irreconcilable elements of a strange vocation. However, from my position at CMU I don’t find this definition of a university president to be all that strange. In fact, I find it rather inspiring. And that’s not mainly because it’s applicable to what I’m doing. Instead, I find it helps clarify the mission with which CMU as a whole has been entrusted, a mission through which we as faculty and staff are committed to inspiring and equipping students.

To get to the CMU mission we need to wade through the 19th

and 20th over-lay, which may seem a bit odd in Giamatti’s statement. I’m disappointed when the world around us thinks that the church is way out of touch with the times, and incapable of little more than making education provincial. I’m further saddened when the church thinks that education is of minor consequence to the mission of the church, and to the ways we bear witness to God’s work in the world today. And, I’m reminded of the deep urgency and hope I encounter in widespread calls for women and men with the faithfulness and the imagination to contribute effectively at the crux of the church and the world today, and who navigate well the complexities of life as citizens of God’s kingdom—on earth as in heaven.

In particular, I hear callings for women and men who embody “spiritual wisdom and pastoral care” as they go about working as business owners, lawyers, homemakers, tradespeople, teachers, physicians, and much else. Alongside, I hear callings for “entrepreneurial pastors,” men and women who embody prophetic, missional, and inventive courage and insight as they act as agents of God’s transformation and reconciliation in the church and the world.

The CMU alumni featured in this issue of the Blazer are “Out there!” with such wisdom and courage. I invite you to be blessed and inspired by their stories, for these are women and men giving witness to the grace of God in their professions, communities, relationships, and work.



“...I’m reminded of the deep urgency and hope I encounter in widespread calls for women and men with the faithfulness and the imagination to contribute effectively at the crux of the church and the world today...”

[CMU Alumni]



Out There

By Lindsay Wright



Spin a globe and you would be hard pressed to find a part of the world that hasn't been impacted by someone who has passed through the hallways of Canadian Mennonite University. Our alumni also make a difference in their own corner of the world. Using education, gifts, and passions, they each impact their communities in a unique way. In these pages, we'd like you to meet just a few of our alumni who are making their mark across Canada.

Out There

[CMU Alumni]



Eric Neumann

Eric Neumann (Social Science, 2008) is working as a realtor in Winnipeg.

He describes his job as so much more than helping people buy and sell homes or condos. “My job sounds simple, but it is one of the most dynamic, creative, challenging, and rewarding jobs in which I could have dreamed finding myself. I was blessed with business as soon as I was licensed four years ago—and although I am the youngest member of my office, I am also one of the top producing agents.”

“CMU was able to prepare me for all of this in many ways,” Eric shared. “The CMU Outtown program made a large impact on my life. The experiences, challenges, and friendships I made that year will be with me for the rest of my life and that year really allowed me to get connected with God and build a solid base of faith. Later, while completing my degree at CMU, my practicum placement allowed me to spend five days a week with Clifford Palmer and his wife, helping to set up his new office —Realty Executives First Choice. That was four or five years ago, and it was just the three of us working there. I am still at that office, and we’ve grown to 20 agents.”

“My faith plays a huge role in my day-to-day business as a realtor. It keeps me grounded in this competi-

Stefan Doerksen

Stefan Doerksen (Math, 2009) is a math and science teacher in his second year at R.B. Russell Vocational High School, a public school in Winnipeg’s inner city.

“I face a great challenge because a lot of students come with low math skills or have missed a whole year of school,” Stefan explained. “I spend hours prepping lessons that cater to my students so that I can bring up their proficiency in math and meet the grade level outcomes at the same time—finding new ways to deliver the content.”

“I loved my time at CMU, especially the mathematics courses with Tim Rogalsky,” he continued. “The small classes allowed for interesting conversations that helped me to see the connections between my faith and the subject. Through CMU’s practicum

experience, I was able to have a first glance at what teaching in the inner city would be like. I had no idea how great the need really was prior to that.”

“I see mathematics as a universal language which inevitably brings up opportunities to demonstrate your faith,” said Stefan. “Being employed by a public institution brings quite a few challenges when it comes to living out your faith. It is not the content you teach that will make students wonder about your values and your faith. It’s about how you deliver the content, and who you are with them. I see my faith at work by showing compassion for the students, knowing that often there are no supports for them outside of school. I offer genuine advice when students share their struggles and are wanting a way out.”

tive, lucrative business,” said Eric. “Ethics are critical to what I do, as the negotiations, representations, and decisions I participate in will affect my clients’ financial and personal lives for many years to come.”



Kevin Derksen

Kevin Derksen (Bible and Theological studies, 2007) serves on the pastoral team at St. Jacobs Mennonite Church in St. Jacobs, Ontario.

“Our model of team ministry at St. Jacobs means that my responsibilities are pretty broad,” Kevin explained. “I preach and plan worship, attend to pastoral care, teach, officiate at weddings and funerals, work with youth, and more. Congregational ministry also connects me with the church more broadly—especially Mennonite Church Eastern Canada and Mennonite Church Canada. It’s a job that can offer a big window to the church that people in the pews don’t always get to see, and I certainly enjoy that part of it.”

Kevin continued, “My studies at CMU did a lot in preparing me for the work I am doing now. I didn’t take much in practical theology or straightforward ministry studies, but almost everything I took served to cultivate the Christian vision and imagination that

ministry calls for. I got my first taste of ministry through a CMU practicum at Toronto United Mennonite Church and St. Clair O’Connor Community. I was not initially interested in a ministry placement, but practicum advisors and others encouraged me to give it a try.”

“It might be easy to assume that—as a pastor—my faith is tended to simply by doing my daily work. But there is much in being a pastor that does require a lot of faith,” he shared. “We spend a lot of time planting seeds that don’t bear immediate fruit. The church is a pretty broken and flawed place, and sometimes it takes a lot of faith to see in it the animating breath of God’s grace. It is an opportunity and a challenge.”



Christy Martens-Funk

Christy Martens-Funk (Theology, 1999) works as a chartered accountant at PricewaterhouseCoopers in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. She helps individuals and businesses with their accounting and financial reporting, while facilitating the learning and development in the office through coaching and teaching.

“My time at CMU helped me to develop a strong foundation for my relationships with God and others. I strengthened my understanding of my values and became more confident in my process of listening for God while

interacting with the world,” Christy shared. “This is a complex world. Knowing what I hold dear—and being passionate about God’s work in the world—helps me make decisions I can be proud of. It can shape my words and actions, and help me as I work with clients and coworkers, and with volunteering as well.”

“Jesus gave us great stories and examples of generosity and compassion,” she continued. “Our concepts of having money, earning money, spending money, and saving money can, at times, seem to be in contradiction of that. However, if we can fully understand our financial story—past, present, and indications for the future—we can make better decisions about how to use the resources we have. We can see if our values are aligned with our actions, and how we can do better.”

Christy added, “I also spend a lot of time coaching co-workers. We work with a lot of people directly out of university, and these are formative years. I have learned the value of honesty and empathy in helping others achieve their goals. I have grown so much myself through listening to the stories of others.”





Heather Unger

Heather Unger (Christian Studies, 2002) is a lawyer working as a human rights investigator for the Manitoba Human Rights Commission.

Heather explained, “My role is to investigate complaints of discrimination that have been filed with the Commission. I explore whether there are merits to such complaints by talking to the parties involved and collecting evidence. I then make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners based on what I have found—and the Board makes the final decision. It can dismiss a complaint, send it to mediation, or send it to a hearing.”

“I ended up at the Commission after studying in three different areas: Christian Studies at Concord College, International Development Studies at University of Winnipeg / Menno Simons College, and Law at McGill University. Each of these areas of study contributed to placing me where I am now,” said Heather. Through her education at Christian colleges and universities, “I learned how to act out my faith thoughtfully and to think carefully

about how my actions affect others.”

She continued, “When I was a teenager, a mentor told me I had the gift of compassion for people and the world. My education gave me the tools to put that compassion to work. Central features of my faith include a desire to be good, compassionate, and open. My hope is that my faith informs my work by reminding me to listen well, think well of even difficult people, and empathize with their circumstances—whether that be a complainant who feels wronged or a respondent who is alleged to have done wrong.”



Seth Woodyard

Seth Woodyard (2003-04) is living and working in Winnipeg, splitting his time between making art and restoring ornamental plaster. He also teaches at the Winnipeg Art Gallery’s studio program and recently had his first major solo exhibition.

“Making art is a way for me to use my God-given talents, my education, and my experience to engage with, to question, and to celebrate the larger world,” Seth explained. “I understand the creative process to be spiritual in nature, a mimesis of God’s creation of the heavens and the earth. I’m drawn

to the mystery in life, and I try to make art that highlights that mystery and invites you to pause and wonder.”

He continued, “I took a variety of courses at CMU, with a focus on history. During my time at CMU, I really appreciated the faculty. Regardless of subject matter, each instructor encouraged me to question and challenge what I was learning—and ultimately question my own perception of the world. This questioning—resulting in growth—is a lifelong process and one that, for me, is played out through my art practice.”

“Being both a practicing contemporary artist and a practicing Christian does present some challenges,” Seth shared. “It often feels as if I have one foot in two different enemy camps. Just as the contemporary art world is predominantly secular and skeptical of any engagement with religion—especially Christianity—so too the church is often uncomfortable with the more subversive, questioning, and challenging nature of contemporary art. Although this means that I can sometimes find ill favour with both camps, I am also allowed the opportunity to bring each together. Art is after all a matter of language, a visual communication that—if we’re lucky—results in dialogue.”



CMU Alumni Work for Peace and Justice in South Africa

MCC retreat brings service workers together

By Carla Lowe

CMU strives to inspire and equip students for lives of service, leadership, and reconciliation in the Church and society. Graduates leave with knowledge, practical experience, and passion to make an impact in a wide variety of contexts and roles worldwide.

“CMU helped me see that people of all gifts and passions are needed in working for the Church,” says Karen Suderman, who graduated from CMU with a BA (General) in 2002 and a four-year BA (Literature) in 2006. She and husband Andrew Suderman have been serving as International Witness Workers with Mennonite Church Canada Witness, South Africa since 2009.

The couple attended a regional retreat in Durban, SA in December 2012 held by Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), a worldwide relief, development, and peacebuilding ministry of Anabaptist churches. There, the Sudermans met four other CMU graduates working in Southern Africa—Genevieve Forget, with MCC’s Serving and Learning Together (SALT), Mozambique; Christina Scheerer, SALT, Zambia; and Aaron Janzen and Suzanne Braun, with MCC SwaLeSA (Swaziland, Lethoso, and South Africa).

“It was interesting to learn in more detail about the [work] of MCC in southern Africa,” Karen shares about the retreat. “It was fun to meet so many other CMU alumni there; we realized the world is not as big as it seems. In the moment, it was wonderful to have a shared piece of story with others who ‘spoke the same language.’”

Karen and Andrew are working with MC Canada Witness, South Africa to help establish and coordinate the Anabaptist Network in South Africa (ANiSA), a network of people, churches, and organizations that seeks to walk with, support, and grow communities of peace, justice, and reconciliation in South Africa. With a master’s degree in Library and Information Sciences under her belt, Karen works specifically in establishing a library for ANiSA members while Andrew serves as the ANiSA Coordinator.

Andrew describes his education, which includes a Bachelor of Theology from Canadian Mennonite Bible College (2001) and a BA in Philosophy from CMU (2002), as formational.

“It shaped and formed [us] as it planted seeds of passion for God’s will for the world...and planted a new understanding as to what it means to be Church in today’s



l to r: Karen Suderman, Andrew Suderman (behind), Christina Scheerer, Genevieve Forget, Aaron Janzen, and Suzanne Braun.

world,” he explains. This formational experience led him to work in prisons, a homeless shelter, and eventually in South Africa, along with Karen.

Aaron and Suzanne decided to serve with MCC without a specific location in mind. They found two development positions available with MCC SwaLeSA, whose work focuses on peace and justice, HIV/AIDS education and prevention, food security, and refugee care.

The couple is serving a three-year term that ends in October 2014.

“My program monitoring and evaluation coordinator position appealed to me because it seemed like an excellent opportunity to work alongside MCC’s local partners in a way that allowed for mutual learning and capacity building,” says Aaron, a 2008 CMU alumnus (Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies).

Suzanne, who graduated from CMU in 2008 with a BA in Biblical and Theological Studies, says the majority of her work as the Connecting Peoples coordinator involves organization and facilitation. “But the part I enjoy the most—the part that drew me to this position—is the support and spiritual care I provide to SALTers and YAMENers [Young Anabaptist Mennonite Exchange Network participants], for which I was prepared, in part, by my studies at CMU and my practicum as a student chaplain/spiritual care director in a personal care home.”

“CMU is cultivating a legacy by grooming students to have a passion for the work of the Church,” says Karen. “Meeting up with other CMU alumni in South Africa points to that legacy.”

Developing One's Art Of Peacebuilding

By Wendy Kroeker, Instructor in Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies



Wendy Kroeker

The world is a complex place and young adults have the great challenge of figuring out how to engage it in ways that are constructive and meaningful.

The Art of Peacebuilding is my favourite course to teach in the Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies (PACTS) curriculum—it integrates the experience of the field with the complex dynamics of analyzing conflict.

The course description states, “Peacebuilding is a creative, dynamic art. Through examination of diverse case studies of peacebuilding, and careful reflection on the dynamics of conflict transformation and peacebuilding, this course seeks to nurture students’ strategic imaginations and creative capacities as artisans of peace.”

The course seeks to examine how the students themselves fit into the peacebuilding picture. How do they grapple with the “being” and “doing” of peacebuilding? What is the craft of peacebuilding? And how can they integrate their story and their faith perspective into this journey?

By the time students sign up for this course, they have had some valuable courses providing an overview of the multi-disciplinary peace and conflict transformation field.

They’ve also had some experience with theories and strategies that have been generated over decades of contending with conflict situations.

On the first day of class, I liken our semester conversation to taking a familiar recipe and playing around with it. I encourage the class to take some risks and test out capacities.

One of the key projects of this course is to design and implement an awareness-raising campaign on the CMU campus.

Together, students work on a creative way to engage the CMU campus on the justice issues around homelessness in Winnipeg.

Facing evaluation by one’s peers is daunting, but it provides valuable resources and discoveries for a student life’s peacebuilding “tool kit.”

“Transcending violence is forged by the capacity to generate, mobilize, and build the moral imagination,” says John Paul Lederach, author of the course textbook, *The Moral Imagination*.¹

This course provides inspiration through conversational interaction devoted to discovering how to contribute constructively in our challenging context, seeking to do so creatively, within a diverse web of relationships.

We end our semester with each student sharing a story on a peacebuilder who has inspired their journey and helped to provide guideposts for the questions that come their way.

As we sit in our circle we enter “sacred space,” or a realization that we all have skills to both learn and to share.

Yes, our world is increasingly complex but if the students in this class are any indication, we have a thoughtful and passionate group of people to lead us.

¹ *The Moral Imagination: The Art and Soul of Building Peace* by John Paul Lederach, New York: Oxford University Press, 2005, p. 5

Peace Flinging

The classic hymn, “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” imagines a time “When peace shall over all the earth / Its ancient splendors fling.” At a fundraising dessert evening in Steinbach, CMU President Cheryl Pauls told the audience that this is what echoes most persuasively throughout the diverse programs and people of CMU.

“We are called to be a community that sings most fervently about the flinging of peace throughout all the earth,” she said. “It’s a way of living with a hope that comes from God, a hope that extends from long before and until long after us, a hope that is radically generous and engaged in building trust, understanding, knowledge and dexterity along with new job opportunities for ourselves and our neighbours.”

Four CMU students then shared what their response to the call of peace flinging looks like. This is what they had to say.

Cecilly Hildebrand

Recently Doug Hostetter, MCC’s UN office director, told me about his time as a conscientious objector during the



Cecilly Hildebrand

“That is the epitome of peace flinging: Throwing buckets of peace up the waterfall no matter how overwhelming and violent the situation we are in may seem...”

Vietnam War.

Doug worked for three years in the Vietnamese village of Tam Ky, teaching English in the local high schools and then organizing many of his students to teach Vietnamese literacy to children whose schools had been destroyed by the U.S. military. It was a successful program that saw 90 high school students teaching almost 4,000 children how to read and write in their native language at the height of war.

At the end of Doug’s term, one of the teachers thanked him. He compared Doug to a man at the bottom of a waterfall who has been trying to throw the water back up with a small bucket. He then asked Doug, “Please, go home and build a dam across the river at the top.”

Doug has been doing that ever since. That is the epitome of peace flinging: throwing buckets of peace up the waterfall no matter how overwhelming and violent the situation we are in may seem, and building dams, proactively striving for peace by advocating for change here within our home country and government.

Matthew Dueck

In June 2012, the Canadian government announced cuts to the Interim Federal Health Program (IFHP) which for decades had provided newly arrived refugees with access to supplementary health care, enabling them to get on their own two feet. During that time, as part of coursework at the Canadian School of Peacebuilding, I along with some of my



Matthew Dueck

“Together we raised our voices for the powerless and defended the cause of refugees.”

classmates came up with an advocacy campaign in response to changes to the IFHP that included a mail-in petition to Prime Minister Stephen Harper himself. We asked Canadians to send him 59 cents, the savings of the proposed cuts per citizen, along with a letter asking him to restore full funding to the program.

What started as a simple idea became a powerful movement.

What I learned most explicitly during the 59 Cents Campaign (www.59cents.org) is that when the church is bound together in collective action, we can make a difference in this world. Together we raised our voices for the powerless and defended the cause of refugees.

Together, we were faithful in the calling which we have received: to be flingers of peace and restoration.



Deanna Zantingh

“When I think about the beauty of what I witnessed, it all comes back to that look I saw on their faces that day, the look that said: I do not have to be ashamed to be an Aboriginal person, for we are all made by the same Creator.”

Deanna Zantingh

The gospel message has taught me to fling peace in the face of our broken relationships with Canada’s Aboriginal people.

I was nervous when, as part of my summer CMU practicum work, a trip was planned for 12 Aboriginal youth from one of the roughest and poorest reserves in Northern Ontario to come spend a week at a Christian camp full of affluent white people.

But we couldn’t have known the beauty that awaited us. An Aboriginal couple came and spoke with the youth about their identity in Jesus as Aboriginal people. That same night, this couple led worship. Dressed in traditional regalia, their style reflected their own culture, and they danced to glorify their Creator.

I wish you could have seen the disbelief and joy on my 12 young friends’ faces, who had never seen this modeled, and who have believed their whole lives that white people and Christianity hate them and their culture.

When I think about the beauty of what I witnessed, it all comes back to that look I saw on their faces that day, the look that said: I do not have to be ashamed to be an Aboriginal person, for we are all made by the same Creator.

Jami Reimer

In my third year as a music student at CMU, my stud-

ies took me with the Outtatown French Africa program through the province of Québec, the city of Paris and the country of Burkina Faso in West Africa.

I discovered a realm of learning that is both radically versatile and subversively sacred. In discovering more deeply a God that will not be compartmentalized, I found the same challenge in my studies to cultivate openness to the other and an ear for common story.

This kind of listening also necessitates a dialogue across faculties at the university. I am challenged to learn, to listen, and to digest the ideas and sounds that come my way in relationship with the diversity of neighbours that I find alongside me.

As a musician I am called to both throw sounds and to handle them with great care. We are in a world caught between ever-present risk and ever-deep assurance. We find eyes to see the wild peace of God’s provision when we step into these unknown places or dare to listen to the unknown sounds in familiar places.

If travels have taught me anything it is perhaps that even the furthest flung borders cannot contain the limits for how far might fly the peace of Christ; we can only join in with abandon and with song.



Jami Reimer

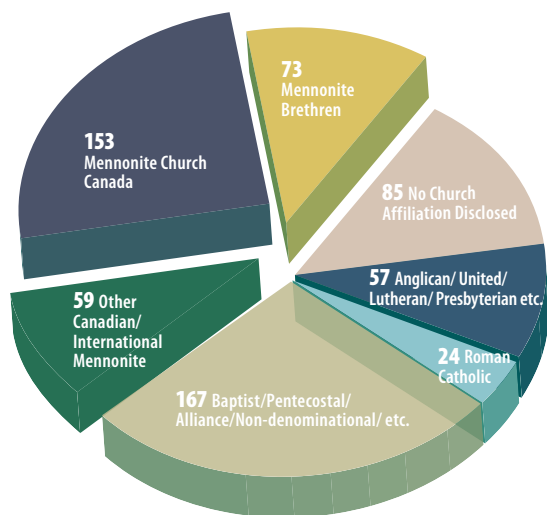
“We are in a world caught between ever-present risk and ever-deep assurance. We find eyes to see the wild peace of God’s provision when we step into these unknown places or dare to listen to the unknown sounds in familiar places.”

The story of CMU is worth telling and celebrating! This Annual Report insert draws together parts of that story for CMU’s many alumni, donors, and friends. In our time all Canadian universities are facing real challenges—CMU among them. Still, we continue to operate in the black (with no accumulated operating deficit), and the number of people who see CMU as a vibrant success story is ever

increasing. Most importantly, we are grateful to God for the ongoing stream of students whose lives are transformed through their CMU experience—and many pockets of the church and the world around us through their witness. We trust that this Annual Report deepens your awareness of, and engagement with, a compelling university project!

ENROLMENT

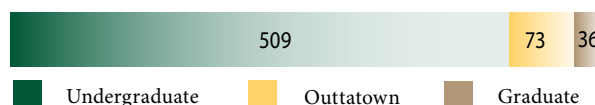
Denomination Breakdown



Top 10 Shaftesbury Campus Enrolments by Program

- Biblical and Theological Studies
- Music
- Psychology
- English
- Biology
- History
- Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies
- Languages
- Communications and Media
- Business Administration

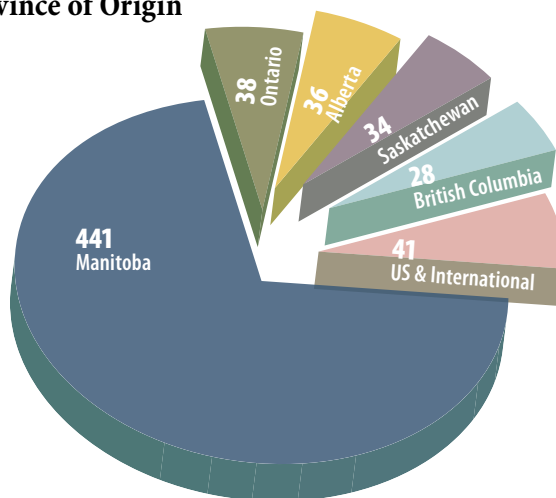
Shaftesbury Campus Total



Shaftesbury Denominational Background Summary



Province of Origin



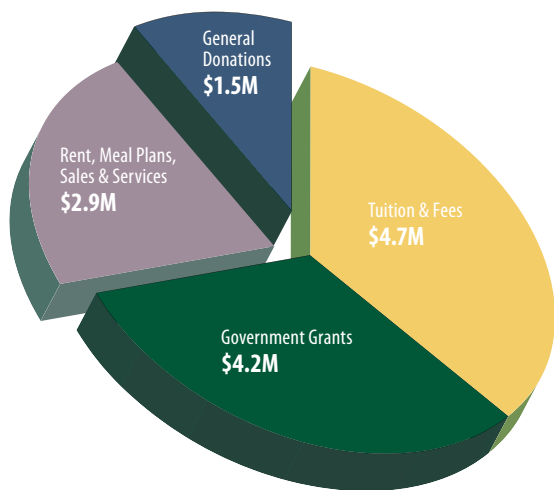
Menno Simons College Total

994 students are taking one or more courses at CMU’s campus at the University of Winnipeg

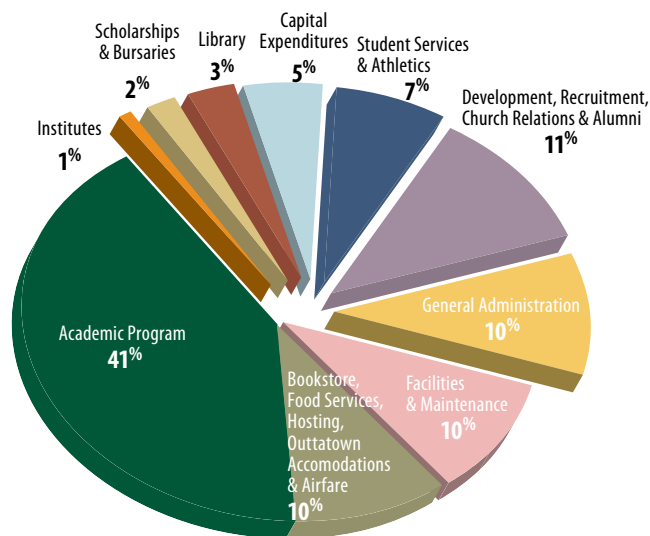
10% of UWinnipeg’s student body is taking courses at MSC in either Conflict Resolution or International Development Studies

ANNUAL OPERATIONS

Revenues

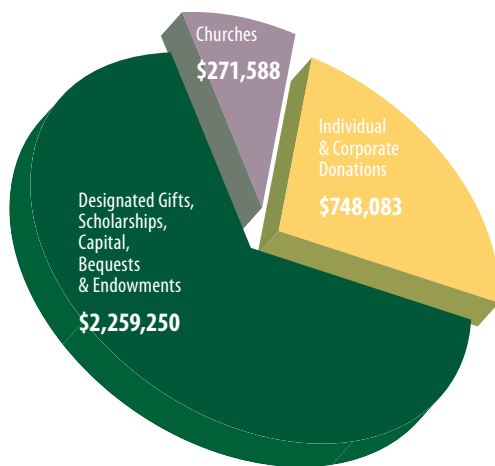


Expenditures



Donations to All Funds

\$3,278,920



2012-2013 Faculty Publications

BOOKS/EDITING

Daniel Epp-Tiessen. *Concerning the Prophets: True and False Prophecy in Jeremiah 23:9–29:32.* Pickwick Press, 2012.

Gordon Matties. *Joshua - Believers Church Bible Commentary.* Herald Press, 2012.

Gordon Zerbe. *Citizenship: Paul on Peace and Politics.* CMUPress, 2012.

Karl Koop, editor. *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology 13* (Spring 2012). Issue focus: The Holy Spirit and the Christian Life

ESSAYS/ARTICLES

Janet Brennehan "On the Podium: Exploring the Gendered Self-identity of Exemplary Women Conductors." *Personhood and Music Learning: Connecting Perspectives and Narratives.*

Paul Dyck, Stuart Williams and Ryan Rempel. "Digitizing Collection, Composition, and Product: Tracking the Work of Little Gidding." *Digitizing Medieval and Early Modern Material Culture.*

Brian Froese. "‘Is It the End, My Friend?’ Black Sabbath’s Apocalypse of Horror." *Black Sabbath & Philosophy: Mastering Reality*

"Channeling Clio: Archives, Lecture Halls, and Western Canadian Conservatism." *Conrad Grebel Review 30* (Fall 2012)

Pierre Gilbert. "Braving the Interpretive Storm." *Theodidaktos: Taught by God 7* (August 2012)

"Faire face à la tempête interprétative." *Le Lien 29* (Hiver 2012)

Total Student Scholarships, Bursaries & Awards

Together with

\$229,100

from the Annual Fund, donors contributed

\$167,800

to Student Awards, for a combined total of

\$396,900

given to Student Bursaries and Scholarships



Annual Fund Donation Breakdown

1121 donors supported the Annual Operating Fund.

529 additional donors gave to other funds.

698 Annual Fund donors (62%) were from Manitoba

412 Annual Fund donors (37%) were from BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Ontario

\$520,183 (70%) of our **Annual Operating Fund** came from Manitoba donors

and **\$225,381** (30%) from donors in BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Ontario

314 new donors chose to support CMU

231 donors (21%) gave \$1,000 or more to the Annual Fund

and an additional **155** gave \$1,000 or more to other funds

The average Annual Fund gift was **\$667.33**

\$175,927 was given in response to direct mail while **\$193,245** was given through special events

For a full listing of donors, see the Annual Report online at: cmu.ca/annual_report.html



"He Never Meant for Us to Die! An Incursion into Genesis 1–3." *Direction*, Spring 2012, Vol 41, No 1.

"The Spirit of the Lord: Power to Face the World." *The Messenger*, February 2012

Kirit Patel, and Kathryn Dey. "The Trajectory of Environmental Justice in India: Prospects and Challenges for the National Green Tribunal." *Perspectives on Governance and Society: Essays in Honour of Professor O.P. Dwivedi.*

Karen Ridd. "Peace Camps in Quebec and Manitoba to Support the Mohawks in the 'Oka Crisis,' Canada, 1990." *Global Nonviolent Action Database.*

Ray Vander Zaag. "The Ideals of International Development Assistance." *International Social Development: Social Work Experiences and Perspectives.*



Pierre Gilbert

DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

New Bursaries and Scholarships (2012-13)

Bonita Sawatzky Scholarship for Students with Disabilities (\$1,500): established by Bonita and her husband Brian Wixted for students with physical disabilities.

Frank Bergen Memorial Camp Leadership Scholarship (\$1,000): established by Ella Bergen, widow of Frank Bergen, to support leadership in a Christian Camp in Canada.

Gertrude Mueller Memorial Music Scholarship (\$750): established by The University Women's Club of Winnipeg in memory of Gertrude Mueller, an active member of the University Women's Club and a great supporter of the Arts.

Giesela Saborowski Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000): established by C.W. Saborowski and Reta Chapman in honor of Giesela who overcame many hardships, in support of Menno Simons College students with a declared major in Conflict Resolution Studies or International Development Studies.

G.K. Braun Insurance Scholarship (\$750): established by Terry Dick, President and CEO of G.K. Braun Insurance, to encourage student leadership at CMU by funding a Returning Student Leader Scholarship.

Judii Rempel Memorial Social Science Scholarship (\$3000): established by Grant Moberly of Calgary, AB in memory of his wife Judii, to fund three Academic Excellence Scholarships for returning students in Social Sciences.

Linden Christian School Outtown Leadership Scholarship (\$2,000): established Anonymously, for a student from Linden Christian School as a Leadership scholarship for a student attending the OT Discipleship School.

Marie Ratzlaff Memorial Music Scholarships (\$5,000): established by Raymond Ratzlaff, Doris

King, and Susan Harder in honor of their sister Marie, with three annual music scholarships for students in a Music program at CMU.

Portage Mennonite Church Leadership Scholarship (\$2,500): Portage la Prairie, MB, established for an International Student, or a student involved with a First or Second Generation Church (recent Canadians) preparing for a church leadership role.

Portage Mennonite Church Music Therapy Scholarship (\$2,500): Portage la Prairie, MB, established a Scholarship for CMU students entering or continuing in the Music Therapy program at CMU.

Redekop School of Business Scholarship established eight full-year tuition scholarships for students graduating from one of the Canadian Association of Mennonite Schools. In addition, a full-year tuition scholarship will be given on recommendation of a member of Mennonite Economic Development Associates (MEDA).

St. John's Music Scholarship (\$500): established by St. John's Music, Winnipeg, for third or fourth year Music students pursuing a BA with a concentration in Instrumental Music Education.

Vietnam War Era Memorial Scholarship in the Humanities and Social Sciences (\$1,500): established by Joseph and Jeanette Jones of Vancouver, BC for Academic Excellence in fourth year studies in a humanities or social sciences major. This Scholarship recognizes Mennonite leadership related to US Vietnam War resistance and particularly the contributions of Frank Epp in Ottawa, ON, Walter Klaassen in Kitchener-Waterloo, ON, and J.M. Klassen in Winnipeg, MB.

Waseskun Canadian School of Peacebuilding Bursary (\$500): established by anonymous donors for an Aboriginal student attending the Canadian School of Peacebuilding (CSOP).

Update on Capital Project

In January, 2013 CMU's Board of Governors unanimously agreed to move ahead with construction of the CMU Library & Learning Commons and Bridge in 2013. The Board's decision was prompted in part by positive momentum in fundraising. As of May 1, gifts and pledges committed totalled \$9.3 million, an indication of the support for this important campus addition.

The project architects (ft3) completed final drawings on May 6. The building permit process is well underway and the project is presently being tendered through the builder, Concord Projects Ltd. Construction is anticipated to begin this summer.

CMU is deeply appreciative of the generosity of so many donors and the excellent leadership of our CONNECT Campaign cabinet members—Chair Elmer Hildebrand, Art DeFehr, Philipp R. Ens, Bill Fast, Janice Filmon, Bert Friesen, Charles Loewen, Jake Rempel, and Tamara Roehr.

This Library & Learning Commons, at the heart of CMU's Shaftesbury campus, will generate vital resources and services, study and collaborative spaces, and welcome the constituency and broader community into the life of the University. The project integrates CMU's Bookstore with Mennonite Church Canada's Resource Centre, and includes a café and a pedestrian bridge to span Grant Avenue, connecting the new library to CMU's south side campus and providing safe passage for the CMU University community.

www.cmu.ca/connect/





Portage Mennonite Church members accompanied by students and faculty and staff at CMU during their November 2012 scholarship announcement. Back row, l to r: CMU students Sheralynn Neff, Angela Neufeld, Arlana Mueller, Andrew Brown, Dean of Music Dr. Janet Brenneman, and Margaret Thiessen. Front row, l to r: CMU Graduate School of Theology and Ministry Director Dr. Karl Koop, Astrid Peters, Tony Peters, Gerald Loeppky, Grace Loeppky, Alma Pankratz, and Church Relations Director Dr. Abram Bergen

Portage Mennonite Church Creates Endowed Scholarship Fund

By Nadine Kampen

Portage Mennonite Church in Portage la Prairie, MB, had a small congregation, yet the vision of its members in leaving a legacy for the next generation is both generous and far-sighted. As a gift to CMU, Portage Mennonite Church, which closed on July 1, 2012, created an endowed fund that will generate two annual scholarships of \$2,500 each to support the studies of future CMU students.

The announcement was made by CMU Church Relations Director Abram Bergen as the CMU community gathered to acknowledge appreciation to donors on November 26, 2012 at its annual Tuition Freedom Day celebration.

The student-run event recognizes the assistance of donors and of the Government of Manitoba for their generous contributions in support of higher education throughout the year.

“Portage Mennonite Church nurtured a small and faithful community for over 35 years,” notes Abram Bergen.

Exceptionally active for its size, it sent members to work with MCC, Canadian Foodgrains Bank, and Mennonite Church Canada programs.

Members of the Portage Mennonite Church who attended

the celebration included Gerald and Grace Loeppky, Alma Pankratz, Tony and Astrid Peters, and Margaret Thiessen.

One of the two annual awards will be given to an international student or to a student who is involved with a first or second generation church in Canada, and who will be entering or continuing full-time studies in CMU’s Master of Arts (Theological Studies or Christian Ministry) program, with the intent of preparing for a church leadership role.

The other award will be for a full-time student entering or continuing in the Music Therapy program at CMU.

Awarding of the scholarships will begin in September 2013, continuing annually.

“We are grateful that Portage Mennonite Church has established this significant endowment to fund scholarships for our students,” says CMU President Cheryl Pauls. “This is a wonderful legacy by a caring church that clearly understood the value of higher education in a Christian setting. Thank you, friends of CMU. Your gifts are deeply appreciated.”

Class of 2013

CMU Celebrates Class of 2013

Dr. Cheryl Pauls awards 93 degrees, two certificates during first Graduation Service as CMU's president

By Aaron Epp

Canadian Mennonite University recognized the accomplishments of its students on April 28, 2013, awarding degrees to 93 graduates and presenting program certificates to two recipients during its 2013 Graduation Exercises.

The event, held on Sunday afternoon, April 28, at Immanuel Pentecostal Church, was the culmination of a weekend filled with reflection, laughter, and tears as graduates and families enjoyed times of sharing through stories, songs, presentations, and meals along with CMU faculty, staff, and current students.

Presiding over graduation ceremonies for the first time, Cheryl Pauls—who became President of CMU this past November—welcomed everyone to the event by saying

“These are people whose imaginations for new possibilities, and faithfulness as citizens of God’s world, have been growing at much the same rate.”

CMU faculty and staff felt honoured to celebrate the graduates’ achievements.

“These are people who have blessed us with their stories and insights, their passion and inventiveness,” she said. “These are people whose imaginations for new possibilities, and faithfulness as citizens of God’s world, have been



Deanna Zanting and Cheryl Pauls

growing at much the same rate. For all of these things, we are grateful to God.”



Graduate Kay Choi and family

Raya Cornelsen (BA, Four-Year, Mathematics Major) gave the Valedictory Address, speaking about conversation as “the greatest catalyst for change and personal or professional development,” and elaborating that CMU has helped each graduate hone their conversation skills.

She encouraged her fellow graduates to keep having conversations that include reflection, engagement, vulnerability, and excitement.

“As we leave CMU today, we cannot cut off and lock away all that we have learned, experienced, and want to share,” she said. “We are the voices—the pastors, the teachers, the counselors, the leaders, and yes, even the baristas—who will carry on the least and the greatest conversations that this world has ever known.”

Dr. Reg Litz, a professor at the University of Manitoba’s Asper School of Business, delivered the Graduation Address. Litz encouraged graduates to “think small”—tackle large problems by breaking them into little pieces, and



L to r: President Cheryl Pauls, VP Academic Earl Davey and Graduation speaker Dr. Reg Litz, professor at University of Manitoba Asper School of Business.

then get one small thing done at a time. This builds momentum that eventually will help get big things done.

This way of thinking will help graduates as they face a world where things like global warming, fiscal deficits, and political instability are realities.

“We do have some big problems—after all, this is a fallen world,” Litz said. “But that said, we are not alone, and our choices matter.”

“Small wins before a big God are still wins that matter,” he added, before congratulating the graduates for their achievements.

“I encourage you to build on the foundation CMU has helped you lay,” Litz said. “I believe that as you look and act, He who calls you will help you find [the] way.”



President Medal recipients Nicole Richard and David Thiessen with Cheryl Pauls.

In addition to conferring 95 degrees and two certificates, Pauls also awarded President’s Medals to Nicole Richard (Bachelor of Music Therapy) and David Thiessen (BA, Four-Year Honours, Biblical and Theological Studies Major) in recognition of their qualities of scholarship, leadership, and service.

The April 28 Graduation Service was the culmination of a number of other events that made the weekend special for graduates and their families, as well as for current students and visitors. These included a gala dinner Friday, April 26, CMU’s annual In Gratitude presentation and Spring Concert on Saturday, April 27, and the Baccalaureate Service the morning of April 28.



French Africa student Conrad Mann kicks around the soccer ball in Burkina Faso.

Spreading the Warmth

By Thomas DeGurse, from Winnipeg, MB

As we walk through the streets of Paris, I can't help but notice the sharp contrast between Burkina Faso and France. The children here are sharply dressed; wearing pea coats, mittens, nice hats, and fancy leather boots. The children in Burkina wore t-shirts, shorts, and worn flip flops.

I make my way over to a café, order a coffee and reflect on the last two and a half months.

I've seen incredible brokenness, there's no doubt about that. To see a family sitting in a hut and knowing they've never known comfort as we Canadians have, never felt security as we have, never known more than a couple days in advance whether they'll have food, is scary.

It's all too much sometimes. We Canadians worry about our jobs, our cars, our hair, and the diversity of the food we eat. Some people worry about their next meal and whether the next rainy season will be enough to feed them for a little while.

But I've also seen strength beyond compare. I've seen neighbours watching out for neighbours, and families watching out for families.

The statement "no one gets left behind" had never rung true for me until I visited

"...We Canadians worry about our jobs, our cars, our hair and the diversity of the food we eat. Some people worry about their next meal and whether the next rainy season will be enough to feed them for a little while."



Thomas DeGurse

Burkina. They truly cared about each other. If your neighbour was starving, that was your problem. If someone in your community was lonely, it was your problem.

As I watch the Parisians hustle through the busy streets, I wonder what would happen if I asked someone for money for food, or if I stopped someone and explained that I was lonely, that I simply needed a friend to talk to.

Suddenly I long for Africa; the warmth, love, and fellowship. Paris seems cold, harsh, and rude.

I leave the café and begin the walk back to the hotel, thoroughly disheartened. The world is doomed, it seems, and there's nothing I can do to help. I'm so wrapped up in self-pity that I walk right by him, not noticing him until I hear a soft "S'il vous plait, j'ai faim."

I turn around and see a homeless man sitting cross-legged on the sidewalk, bundled and covered with blankets. His eyes are sad and desperate. He expects me to turn and walk away. After all, who has time for a homeless man? Who has time in their busy schedule to help out someone who is down on their luck?

I smile. Suddenly it all makes sense to me. I don't need to save the world all at once. I will never be able to save Burkina, to feed every mouth, to clothe every back. But I can start with one act of loving kindness, and that's all that matters. I reach out my hand, introduce myself, and invite him out for a meal. His eyes light up and I realize, in that instant, the effect that Outtatown has had on me.

Outtatown Participants Celebrate Graduation

By Aaron Epp

Class of
2013



2013 Outtatown graduates

Stories of love, hope, community and transformation characterized the 2012/2013 Outtatown Discipleship School Graduation Celebration on Sunday, April 14 as 61 young people graduated from the program.

"For years to come, we will be influenced by the experiences we've had as a community, as well as the things we have learned individually," Ross van Gaalen, a student from Outtatown's Site 2 South Africa group, shared with the crowd of family and friends

who gathered to welcome the students back home after their semester abroad.

"I believe this year has made us all better prepared to face the rest of our lives."

The celebration included a time for worship as well as a message by Outtatown instructor Nathan Rieger, who challenged graduates to use their experiences from the program to look at the world differently.

"You have to see differently – that is the core of discipleship," Rieger said. "To say, 'Jesus, I want to see with your eyes.'"

Reflecting on the stories he heard students sharing about their experiences, Outtatown Director Cam Priebe said common themes included hope, freedom, and the value of learning in community.

"Our own journey impacts those around us, and their journey impacts ours," Priebe said, pointing to Outtatown's mission to inspire students in their life of discipleship with Jesus Christ in a journey towards "knowing God, knowing yourself, and knowing the world."

"When that's done on an individual level, it's one thing," Priebe said. "But when it's done with others, there's incredible value in that."

MSC Student Profile

MSC Experience Shapes Graduate's View of International Development

By Aaron Epp

From a young age, Kalynn Spain has had an interest in social justice issues like food security and caring for the environment. Studying at Menno Simons College (MSC) shaped the way the 25-year-old goes about creating positive change.

"When I started my degree I saw a lot of issues in the world that I wanted to change," said Spain, who is one of 84 students celebrating the completion of their MSC programs on Thursday, June 6. Eighteen students graduated this past fall, nine graduated this past winter and 57 are graduating on June 6.

"Going back to Introduction to International Development Studies (IDS), the first university class I ever took, the professor introduced us to the concept of questioning what development really is," Spain said. "I realized there are different definitions of development, and there are

many ways of going about creating positive change."

Spain will graduate with a four-year BA in International Development Studies (IDS) and a three-year BA in Conflict Resolution Studies.

She said that one of the highlights of studying at MSC was the four-month practicum she did in Auroville, a city in South India, where she worked on a reforestation project.

"You need to change yourself and think about your perspective on things before you can help others," she said. For me, during my practicum, that's what happened. I came back from that experience with personal growth, and with a more clearly-defined sense of what kind of change I want to see in the world."

Spain will spend this summer touring sustainable farms in Manitoba as

part of a research grant she received. Her goal is to create an online database of sustainable farmers in the province.

"I really have enjoyed going to MSC," she said. "There are some really amazing instructors and they're very personable people. I enjoyed my classes a lot."



Kalynn Spain



From left: Rachel Hammerback, Jemini Prystie, Muuxi Adam, Jennifer French, Campbell Maclean, Melissa Romanow converse at the Social Justice Fair, hosted by Menno Simons College, at The University of Winnipeg.

Menno Simons College Alumni Improve Access to Education for Refugees in Kenya

By Nadine Kampen and Amanda Thorsteinsson

Muuxi Adam grew up in the midst of Somalia’s ongoing civil war. He was one of the last people to leave the country, boarding a flight before the country fell into chaos.

“All my life, for as long as I can remember, I have always dreamed of helping children in need simply because I was once one of those children myself,” says Adam, who is studying International Development at MSC.

Adam arrived in Winnipeg at age 16 straight from Somalia after being separated from his family.

He was completely alone and didn’t speak a word of English.

Several years later, Adam managed to find his mother, who was living in a Somali refugee camp in Ethiopia.

When he went to visit her in 2008, he learned that one of the biggest challenges facing Somali kids living in refugee camps in Kenya and Ethiopia is that they have nowhere to go to school.

He decided he wanted to use the opportunities from his new Canadian home to help children still living in his home country.

Those were the beginnings of Humankind International, a not-for-profit humanitarian organization founded by Adam with help from a number of partners.

On Friday, March 8, Menno Simons College Students’ Association held a fundraising concert for Humankind International at the Park Theatre. Music included the JD Edwards band, the Solutions, and Kobalt.

Through this event, students at MSC sold about 250 tickets and raised over \$2,100.

Humankind International has put its focus on improving access to education in refugee camps and has set out to build the first-ever early childhood education centre in Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya.



Melissa Romanow and Muuxi Adam

MSC alumni Matt Fast, Abdi Ahmed, Noelle DePape, and Nadia Mohammed serve on the board of Humankind International.

“I think our time at MSC has definitely inspired, informed, and guided us in our work with Humankind,” says Matt Fast.

“For many of us, it was through our time at MSC that we first became aware of issues and challenges facing refugees—and the knowledge gained through that experience is informing and guiding our work now.”

Over the past year, Humankind has been engaging youth in Manitoba schools and hosting fundraisers to raise awareness of and support for this project—and to do even more for the people living in Dadaab refugee camp.

To date, they have raised \$30,000 and are almost halfway to their goal.

“Together, we can help children reach their highest potential,” says Adam. “Together, we can achieve our dreams.”

Congregation Champions CMU

By Lindsay Wright

Canadian Mennonite University (CMU) welcomes students from across Canada and around the world.

And every year, there are a few church congregations that are over-represented on campus—in the best possible way.

These are churches where students have grown up hearing about CMU and are supported in their desire to pursue an education here.

Two members from one of these churches—First Mennonite Church in Edmonton, Alberta, a congregation with eight of its students attending CMU this year—talked to us about their congregation's connection with CMU and what they hope that will mean for the young adults coming up through their church.

Bruce Baergen and Ruth Friesen are champions of CMU within their congregation. Both have served on the board of CMU (or the previous Canadian Mennonite Bible College), and have had children attend CMU.

“Our congregation values post-secondary education of all kinds,” said Baergen. “We also aim to get our youth involved at a variety of levels in congregational life and worship. This means that high school students are engaging in faith conversations and I think this helps them to value the type of education provided by CMU.”

“For the past 15 years or so, we have had at least one board member from our congregation on the CMU board, and most of our pastors have been CMU alumni as well—which has helped to keep CMU front and centre in our minds,” he continued.

“But it's not just about the adults. Our youth have grown up hearing wonder-



First Mennonite Church, Edmonton, Alberta opened its doors in 1959.

“We also aim to get our youth involved at a variety of levels in congregational life and worship. This means that high school students are engaging in faith conversations and I think this helps them to value the type of education provided by CMU.”

ful things about CMU from past and current students—and it makes them want to have that experience as well. Parents become more comfortable with the choice because they can speak with other parents whose kids have come to Manitoba to study.”

“I believe our congregation has always had a strong commitment to ‘training up leaders,’” Friesen said.

“This begins as early as Grade 4 when our children are encouraged to serve as junior ushers, scripture reading even at an elementary age, worship leading and speaking as early as junior high, membership on church committees as youth reps, leading in music—this list goes on.

When it's time for them to think about post-secondary education and how they might learn to serve as adults, there are many in our congregation—myself included—who encourage them to consider CMU as an option.”

Even with this support and encouragement, many students are daunted by the idea of paying for schooling while living away from home. This is how CMU's Church Matching Grant program can help.

Friesen shared, “One of the biggest stumbling blocks for students is the fi-

nancial difference between staying at home while studying versus going away to CMU. Several years ago, because of our desire to support our own students who were choosing Mennonite schooling, our congregation established a small tuition assistance fund.

This is added to by the support of our area conference, which also came about because of a commitment to young people who were choosing Mennonite schools. CMU's Church Matching Grant program supplements these gifts from our local church and conference—often making the difference in helping our students say ‘yes’ to CMU.”

Through the Church Matching Grant program, undergraduate and graduate students attending CMU who receive financial support from their church can have that support matched by CMU up to \$500 per year (\$250 per term) for Canadian students—or up to \$1000 per year (\$500 per term) for American students. If you have further questions about this program—or if your congregation does not have a matching grant program and would like information on how to set one up—contact Sheryl Penner (shpenner@cmu.ca).

PEOPLE AND EVENTS

CMU WELCOMES

Andrew Dyck, Assistant Professor of Ministry Studies
Peter Enns, Assistant Director of Maintenance
Aaron Epp, Alumni Writer/Social Media Coordinator
Joshua Ewert, Athletics Program Assistant
Lillian Friesen, Executive Coordinator, Presidents Office
Sara Groleau, Assistant Hosting Coordinator
Kevin Kilbrei, Director, Communications & Marketing
Amanda Thorsteinsson, Recruitment Writer/Social Media Coordinator
John Unger, VP Administration and Finance

EVENTS



Cheryl Pauls

CMU installs New President Cheryl Pauls

CMU began a new era of leadership on November 25, 2012 at a Service of Installation for President Dr. Cheryl Pauls. During the Service, Dr. Pauls received a Charge from CMU Board of Governors Chair **Marlene Janzen**. "Canadian Mennonite University is at one of those irregular but reoccurring milestones that signal institutional progress and renewal," said Janzen. "Behind lies a lengthy and honoured tradition of effective Christian education; ahead, significant opportunities and the challenge to create environments within and through partners outside the University in which the highest calling, thinking, action, and aspiration is supported and expected, to prepare our graduates for service in the church and society. We are grateful that Dr. Pauls has accepted this call and the responsibilities it entails."

Reverend John Klassen, Pastor of Emmanuel Mennonite Church in Winkler, Manitoba, delivered the Homily, expressing his conviction that "the church embrace the invitation to be vital partners in the joyous mission of helping young adults see life through specific sets of lenses. . . I encourage all of us," said Klassen, "to be sources of inspiration and encouragement as we support Cheryl's work and as we run alongside her in the faith journey, and in shaping this incredible institution of learning and discipleship." In her response, Pauls invited those gathered to see the words, sounds, and symbols of the Installation as gifts, "and I receive them with honour on behalf of Canadian Mennonite University. At the same time, I invite you to share in the joy, the beckoning, and the challenge that rest in these gifts, for you are the cloud of witnesses that surrounds all that has been entrusted to this University." During a Community

Blessing student, faculty, staff, alumni, Board, and constituency representatives symbolically placed scarves of support and blessing about the President's shoulders.



John and Katie Epp and their granddaughter Rebecca Longhurst.

Tuition Freedom Day

CMU gathered on November 26, 2012 to celebrate Tuition Freedom Day, recognizing the assistance of donors and of the Government of Manitoba for their generous contributions in support of higher education throughout the year. Tuition Freedom Day is the time of year by which revenues from student tuition fees would technically run out, in terms of paying actual costs for the student's university education, and support from the community essentially kicks in to pick up budget costs for the remainder of the year. From Tuition Freedom Day forward, money from government grants, from donor gifts, and funds from the University's operating budget are utilized to make higher education possible for CMU students. CMU President Cheryl Pauls welcomed guests and brought greetings to the event from Manitoba's Minister of Higher Education and Literacy, Hon. Erin Selby. "I am honoured to be here on behalf of the CMU student body to say thank you to all of those who so generously support our education," said fourth-year CMU student **Gabrielle Lemire**, who is completing her Bachelor's degree in Bible and Theology and Mathematics. "Education is so much more than just information or the way to get a job. Education has the potential to help us learn who God has created us to be in a supportive environment. And this is exactly the kind of environment that CMU provides."

Hildebrandt, Filmon, and Boldt honoured

On December 30, 2012, three members of the CMU family received appointments of the Order of Canada. They include **Elmer Hildebrandt**, CM, OM, and **Janice Filmon**, CM, OM, two Manitobans who are special friends to CMU and who serve as volunteer Cabinet Chair and volunteer Cabinet member, respectively, for CMU CONNECT Campaign. Also honoured, receiving the appointment of Officer of the Order of Canada, is highly decorated Paralympian **Arnold Boldt**, OC, of Saskatchewan, who is a CMU alumnus. Boldt is a

1981 graduate of Canadian Mennonite Bible College, a founding college of CMU, and is a legendary athlete and role model in Canada's athletic community. "CMU cherishes its connections to friends and alumni," said CMU President Cheryl Pauls. "We take particular pleasure in seeing fine Canadian citizens such as these receiving recognition for all that they do for their communities through the many civic causes to which they lend their leadership and efforts."

Pastor-in-Residence Program Continues to Serve Students

The 2012/2013 year saw the continuation of CMU's Pastor-in-Residence program, which has brought pastors in from churches across Canada and the United States to minister, teach, and support students.

Lorraine Dick and **Issac S. Villegas** were the two pastors during 2012/2013. Lorraine Dick serves as Intern Lead Pastor at Lendrum Mennonite Church in Edmonton, and Issac Villegas is the pastor of Chapel Hill Mennonite Fellowship in North Carolina. They served at CMU from October 22-26, 2012 and January 21-25, 2013, respectively. **Melanie Unger**, Spiritual Life Facilitator at CMU, said that "we were very fortunate to have both Lorraine Dick and Issac Villegas as our pastors in residence this year. Lorraine did a fabulous job of connecting with our students. Her warm, engaging personality and her strong sense of empathy endeared her to students very quickly. Issac's thoughtful and well-presented meditations in chapel were inspiring and his ability to get to the heart of an issue or question was much appreciated by our students." The student life program had its start three years ago. **Marilyn Peters Kiewer**, the CMU Dean of Student Life, notes that the program's aim is both to encourage spiritual growth among students, while also helping to build and maintain close connections with our churches.



L to r: Sean Göerzen, Sandra Loeppky, Glen Torrie (from Orillia, ON), and Desiree Penner

CMU Students Help in Minot, North Dakota

In June, 2011, the Souris River which divides the city of Minot, North Dakota in half, experienced record flooding. More than four thousand homes were destroyed in a disaster that displaced 12,000 people. On Saturday, February 17, eight CMU students as well as two staff,

Rick Unger and Sandra Leoppky, left for North Dakota. The students were sent to Minot to help with the large-scale, multi-year MDS response to the flood which is currently in its second year. CMU students were also sent out last year, and it is clear that their efforts made a difference. "In an interesting twist, we slept in the church that we helped rebuild last year, on beds and bunks that we previously helped move," says **Sandra Loeppky**, Coordinator of Commuter, Disability, and International Programs who helped plan both trips. Students this year were involved in the construction of multiple homes, and worked in various roles, from painting to insulating to helping finish up drywall. **Desiree Penner** is a first year student at CMU. Recounting her experience, she said that "the hands on time spent repairing the homes affected by the flood was very worthwhile, but on top of that, I made amazing new life-long friends." She was working on the team that helped repair the basement in a home. Desiree emphasized that she would love to go on the trip again next year. "It was definitely an experience that everyone should put on their bucket list!"



Peter Janzen with winners (l-r) Jillian Reimer, Catherine Richard, and Kari Chastko

2013 Verna Mae Janzen Competition

The eighth annual Verna Mae Janzen Music Competition featured eight finalists with **Catharine Richard** receiving first place. Richard, a 2-year pianist, was awarded \$700 and first place in the competition. **Kari Chastko**, a 4-year voice student, placed second and received \$500. **Jillian Reimer**, also a 2-year pianist, came in third. She was awarded \$300. Dr. Laura Loewen, Associate Professor of Music at the University of Manitoba, served as guest juror. "It is incredibly exciting to see students' strong musical abilities and the results of their many hours of musical practice and dedication this competition highlights," says Janet Brenneman, Dean of the CMU School of Music. "The Verna Mae Janzen Music Competition is an excellent performance opportunity for our students. We are grateful for the generosity of Peter Janzen in establishing this competition." The competition is made possible by **Peter Janzen** of Deep River, Ontario, and named in memory of his wife, Verna Mae, who died of cancer in 1989 at age 53.

Wesley (CMBC '82) and **Deborah Bergen** (CMBC '82) are moving to Accra, Ghana. Wesley will teach Bible at Good News Theological College and Seminary, Accra, Ghana. Deborah will use her skills as a child psychiatrist as needed. Their son John is attending Oberlin College while daughter Erin is completing high school this spring.



Anna Nancy Buhler Neufeld

Clint Neufeld and **Rachel Buhler Neufeld** (CMBC '96) of Osler, SK, announce the birth of a daughter, **Anna Nancy Buhler Neufeld**, born on April 5, 2012.

Nathan (CMBC '97) and **Angela Gerbrandt** announce the birth of twin boys, **Zachary Paul** and **James Henry**, born February 22, 2013. Proud grandparents include **Gerald** (CMBC '67) and **Esther Gerbrandt**.



Zachary Paul and James Henry Gerbrandt

Becky (CMU '04) and **Blaine Andres**, of Calgary, AB announce the birth of **Zoe**, June 6 2011. Becky works as an immigration lawyer part time.

Tessa (CMU '04; OT site leader 08-10) and **Aaron Nussbaum** (OT site leader 09-10) announce the birth of **Eleanor Quinn**, born March 28, 2013.



Aaron, Tessa, and Eleanor Nussbaum

Janice Henderson (OT '05) works at the Canada Aviation and Space Museum in Ottawa, ON, as a tour guide. She attends Journey, a small Mennonite Brethren church plant.

Matthew Pauls (CMU '05) is the 2012-13 recipient of the Abner Martin Music Scholarship. Pauls is currently in his second year of a Doctor of Musical Arts program in voice performance at the University of Western Ontario (UWO) in London, ON.



Cliff Andrew Miller Gusztak

Nathan Krahn (CMU 2006-08), from Niverville, MB, is studying cello in England.

Ashley Miller (CMU '06) and **Stefan Gusztak** of Winnipeg, MB announce the birth of a son, **Cliff Andrew**. He was born February 4, 2013.

Darren (CMU '07) and **Nicole Pries** of Orillia, ON announce the birth of a son, **Brandon Luke**, born April 3, 2012.

Laurie (CMU '09) and **Amanda** (CMU '09) **Redpath** announce the birth of their son, **Alastair George**, born in February. Laurie is serving as pastor of Graysville Mennonite Church, Graysville, MB.

Michael Bueckert (CMU '10) is a graduate student in Political Economy at Carlton University and works as a teaching assistant on campus.

Andrea (**Charbonneau**, Assist. Dir. of Athletics) and **Darcy Harrison** announce the birth of twins, **Violet Donna** and **Simon Daniel**, born March 17, 2013.

2013 Fall Festival

ALL alumni are invited to come and participate in the Fall Festival activities, **September 27 & 28**. Decade grad classes are choosing to organize reunions. If you haven't already heard from your class coordinator, check CMU's website for contact information. Anyone wishing to assist in organizing a decade grad class reunion can contact their class coordinator or the alumni office at alumni@cmu.ca. Classes without a coordinator are invited to come for Saturday's 'Toonie' lunch in the Festival Tent, to connect with other grads, and to stay for the afternoon and evening activities.

Need to update your contact information?

Go to the news update form on the web or write us at: alumni@cmu.ca.

Classical Guitarist's Career Extends from Winnipeg to Bali

By Lindsay Wright

Dustin Wiebe's career in music has taken him all over the world—including a stop at Canadian Mennonite University (CMU) in Winnipeg.

Dustin graduated with a BA in Music, specializing in classical guitar performance, in 2004. While at CMU, he was an active member of the university's School of Music. His guitar instructor, Willie Wiebe, remembers him well.

"While at CMU, Dustin would get up at 5 AM every morning to practice the guitar until he went to class at 10 AM," said Willie. "He actually flew to Toronto to research a paper he wrote on the life of Cuban guitarist Leo Brouwer. That was the first time I saw a student go to such lengths for an undergraduate course. He took any request to play—whether in ensemble or solo—very seriously. He elevated the level of the CMU Guitar Ensemble when he took first chair."

"The results (of his work and dedication) speak for themselves, given his acceptance to the Eastman School



Dustin Wiebe, Music Grad

of Music in New York. Students like Dustin are essential to the success of a music faculty—and by extension, a university," said Willie.

But Dustin's time at CMU wasn't all about music. It was about forming some important connections between music and faith.

"CMU provided a very good foundation in religious studies which has come to form a cornerstone of the work I am currently doing," Dustin said. "It also helped me to think critically about my faith and encouraged me to consider how faith is enacted in an increasingly pluralistic world."

From CMU, Dustin completed a master's degree in ethnomusicology and classical guitar performance at the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester before being accepted as a PhD student at Wesleyan University.

Dustin is currently living and working in New Zealand with plans to

travel to Bali this spring, where he will complete his research on the use of traditional Balinese music in inter-religious contexts. From there, he will return to Wesleyan University to teach and complete his dissertation at the end of 2013.

After that, Dustin is not entirely sure.

"I am very open to possibilities right now. I've also thought about starting a music school built upon a broad base of music perspectives and backgrounds. I've also thought about doing consulting work that could make use of my knowledge of Indonesian language, politics, and culture."

"Not knowing exactly where I am headed is much more exciting than believing I am headed for only one type of job," said Dustin.



CMU CALENDAR

June 6: MSC Graduation

June 11: President's Golf Classic

June 17-28: Canadian School of Peacebuilding

June 18: Jay Rothman, Peacemaking from the Inside-Out (www.mscollege.ca)

August 12-23: CMU Sports Camp

Sept 3: First day of class

Sept 27: Sibling Campus Visit Day

Sept 27, 28: Fall Festival

Oct 18: Campus Visit Day

Oct 18-20: Peace It Together

Oct 20: Vespers

Oct 22-23: JJ Thiessen Lecture

Nov 22: Campus Visit Day

Nov 17: Vespers

Nov 30: Christmas@CMU

Dec 15: Vespers

Dec 17: Last day of class

Dec 25-Jan 1: CMU closed

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You're invited to

Fall Festival

September 27-28, 2013 | Shaftesbury Campus

Friday, September 27

Sibling Visit Day

All day | Shaftesbury Campus

CMU Presents

7:00 - 8:30 PM | Laudamus Auditorium

- CMU Annual Blazer Awards Presentations
- 'Community in Conversation' and Recital with Faculty
- Reception hosted by CMU's President, Cheryl Pauls

Basketball: CMU Blazers vs. Providence University College

6:00 Women & 8:00 Men | Loewen Athletic Centre

Saturday, September 28

Fall Fair

10:00 AM | North Side of Campus

- 1st Annual farmers market featuring CMU alumni & friends farmers & gardeners
- Pie baking contest & auction
- Children's activities

MennoCross

11:00 AM - 5:00 PM | North Side of Campus

- Cyclocross races for all ages

Toonie BBQ

12:00 - 2:00 PM | Fall Festival Tent

- Burger or hot dog, chips, and drink for \$2.00

Decade Class Reunions

- Catch up with former classmates. For information please contact Lil Friesen at l.friesen@cmu.ca

Celebrating the Classes of 1953 and 1963

- Alumni from the 50-year and the 60 year classes of MBBC and CMBC will join together for a special reunion. Please contact Abram Bergen at abergen@cmu.ca

MPK Folkfest

3:00 - 5:00 PM | Assiniboine Forest

- The 'Marilyn Peters Kliewer Folkfest' a cherished student tradition. Featuring CMU student and alumni musicians, bands, and ensembles.

Learning Samplers

4:00 - 4:30 PM & 4:45 - 5:15 PM | North Side of Campus

Fall Festival Supper

5:15 - 6:45 PM | Tent | Donations welcome

Opening Program:

Welcoming New Students to CMU

7:00 - 8:00 PM | Loewen Athletic Centre

- Launch the new school year by welcoming new students, faculty, staff, and parents within the CMU community. Featuring CMU students, choirs, faculty, and 50-year and 60-year Alumni classes.

Visit cmu.ca/fallfest
for the latest updates!

 | CANADIAN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY

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